

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

April 8, 2022

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 995** in its entirety.

This bill prohibits school board districts or their employees from requiring students to wear face coverings in school buildings or on public school grounds if the student is opted out of the requirement. It also requires a school board to provide a full-time, in-person option for all pupils enrolled in the school district.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the Legislature inserting itself into mitigation decisions that parents, educators, and schools have been making together at the local school district level throughout this pandemic to keep our kids, our educators, and our classrooms safe. Having spent most of my career working in Wisconsin schools and classrooms, I know that every school district in Wisconsin looks different—they have different challenges, different class sizes, and different facilities. This is among the reasons why many Wisconsin schools returned to in-person instruction in 2020 and we have trusted local districts, parents, and schools, in consultation with local public health officials, to make decisions about mitigation efforts that make sense for their schools based on their unique needs. We will continue to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor