

# *District Status Report*

*18 June*

*2020-2021 Report #50*

The purpose for the weekly Status Report is to communicate to members of the School Board important and meaningful information relevant to the business of the school district. The Report is available to the public on the school district's website. Please contact me at 417-2602 if you have any questions regarding information contained in the Status Report. I would also appreciate hearing from you on ways I can improve the Report and make it more meaningful and informative for you.

Dale

## Our Mission

**Empowering students with  
knowledge and skills to succeed.**

## Our Vision

**To be the school district of choice, inspiring  
excellence in academics, arts, and activities.**

This will be my final *Status Report* as I plan to be on vacation beginning Thursday, June 24, through Wednesday, June 30.

## Information – Communication – Correspondence

### 1. News From Around the State and Beyond

Curriculum: Critical Race Theory battle invades school boards  
Critical race theory sparks nationwide pro-and-con protests  
Dozens of education groups blast critical race theory bans

### 2. 6-21-2021 School Board Meeting – A few items to bring attention to . . .

#### a. Within the Consent Agenda

- 1) Board Bills
- 2) Donations
- 3) Resignations
- 4) Employment
- 5) Reassignment
- 6) Bakery Bid for 2021-2022
- 7) Dairy Bid for 2021-2022
- 8) Lunch and Milk Prices for 2021-2022
- 9) Minnesota Rural Education Association (MREA) Membership Renewal
- 10) Minnesota Valley Education District FY22 Physically Impaired/Other Health Disabilities Service Agreement
- 11) South Central Human Relations Center FY 2022 Mental Health Services Agreement
- 12) Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant Agreement with Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Public Schools
- 13) Amended Graduating Class of 2021
- 14) Designation of Identified Official with Authority for the Minnesota Department of Education User Access Authorization System
- 15) IEA Environmental, Health, and Safety Management Services FY2022-2024
- 16) Statewide Enrollment Options

#### b. Under Recommended Actions, the Board will be asked to take action on the following item(s):

- 1) District Property, Liability, Auto, Workers Compensation Insurance Proposal
- 2) Southeast Service Cooperative Membership
- 3) Licensed School Nurse FTE Adjustment
- 4) Secondary School Electronic Sign Replacement
- 5) 2021-2022 Staffing Plan Revision
- 6) 2020-2021 Revised Budget
- 7) 2021-2022 Proposed Budget
- 8) Chromebook Purchase
- 9) COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan

The Board will meet in closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase of property located at 615 N. Broadway, New Richland, MN, by the School District pursuant to Minnesota Statute, 13D.05, Subdivision 3(c).

We continue to live-stream the Board meeting via YouTube.

3. **Elementary School East Entrance Canopy Construction** – Demolition the existing canopy has started with the removal of the top. As of June 16, plans are being made to remove concrete under the canopy area. Further examination of the condition of the supporting structures is being conducted to determine if there needs to be any replacement. The work is likely to continue into July.
4. **COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan** – As part of the ESSER III Funding requirements, school districts must develop and publish on its website a COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan. Below is the draft that will be presented to the Board Monday night for approval.

## **COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan**

**Masks:** Masks are encouraged, but not required except for on school buses and other school vehicles per CDC [Requirement for Face Masks on Public Transportation Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs](#).

**Health Screening Process:** If you're sick, stay home. All people entering NRHEG facilities are expected to perform a self-health screening prior to entering the building (screening for elementary children must be completed by an adult).

If you or your child has a fever 100.4 degrees or higher; new onset cough or a cough that gets worse; has difficulty/hard time breathing; new loss of taste or smell, you/they will be required, per MDH [COVID-19 Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth Programs, and Child Care Programs](#), to test for COVID-19 or have an alternate diagnosis from a medical provider in order to enter a NRHEG facility prior to end of quarantine period.

**Isolation:** If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, he/she must quarantine for at least 10 days during the infectious period.

