

# *District Status Report*

*07 August*

*2020-2021 Report #6*

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.**

## Information – Communication – Correspondence

- MDE Safe Learning Plan for 2020-2021** – The Advisory Council will be meeting for the second time on Thursday, August 13, with the intent to determine which learning model each school begins the school year. As it outlines in the [Minnesota’s Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year](#) document, school districts must follow the school learning model parameters that are based on the “bi-weekly case rate” for our counties as determined by MDH (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/stats/wschooll.pdf>). As I shared with you on Thursday, the Council did not make a decision based on the July 25 case rate data for Waseca County of 20.2 that directs a school district to start the school year in the **Hybrid model** for both the Elementary School and the Secondary School. There was interest in waiting for the August 1 data to see if there is any change. We anticipate the data being available by 11:00 am on Thursday, August 13. The Council’s decision will be forwarded to the Board for its review and approval at the August 17 School Board meeting. Below are the parameters that determine what model we must start the school year.

Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Learning model
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In person learning for elementary students; hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students

7/30/2020 5

There continues to be questions regarding having to change models as the case-rate data changes once the school year starts. We are seeking clarification on this but for now, the parameters above are intended to be used only for determining the start of the school year. Once we start the school year, we will be working with our county health departments, MDH and MDE to determine the need and/or opportunity to change learning models.

There also have been some questions about some school districts nearby who plan to still hold “In-person for all” especially at the Elementary level even if they fall in the “Hybrid learning for all students” parameter. It is my understanding those school districts are able to maintain the “6 feet distancing” requirement even with all students reporting due to flexible learning spaces. We have examined this possibility at the Elementary School and do not believe we have the space to accommodate all students at the same time in order to maintain the required distancing.

Do not hesitate to call me with questions.

- Construction Update** – Knutson Construction and hour custodians hope to begin cleaning the Middle School (south) wing next week. We are being told that the majority of the Secondary School and the Elementary School projects will be completed by the end of next week with the exception of some restroom completion and of course, the new shop expansion at the Secondary School. Board members are welcome to visit both

buildings to see the progress being made. Please contact the building principal or me in advance so that someone can meet you to escort you around. Keep up with some of the progress including photos by going to <https://www.nrheg.k12.mn.us/Page/3294>.

3. **Start of School Year for Staff** – New staff will be having inservice on August 24 and 25. All staff report the week of August 31. We were planning for the “All District Breakfast” on August 31, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be gathering all staff together. Instead, individual building meetings will be held. I am interested in finding a way to have Board members part of the opening activities with staff. Please give me a call with ideas.
4. **COVID-19 Preparedness Plan** – School Districts are required to have a Preparedness Plan in place to address safety protocols for employees. We are finalizing our plan for the Board’s review and approval at the August 17 School Board meeting.
5. **Policy Committee Meeting** – The Policy Committee will meet on Monday, August 10, at 5:30 pm in the Secondary School Media Center. The agenda will include the review of the following policies.
  1. NRHEG New Policies
    - a. Scheduling Student Activities – 908 NEW
  2. NRHEG Other Policies for Review
    - a. 403 Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees
  3. MSBA Revised Policies for School Board Consideration

Legislative and Recommended Changes to Policies

- a. 414 Mandated Reporting – Statutory change adds two crimes under the definition of ‘sexual abuse’
- b. 421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members – Adds definition of “financial interest”
- c. 510 School Activities – Adds language reflecting 2019 legislative action regarding student activity accounts and deletes outdated reference
- d. 516 Student Medication – Statutory change adds student possession and use of sunscreen
- e. 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy – Updates social media references and revises references
- f. 534 Unpaid Meal Charges – Adds 2019 Minnesota Attorney General Opinion language
- g. 601 Curriculum and Instruction – Statutory change adding dyslexia screening and additional reporting requirements
- h. 613 Graduation Requirements – Statutory changes revise Graduation Assessment Requirements (Art. V) and Graduation Credit Requirements (Art. VI). Legal References updated
- i. 615 Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPS, Section 504 Plans, LEP Students
- j. 616 School district Accountability – Update advisory committee provisions
- k. 620 Credit for Learning – Statutory change deletes North Central Assn. of Colleges and Schools from ‘eligible institution’ definition
- l. 623 Mandatory Summer School Instruction – Adds dyslexia screening language
- m. 703 Annual Audit – Updates Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide title
- n. 720 Vending Machines – Updates sealed bid statutory requirement
- o. 721 Uniform Grant Guidance – Federal change increases two threshold levels under “procurement Methods”
- p. 802 Obsolete Equipment – Statutory change expands potential recipients of surplus school computers and adds option to sell/give surplus school computers to ‘qualifying students’

Non-substantive Changes to Policies (These changes reflect updates to the legal and cross reference (including changes in statute numbers and/or names, new statutes, rules, or cases), changes to the notes within the policies, changes to accompanying forms, and minor corrections. The substance of the policy language is not affected.

- a. 205 Open Meeting and Closed Meeting
- b. 404 Employment Background Checks
- c. 424 License Status
- d. 506 Student Discipline
- e. 515 Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records
- f. 530 Form Immunization Form and Instructions
- g. 602 Organization of School Calendar and School Day
- h. 624 Online Learning Options
- i. 904 Distribution of materials on School District Property by Non-school Persons

**6. Board Member Quarterly Check-in** – Hopefully Sue has touched base with you to schedule your check-in the week of August 17. Please contact her with questions.

## School Board Calendar of Events

August 10, 2020 5:30 pm Policy Committee Meeting – Secondary School Media Center

August 17, 2020 6:30 pm School Board Meeting – Secondary School Media Center/Remote-tentative

August 31, 2020 Staff Return – District-wide Welcome (Tentative)

September 8, 2020 First Day for Students

September 21, 2020 6:30 pm School Board Meeting – Elementary School Media Center/Remote-tentative

## Dale's Calendar for August 10-14 (As of 8-7-20)

Monday	10:30 am	Check in with Doug
	1:00 pm	District Letter Prep with Sue
	2:00 pm	Check in with Karla
	3:00 pm	Check in with Sue
	1:00 pm	COVID Employee Health Plan Meeting with Corrine and Carrie
	2:00 pm	Check in with Karla
	5:30 pm	Policy Committee Meeting
Tuesday	8:00 am	COVID-19 Employee Health Plan Prep with Carrie and Corrine
	9:00 am	Check in with Macy
	10:00 am	Meeting with Corrine and Karla
	1:00 pm	Meeting with Steele County Health
	2:00 pm	Referendum Website Prep with Sue
Wednesday	8:00 am	Cleaning Plan Review with Richard and Paul
	9:00 am	Preparedness Plan Prep with Carrie
	12:00 pm	Board Packet Prep with Sue
	1:00 pm	Weekly Owners Meeting
	2:00 pm	Meeting with Freeborn Health

Thursday	9:00 am	Title IX Overview and Training
	11:30 am	MDE Call-in
	1:00 pm	2020-2021 School Learning Model Advisory Council
Friday	8:00 am	Waseca County Case Data Check in

Thank you for all you do!