

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



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**Chair Bolter Announces Initial Approval of \$2 Million For
New Kent County Schools "Get back to School" assistance**

Final approval of COVID Relief Subcommittee funding scheduled for August 27th

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (July 30, 2020) – Kent County Board of Commissioners Chair Mandy Bolter announced today that the Kent County COVID Relief Subcommittee unanimously approved a new \$2 million allocation to be used by Kent County schools for the purchase of approved PPE to assist schools in dealing with the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The next step will be consideration and approval by the Finance Committee and then the [full Board of Commissioners](#) at its next meeting on August 27th.

The Kent County COVID Relief Subcommittee approved the funding by a vote of 7-0 at its meeting on July 23rd. Once given final approval, the new school PPE funding would be allocated from the \$115 million federal CARES Act grant sent to Kent County earlier this year.

COVID Relief Subcommittee members include Commissioners Bolter, Stan Stek, Diane Jones, Emily Brieve, Roger Morgan, Jim Talen, Phil Skaggs, and Robert Womack.

“As schools consider how to reopen this fall, the safety and mental health of our children are the primary concerns of every parent I know,” said Bolter. “By allocating this funding, we can be part of the solution to keep our kids and teachers as safe as possible and help to bring back some normalcy in this crazy time.”

A distribution formula and approved list of PPE materials will be approved at the August 27th full County board meeting for all schools in Kent County.

The Kent County Board of Commissioners has previously allocated CARES funding for other programs to assist communities during the coronavirus pandemic, including \$25 million for the Kent County Small Business Recovery Program, shelter assistance, non-profit assistance, a business PPE program and more.

For more information about the CARES Act and related Kent County efforts, [click here](#).

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