**Communication:** Families are REQUIRED to report a positive case of COVID-19 to Licensed School Nurse Carrie Petsinger at [cpetsinger@nrheg.k12.mn](mailto:cpetsinger@nrheg.k12.mn) or 507-417-2606.

**Attendance/Rosters:** Daily attendance will be documented for each class/activity.

**Contact Tracing:** Families will be notified if their child has been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case while at school.

**Quarantine:** In the event of an exposure to a positive case, NRHEG requires the following.

### Exposure at School

If a student or staff member is identified as a close contact as a result of an exposure at school, and the person has not been fully vaccinated, the individual will be required to quarantine for 10 days. However, the individual may shorten the 10-day quarantine period with the following option.

1. 7-day quarantine period (test on day 5 or after)

### Exposure at Home

If a student or staff member is identified as a close contact as a result of an exposure at home, the individual will be required to quarantine for 14 days.

**Other Mitigation Strategies:** NRHEG will also implement hand hygiene practices, cleaning and disinfecting protocols, social distancing, cohorts, and enhanced indoor air ventilation to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Vaccinations for School Age Students:** Individuals age 12 and older are currently eligible for the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Community sites continue to offer vaccinations to students age 12 and up. The [State of Minnesota Vaccine Locator](#) tool allows searching by zip code, distance, age group, and more.

**Student and Staff COVID-19 Testing:** Minnesota and Vault Medical Services have teamed up to offer

no-barrier, at-home COVID-19 saliva testing for everyone who lives in Minnesota, with or without symptoms. You can read more about this service on the [Minnesota Department of Health website](#).

**Students with disabilities:** Appropriate accommodations will be made for students. The special education coordinator and case managers will consult with school staff.

**Coordination with state and local health officials:** New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva School staff will continue to collaborate with officials from the Waseca County Public Health, Steele County Public Health, Freeborn County Public Health and the Minnesota Department of Health.

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## **Resources**

[COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Summer School](#)

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**Learning Plan Public Comment:** The Public is invited to make comments regarding the Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan at [Public Comments](#)

5. **Critical Race Theory Discussions** – School districts across Minnesota and the country are having to address the topic of Critical Race Theory (CRT) as there is a desire by parents, students, staff, school boards, and citizens for a deeper understanding about CRT. In order to respond to the public, it is important that administration, staff and the School Board have a shared understanding of what the terms equity, diversity and inclusion mean. Deb Henton, MASA Executive Director; Katie Pekel, Principal in Residence at the University of Minnesota; and Sebastian Witherspoon, Equity Alliance MN; offer the following definitions for the three terms.
- Equity – Making sure students have what they need to be successful.
  - Diversity – Differences among people i.e. age, gender, race, religion, ability, etc.
  - Inclusion – Making sure everyone feels a sense of belonging and is respected for who they are.

Below are a few articles you might be interested in reading.

- Education Week - [Critical Race Theory isn't a curriculum. It's a practice](#)
- Education Week- [What is Critical Race Theory and why is it under attack](#)

More will be shared with the Board in the coming weeks and months regarding CRT as appropriate.

6. **New Carpet in District Office** –New carpet is being installed in the District Office and should be completed by the end of the week of June 21. Access to the office during this time may be limited.

## **School Board Calendar of Events**

June 21, 2021	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
July 19, 2021	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center
August 16, 2021	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center

## **Dale's Calendar for June 21 – June 30 (As of 6-18-2021)**

### **Week of June 21**

Monday	1:00 pm	Check in with Corrine
	2:00 pm	Check in with Karla
	2:30 pm	Check in with Sue
	6:30 pm	School Board Meeting
Tuesday	8:00 am	Meet with Knutson Construction at Elementary School
	1:00 pm	Check in with Angie
Wednesday	8:00 am	School Board Meeting Agenda Planning with Board Chair
	11:30 am	Lunch Meeting
Thursday		Out of the District
Friday		Out of the District

### **Week of June 28**

Monday through Wednesday      Out of the District

Thank you for all you do!