

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



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**Kent County Board of Commissioners Approve \$2 Million For
Kent County Schools Reopening Assistance**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (Aug. 27, 2020) – The Kent County Board of Commissioners approved \$2 million today to help county schools reopen safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is allocated from the nearly \$115 million federal [CARES Act grant](#) sent to Kent County earlier this year.

“As a mother of two boys, I understand the stress parents are feeling about getting their kids back to school,” said Kent County Board of Commissioners Chair Mandy Bolter. “We are fortunate to have this federal funding and be able to provide our schools with the resources they need to ensure our children continue to learn and grow.”

The grants are based on the number of students enrolled in each school in 2019, with schools receiving approximately \$16 per student. The grants provide schools with flexibility in how they use the funds as they continue to implement their [MI Safe Schools](#) plan. Eligible uses of the funding could include purchase of personal protection equipment and sanitation supplies; technology costs necessary for enhanced virtual learning; or to finance mental healthcare and nurses.

All Kent County schools (public, private and charter) are eligible for this funding and will be notified by Kent County Administration on the amount of funds for which it is eligible and the application process.

“We’ll continue to support our students and teachers with these resources so that back to school is a success,” concluded Bolter.

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 personal protection equipment program, and more.

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

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