

# Public Input - March 22, 2021

The Board of Education values the opportunity to receive input from our stakeholders. Comments submitted through this form will be considered public and will be published to the District's BoardDocs site as an attachment to the agenda. It is your responsibility to review the guidelines and responsibilities established by Board Policy and Rule 187 - Public Input at School Board Meetings, to ensure your comments are in compliance.

Comments that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students are not permissible (such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure as outlined in Policy 870 and 870-Rule). The Board reserves the right to exclude from publication any comment that does not adhere to established rules, is unduly repetitive of previous comments, is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or otherwise disorderly.

Email address \*

sheri.hartzheim@gmail.com

First Name: \*

Sheri

Last Name: \*

Hartzheim

Address: \*

3929 E Benvally Dr

City, State, Zip: \*

Appleton, WI 54913

Subject: \*

Eagerly Anticipating Solid Catching-Up Plans

Public Comment for Publication \*

Dear Board Members and Dr Baseman,

Thank you for allowing stakeholders something closer to a forum for true public comment starting this week, a year after your meetings went virtual and we were disallowed from speaking. I would have signed up to provide Zoom public comment at your meeting; but I am my child's shuttle service for an event during Monday's school board meeting so written comment is the option du jour.

AASD parents are ticking down the days and hours until our students are allowed more time in schools for a proper face-to-face education. We are glad to see that the district has moved to a one-major-or-two-minor-symptoms policy and also glad to see course correction on the policy surrounding household member-sibling illness. Things seem to be trending in the right direction for our students and families.

The thing that keeps nagging at us, though, is the realization that a great many of our children -- especially our middle and high school children -- might not reach the standards of learning required to move on their next level of schooling (or graduation) during this school year. We are like cruise ship passengers, staring at the iceberg of 28% failures and open-ended incomplete grades ahead, and wondering how the captain and crew will right this ship. We know many of our kids haven't learned what's needed to move forward. We know the district has not given them that. And parents of high schoolers know that contracted schedules on four out of the five days each school week from April 5th through the end of this school year can't possibly do it.

So we want to know what your plan is. We ask for real-life answers, everything out on the table plans that can and will logically get a third of our high schoolers out from under failing grades and incompletes. Is the answer that you intend to work closely with each student individually and see what can be done in the short period of time remaining? Is the answer that students will be required to buckle down and do more work and show true progress before they can move on... and if they can't and don't, they are looking at another year of school to get them where they need to be? If so, how will you address those students who have "checked out" and need a lot of assistance to become re-engaged in learning?

Or is the answer as simply complex as... they will be issued a free pass for the remainder of this year and be left to drown in the next school year or post-graduation?

What are the metrics that will be used? Sliding grade scales and teachers "eyeballing" and passing kids by the skin of the teeth? How are parents to be assured that our kids will get the education they need to move on successfully and not just get "the COVID pass"?

You don't have to answer now (which you won't because public comment means no discussion!). But in the end... we will know. We ask that you PLEASE promptly share your plans with full transparency so that we all, together, can move forward swiftly from here.

I look forward to hearing more in this regard in the very near future.

Best regards,  
Sheri S Hartzheim

---

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

# Public Input - March 22, 2021

The Board of Education values the opportunity to receive input from our stakeholders. Comments submitted through this form will be considered public and will be published to the District's BoardDocs site as an attachment to the agenda. It is your responsibility to review the guidelines and responsibilities established by Board Policy and Rule 187 - Public Input at School Board Meetings, to ensure your comments are in compliance.

Comments that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students are not permissible (such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure as outlined in Policy 870 and 870-Rule). The Board reserves the right to exclude from publication any comment that does not adhere to established rules, is unduly repetitive of previous comments, is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or otherwise disorderly.

Email address \*

jarosandick@gmail.com

First Name: \*

Jaime

Last Name: \*

Rosandick

Address: \*

1216 W Oklahoma St

City, State, Zip: \*

Appleton WI 54914

Subject: \*

AASD Covid Reporting

Public Comment for Publication \*

AASD School Board and Administration,

I have a few concerns about your Covid Case reporting. It feels like you are trying to hide cases from the public and student family view.

I did send Greg and email a few weeks ago with some of my questions and feel like his answers were, at best, tossing my concerns to the side. They made me feel even worse about the way you are being open and transparent about what is going on in the schools. Basically his answer to every question I had was along the lines of "that is what we decided would be best". So, who's we? Why were decisions made to share new covid cases in such a secret, non-open way?

