

## Homework to Start the School Year

Written by Jeff Smith, State Senator District 31

Wednesday, 01 September 2021 10:59 - Last Updated Thursday, 02 September 2021 09:03

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/school-bus-kids-s5.jpg>



***Sen. Smith writes about the things we can do to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect our children as they begin their new school year.***

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EAU CLAIRE, WI - We've reached that point of year again when kids are excited to return to the classroom, see their friends and begin a new school year. As adults, we can understand their excitement, but it's up to us to make sure kids can have a safe and successful school year.

In recent weeks, we've seen a drastic turn of events in our fight against COVID-19. Like many other states, Wisconsin is experiencing an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths. This is ramping up just as schools are preparing to welcome back our children. This should alarm all of us. The good news is we have tools at-hand to reverse this trend and help our schools stay open.

With all that we've learned since the beginning of the pandemic, we know how to stop the spread if we do certain things. The easiest is getting vaccinated. On August 23, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the Pfizer vaccine. Prior to this announcement, the COVID-19 vaccines met the FDA's "rigorous, scientific standards for emergency use authorization," and now we can be even more confident knowing the safety and efficacy of the vaccine is confirmed.

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