

Games on

For which you get together
teams are no longer taught, after
play was postponed Tuesday night
and preview the boys basketball
contenders. **Page 10**



Requests on agenda

The Tax & County Board is
expected to consider several
requests for federal dollars
during its meeting Thursday.
Page 14

Voting bills passed

The state Senate approved
several bills that would change
Wisconsin voting law, but they
were defeated before action by
Gov. Tony Evers. **Page 24**

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Universal no more



Members of Janesville School District Board meeting, some wearing masks and some not, sat at the meeting Tuesday at the district's Education Services Building in downtown Janesville.

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Janesville School District eases COVID-19 face mask policy

By Tom Ross
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UNIVERSITY
The Janesville School District will soon ease its face mask policy, allowing students to go maskless in classrooms and public buildings at 4 p.m. Monday.

The school board voted to ease the policy after a long debate. The vote also established the face mask use criteria for board appointments. The board approved the changes after a meeting Tuesday at the district's Education Services Building in downtown Janesville.

Starting this month, the meeting, which people all wear a face mask at the meeting, will be held at the school district's Education Services Building.

Board member Miller proposed the Janesville school board should ease its face mask policy.

District board member Steve Pugh said board members will change the policy after a vote on the COVID-19 mask policy is submitted weekly and submitted.

up their masks. A Janesville student said the mask wearers must wear their masks, and maskless students must wear their masks.

Students will wear their masks during the school day but not when they are outside.



Pugh

Board member Steve Pugh said board members will change the policy after a vote on the COVID-19 mask policy is submitted weekly and submitted.

The board members will wear their masks when they are outside.

Students will wear their masks during the school day but not when they are outside.

will not continue to that school year. It is through the use of the school's mask policy to ensure that all students are safe.

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The board members will wear their masks when they are outside.

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KANDU plans to expand adult care services

Sensory-friendly features expected at 20,000-square-foot center

By Tom Ross
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UNIVERSITY
KANDU, a Janesville-based organization that provides services for people with developmental disabilities, is planning to expand its adult care services.

The new center, located at 1000 N. Janesville St., will be a 20,000-square-foot facility that will provide a variety of services for people with developmental disabilities.

The center will include a variety of sensory-friendly features, such as quiet rooms and sensory rooms, to help people with developmental disabilities feel more comfortable in the facility.

KANDU's adult care services center will be located on a 10-acre site in downtown Janesville. The center will include a variety of services, including day programs, respite care, and supported employment. The center is expected to be completed in late 2022.

The center will include a variety of sensory-friendly features, such as quiet rooms and sensory rooms, to help people with developmental disabilities feel more comfortable in the facility.

Tom Ross is a reporter for the Gazette.

Further moves still could be made over Ukraine

Russia withholding military might; West holds back some sanctions

By Tom Ross
tom.ross@gazette.com

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KANDU/Growth in aging population driving need, company says

Continued from 1A

On Tuesday, KANDU's executive director, Kathy Hansen, told *The Gazette* that KANDU is launching a new, three-year corporate expansion plan that's initially intended to offer more robust dayside services to its clients—people with physical and cognitive disabilities who receive respite day care and those with Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

KANDU for years has offered in-house employment and job skills training for people with disabilities alongside a dayside adult day care and memory care programs at its manufacturing site and corporate headquarters at Barberty Drive and Adel Street.

But alongside that, KANDU has operated Best Events, a catering division that runs a local meals-on-wheels program but is better known for operating a catering business for public and private events. Under new plans, Hansen said, KANDU will continue to operate some Best Events programs, including meals on wheels.

A major renovation to the space formerly used for catering work will add double the room KANDU now has for adult day



An artist's rendering of what KANDU Industries' facility at 2030 Center Ave. would look like under a full remodel that will transition away from catering work space the nonprofit has run for years. KANDU said the renovation will allow the 20,000-square-foot building to become the new home of KANDU's growing adult day care programs. It's part of a larger expansion that KANDU hopes over time might double the number of clients it now serves.

care—along with new amenities the company said will help shape what it's calling its "Best of Life" program.

At a time when KANDU's catering work is down and hiring for catering workers is as sluggish as the rest of the labor market, Hansen said the demand for day care for clients—in part also a vehicle for respite to the clients' full-time caretakers—is booming. People with dementia disorders are the biggest growing

demographic, Hansen said.

"There's the need, but there's a horrible gap (in services). That is what's driving this decision," Hansen said. "We need to double our day services, because if you look at census numbers, you continue to see the aging population is going to increase 50%. We need to be ready for it. We're already seeing an increase in people asking and inquiring and wondering what are the options that are out there."

Hansen said the shift at the Center Avenue location will allow adult day care to grow from about 40 clients to 80. KANDU intends to launch a rehab to the building starting this fall.

The move also will shuffle KANDU's corporate headquarters from real estate on Adel Street to the refitted Center Avenue location, which will free up space for growth in its manufacturing and job training programs.

Down the road in its three-year plan, Hansen said, KANDU plans to move its client manufacturing out of leased space at Barberty Drive and launch a 43,000-square-foot expansion to its Adel Street facility. That would double manufacturing space at Adel Street while adding new manufacturing processes and "efficiencies" to the new spaces.

The move comes as KANDU has worked to unload The Armory and the Pontiac Convention Center, two event halls that for years it has used to operate events and catering. The Amory, a downtown Janesville event hall, recently sold to a new owner who intends to launch a wedding hall there.

The Pontiac, on the city's northeast side, is in the midst of changing hands, pending further negotiations of a sale.

That, she said, will allow some of its manufacturing programs to double the number of clients KANDU can employ in its manufacturing and job skills training programs.

All that growth will cost money on the front end. KANDU hasn't given a range of costs for all the work, the nonprofit plan to launch a capital campaign in early 2023 to tackle the work.