



Wednesday, August 26, 2020
For Immediate Release
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Local Catholic parents demand that Dane County rescind their order forbidding in-person education of students by no later than Friday

Late last Friday, August 21st, Dane County officials issued County Order #9, declaring that schools could not open for in-person instruction for students in the third grade and above. This was only 60 hours before many parochial and private schools (Catholic, Christian, and non-Christian) were slated to open.

St. Ambrose Academy, a 6th -12th-grade Catholic classical education school on Madison's west side, immediately made it clear to the families sending their children to the school that we would not allow this order to stand, pledging to fight it through every available measure.

Today, August 26th, attorney Misha Tseytlin, of the Troutman Pepper Hamilton law firm, sent a letter on behalf of St. Ambrose Academy, St. Maria Goretti Congregation, St. Peter Catholic Parish and School, Blessed Sacrament Parish and School, Blessed Trinity School, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Parish, St. Francis Xavier Catholic School, and St. Dennis School, to Dane County Executive Joe Parisi, Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway, and Public Health Madison & Dane County Director Janel Heinrich, demanding that the County rescind the Order by no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, at 12:00 p.m, "Given the unconstitutionality and unlawfulness of the School Closure Order," citing harm to "parents, children, and schools across the County."

Since Saturday afternoon, St. Ambrose has raised nearly \$100,000 for legal expenses to fight this order and allow those parents who choose to send their children to in-person instruction at our schools to do so. We thank so many in the local community who have been so supportive with their prayers and financial generosity as we have navigated these past few very uncertain days and attempted to plan for the upcoming academic year. We place all of our hope and trust in the Lord, and we know that He will guide us where He wants us.

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