

Sen. Darling: Statement on lack of urgency from Gov. Evers on back-to-school guidance

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Madison – During a COVID-19 briefing, Governor Tony Evers told the media that his administration is working on a back-to-school plan that will be released in “the next couple weeks.” On Friday, State Senator Alberta Darling issued the following statement in response.

“I’m glad Governor Evers is finally working on a back-to-school plan, but our schools need guidance now. Many states and communities throughout the country have already released similar plans. September will be here before we know it, and we can’t set up our children to fail. As many families begin going back to work they will need to prepare for the upcoming school year but more importantly, feel comfortable sending their children back to learn.

This week, I spoke with local school officials in my area. To no surprise, they have already been working on their own plans for the fall. I applaud their proactive work and am very impressed with their preparation and response.

Our school officials are working directly with their local health departments and surveying parents to build their plans. Most schools are preparing for multiple scenarios depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Not only do our schools need guidance right away, but districts need time to inform parents and students to give them reassurance that school districts are doing everything they can to make them feel comfortable with their plans. Learning must go on safely and responsibly.

I urge the Governor to stop dragging his feet and release guidance for our schools, for parents, and for students that will make sure our students given every opportunity to succeed this fall.”

Senator Darling represents portions of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha Counties.