

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Public Schools

Independent School District No. 2168



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Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed

Elementary Principal's Board Report, August 2020 NRHEG Elementary School Doug Anderson, Elementary Principal

2020-2021 School Year

Section	Enrollment	# of Sections	Students/Sect.
ECSE	6	2	
Bridges	11	1	11
K	63	3	21.0
1	55	3	18.33
2	63	3	21.0
3	54	3	18.0
4	61	3	20.33
5	66	3	22.0
Total	379	19	

1. Return to School Committee

The *Return to School Committee* has continued their work, meeting weekly, planning for the three possible return to school models. With all models, the emphasis has been placed on instruction, the safety of students and staff, and programming. The models include:

Scenario 1: In-person learning for all students. In this planning scenario, schools should create as much space between students and teachers as is feasible during the day, but will not be held strictly to enforcing 6 feet of social distancing during primary instructional time in the classroom.

Scenario 2: A hybrid model with strict social distancing and capacity limits. In this planning scenario, schools must limit the overall number of people in school facilities to 50% maximum occupancy. Sufficient social distancing with at least 6 feet between people must occur at all times. If distancing cannot be achieved in a space, the number of occupants must be reduced. Schools must also limit the overall number of people on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy.

Scenario 3: Distance learning only. This scenario may be implemented if local, regional, or statewide COVID-19 metrics worsen significantly enough to require the suspension of in-person learning. The requirements in this guidance regarding in-person protections would not apply to the general school community, as students and staff would be utilizing distance learning and would not be gathering in groups on school grounds.

2. Seesaw Donation

The NRHEG PTO has made a generous donation to the elementary school for the 2020-2021 school year. Last year during Distance Learning, the elementary school accessed Seesaw which is a platform for instruction and education. All students and classrooms this year will have access to this, and we will be using it for in-person learning, hybrid learning, and distance learning. Seesaw is a simple way for teachers and students to record and share what's happening in the classroom. Seesaw gives students a place to document their learning, be creative, and learn how to use technology. Each student gets their own journal and will add things to it, like photos, videos, drawings, or notes. When there are new Seesaw posts, families can be notified via app notification, email, or SMS. Parents are only notified about their own child's work, and all data is safe and secure.

3. Day One Plan for the Elementary

Due to COVID-19, our *Day One* plan for the elementary has been modified to meet the guidelines and requirements. Families of students in Grades 1-5 will meet virtually, in small groups with their teacher. Virtual meetings will be held throughout the day on September 8, and classroom teachers will send to families, before that day, a welcome video. Bridges through Kindergarten will be meeting individually with families over the course of two days on September 8-9. Families will enter the school using the west kindergarten door and will go directly to their child's classroom just inside the entrance. Staff will be sanitizing the door handles and classroom meeting area in-between families. There will be no General Session this year, and families will not be touring the school. School pictures with Brant Hemingway have been rescheduled to mid-September.

4. Parent and Visitor Admittance to School-Update Due to COVID-19

As difficult as this will be, we have decided that it is necessary for us to limit the number of outside individuals who are in our school building. Parents and visitors will not be able to walk their child to and from the classroom or be present in our hallways. Families are encouraged to drop off and pick up their children in our designated drop off and pick up areas. When conducting school business, parents and visitors will remain in the office reception area.

5. New Math Program-Bridges in Mathematics

After two years of study and research, last spring the Elementary Math Curriculum Committee selected the *Bridges in Mathematics* program for our school. Training for staff will take place on September 2-3. *Bridges in Mathematics* is a comprehensive PK–5 curriculum that equips teachers to fully implement the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics in a manner that is rigorous, coherent, engaging, and accessible to all learners. The curriculum focuses on developing students' deep understandings of mathematical concepts, proficiency with key skills, and ability to solve complex and novel problems. Bridges blend direct instruction, structured investigation, and open exploration. It taps into the intelligence and strengths of all students by presenting material that is as linguistically, visually, and kinesthetically rich as it is mathematically powerful.

6. 2020-2021 NRHEG Elementary Student Handbook

Tonight you are being asked to approve the 2020-2021 NRHEG Elementary Student Handbook. Updates include:

- Information for families on our new east entrance
- Expectations for dropping off and picking up students
- Field trips have been canceled for the first semester of school
- Student Dress Code-addressing the Governor's order for masks
- Acceptable Use Policy Update (For Families-Addition Below)

*I know that this Acceptable Use Policy & Agreement also applies to my conduct with technology outside of school if it interferes with other students' education. I also understand that it is my responsibility to return the device to school in the same condition that I received it. **If not, I understand that I may be charged \$50.00 for the repair and/or replacement of the device.***

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_YiQdpCwFerVulu4mdd7Nwdqvx30vyZdsCt0MmoMleE/edit?usp=sharing

7. Instructional Coaching Initiative-2020-2021 School Year-Proposed

This year the elementary school will have time with Literacy Instructional Coaching from Kelsey Routh. Currently, there are 12 proposed days that are being requested for teacher classroom support (full days for new teachers and each grade level and a few half days to follow up with those needing or requesting additional support and coaching). The first half-day of support for all is being proposed for one afternoon during our fall workshop. Kelsey's plan is to meet with staff at each grade level in a vertical PLC to embed the standards at the grade level before due to distance learning while also beginning the teaching of their own grade level's standards