

Prepare Each Student to Be Successful
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Bliss Educational Services Center
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January 6, 2022

Re: District-Wide E-Learning Monday, January 10 - Friday, January 14, 2022

This communication is to regrettably inform you that due to recent and multiple COVID cases across the District, as well as significant staff capacity concerns, we need to take immediate action.

Therefore, the Stevens Point Area Public School District (SPAPSD) is shifting **all students PreK-12th grade to E-Learning beginning Monday, January 10 through Friday, January 14, 2022.** According to Portage County Health and Human Services, there has been a dramatic increase in positive COVID cases in Portage County as well as state-wide, and this week the District has experienced that same trend.

We have been committed since the inception of the pandemic to preserve face-to-face educational opportunities for our students, while supporting the needs and safety of our team members. However, we have reached an unprecedented number of staff and student absences due to illnesses within our buildings and are unable to fill staff absences. Measures were taken today to close SPASH tomorrow due to an approximate 25% student absent rate. We are very concerned about how to safely operate our schools with this recent uptick across the District.

These are not easy decisions, and we know E-Learning days burden families who are working hard to balance multiple roles and responsibilities. Our goal has been and continues to be to operate our schools in-person when it is safe. This decision has been carefully considered and not made lightly given the inconvenience and disruption we know this will cause students and families.

As we all know, COVID is an ever-changing situation, one we cannot predict and one that will require our continued flexibility. We are actively monitoring this situation and will continue to provide updates if any further actions need to be taken.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, cgerlach@pointschool.net or 715-345-5444.

Respectfully,

Craig Gerlach, Ed.S.
Superintendent of Schools
Stevens Point Area Public School District

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Si necesita ayuda traduciendo información que se encuentra en el correo electrónico, por favor, contacte a Miledys Benavidez-Carrillo al correo mbeavid@pointschools.net o llame al 715-498-1976.