

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 9, 2021

CONTACT: Senator Eric Wimberger

(608) 266-5670

STATEMENT ON GREEN BAY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOTE TO REOPEN CLASSROOMS

MADISON—Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Green Bay) applauds last night's vote by the Green Bay Area Public Schools Board of Education to reopen classrooms to students beginning on March 1st.

"Green Bay parents have watched for months as their children have fallen behind in their studies and lost precious social interaction in their developing years", said Senator Wimberger. "Their advocacy on behalf of their children in the public arena has been tireless, and ultimately successful. This move is overdue, and I am glad the board chose to do the right thing."

Centers for Disease Control Director Dr. Rochelle Wolensky has said publicly that schools can and should reopen, and that vaccination of teachers is "not a prerequisite for safely reopening schools". A CDC <u>study</u> focusing on a Central Wisconsin school district found that, with masking requirements and learning in cohorts, "transmission risk within schools appears to be low". The Green Bay Area School District plan follows this suggested model, with blended, cohort learning for grades 6-12, and PK-5th grades returning to in-person learning four days per week.