



December 17, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

After a rough 2020 we may have gotten our holiday miracle: COVID-19 vaccines are almost ready to begin vaccinating Wisconsin's front-line healthcare workers and our most vulnerable residents. The beginning of the end of the pandemic is in sight.

Now it is on us to stay strong so we can keep our economy and schools open as we inch toward a return to normal. If we work together at this critical juncture, we will save lives and protect those we care about.

**Celebrate with Safer Holiday Activities**

Waukesha County Public Health, in partnership with area schools, asks you to continue to modify traditional activities to protect the safety of the community while participating in the holiday season. For example, consider hosting virtual celebrations with friends and family who live out of town. Take advantage of the many beautiful holiday light displays, or our extensive county parks system, and organize a way to gather with a small group of friends and family outside and socially distanced. A full list of guidelines for safe holiday celebrations are available on the [CDC's Winter Holidays](#) web page.

We all have a personal responsibility to slow the spread of the pandemic and eliminate the virus as quickly as possible. Please avoid the high-risk activities that have been driving the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Indoor events that take place over a long period of time, like sleepovers and indoor parties, especially if mask-wearing and social distancing can't be enforced, are driving the spread of the virus.

**When Precautions are Taken, Transmission is Minimal**

We have worked closely with our contact tracers, schools and businesses for months. The evidence shows that when precautions are taken, there is minimal transmission of the virus. COVID-19 fatigue is real, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Let's do what needs to be done now so we can return to a strong economy and normal day-to-day activities.

Stay safe, and have a happy holiday!

Paul Farrow  
Waukesha County Executive

Benjamin Jones, MPH  
Waukesha County Health Officer