One question I had is why are the cumulative new cases for the AASD only being shared once a week. This doesn't make sense to me. Sharing only active cases by school makes it very easy to hide new cases. Now, with your new decision to just stop sending emails out to families to notify of a new case at school, it's even easier to hide new cases. Let's break this down. Timmy was active with Covid from 3/1 to 3/11, on the 3/12 report, Timmy comes off of the active cases for the school. On 3/12 Suzy's dad notifies the school of a new positive. On the 3/12 report, Suzy shows up as an active case for the school. The active cases look unchanged to anyone looking from the outside at the Covid 19 tracker available on the AASD site.

Let's bring that first example out one step further. The weekly numbers that are shared from Monday - Sunday on the main Covid 19 page two weeks ago showed 19 new cases. If I look at total actives by school, day over day, it only looked like 15 new cases. And Again this week, the numbers that are shared from Monday - Sunday on the main Covid 19 page showed 22 new cases and if I look at my tracking of daily actives by school, I see 19 new cases. Seven new daily cases (4 two weeks ago, and 3 this past week) were hidden from the public view because of situations like the example I shared above. If people are not paying attention, they are not going to see this or understand this. I guess if you are trying to be open and honest about how things are going, it would make more sense to share a cumulative case number by school daily.

Now let's talk about how weird it looks that the total weekly numbers on the main Covid page do not match the weekly numbers on the Covid 19 tracker. The main page is looking at cases from Mon-Sunday, while the Wednesday updated numbers are showing cases from Wed-Tuesday. Just seems odd to be sharing numbers in such a variety of ways. As someone who works in a finance department, I know my bosses and customers (internal) would really be concerned if I was sharing numbers like that. Again, it just doesn't make sense. Yes, Mr. Smith, we made \$500 last week, but if you ask me in two days I'm going to tell you we actually made \$700 or, better yet, \$300. It's really hard as a parent to trust the decisions the district is making when the information that is being shared is so uninformative and hard to follow.

Many of you should recognize my name at this point. I've been writing in since August (maybe it was July when I started). You should know I fully support Public Schooling, I fully support everything these teachers are doing this year, and I 100% feel like my student has gotten a great education the entire year. This entire school year has been a mess in ways, but my student continues to learn, grow, and thrive. We are 100% virtual still, and will remain that way until the adults in my family can all get a vaccine. I don't even know if there will be room for my student to go back when that happens, but that is where we are right now. Please also know that my support for the administration is starting to fall a little. In August good decisions were made and the teachers and staff did an amazing job pulling everything off. But now, now, we are seeing that the AASD administration will crumble to get a handful of loud talkers off of their backs. I also have some concerns about how much attention the middle and high schoolers that will remain 100% virtual will get once these students return fully in-person 4 days a week, I hope there are plans to ensure the virtual students are being given the same level of education and attention as those in person.

One more thing, can we talk about how we've been told only 1% of the cases in the AASD are from in class spread? I mean since I've been paying attention (1/28/21) there have been 146 (as of 3/16/21) new cases in the district. Are we really to believe that only 1.46 cases were from in person spread? I mean, I didn't take math in the AASD, but I'd like to think my Stevens Point education and 19 years working in a finance department have taught me a little about numbers.

Thank you,  
Jaime Rosandick  
AASD Parent  
Appleton Voter

# Public Input - March 22, 2021

The Board of Education values the opportunity to receive input from our stakeholders. Comments submitted through this form will be considered public and will be published to the District's BoardDocs site as an attachment to the agenda. It is your responsibility to review the guidelines and responsibilities established by Board Policy and Rule 187 - Public Input at School Board Meetings, to ensure your comments are in compliance.

Comments that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students are not permissible (such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure as outlined in Policy 870 and 870-Rule). The Board reserves the right to exclude from publication any comment that does not adhere to established rules, is unduly repetitive of previous comments, is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or otherwise disorderly.

Email address \*

AndreaDKlitzke@outlook.com

First Name: \*

Andrea

Last Name: \*

Klitzke

Address: \*

925 W 4th street

City, State, Zip: \*

Appleton, Wi 54914

Subject: \*

Pandemic plan

Public Comment for Publication \*

Please formulate an official pandemic/natural disaster plan outlining specific guidelines for staying out and returning to school so we never have to go through this again. The main starting point should always be the kids in school, and then what permits NECESSITY to remove them

---

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms