



## Cornell School District

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Cornell, Wisconsin 54732  
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Cornell Elementary – A National Blue Ribbon School



September 4, 2020

Senator Bernier & Representative Summerfield:

I am writing to encourage you to support the School Administrator's Alliance (SAA's) Flexibility Agenda for the 2020-21 School Year. While the request itself is self-explanatory, I wanted to highlight a couple areas that the Cornell School District is struggling with that would be helped greatly with your support.

### **Pupil Counts in September, January and Summer School**

This year **20% of our student have had parents opt to send them to a virtual school or homeschool them.** While this has helped reduce our class sizes and improve physical distancing, the financial hit will be devastating. On top of this, we had to hire an additional teacher after school began because one grade increased five students to thirty-two. We have also had many more expenditures for COVID-19 mitigation efforts that far exceed the additional funds from the CARES Act and GEER funding. Our June summer school program was wiped out, so we lost approximately ten FTE's from that which puts even more salt in our wounds. **Please allow us to utilize our 2019-20 enrollment count in determining general aid and revenue limits this year.**

### **Transportation Aid**

School districts are required to report to DPI the number of pupils for whom transportation is provided; however, due to the COVID-19 public health crisis we are seeing many parents who wish to privately transport their child(ren) to limit and distance his/her exposure to other students. **Please allow us to utilize our 2019-20 student counts in determining transportation aid this year.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of the SAA's Flexibility Agenda. As always, please feel free to reach out at any time with any questions you may have about the Cornell School District and/or education in general.

Enjoy the Labor Day weekend!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Schley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul M. Schley, Superintendent

Cc: Cornell School District Board of Education