



Dear NRHEG Elementary Families,

**Greetings!** My hope is that this elementary newsletter finds you and your family well and healthy!

As principal, I greatly appreciate the efforts that families are making to support the guidelines and protocol established by the District. I know that many of them are not ideal, they are uncomfortable, require additional time and can be frustrating. However, through your efforts and the efforts of our students and staff, we have been able to remain in the Hybrid Model with the hope that we will be able to return to In-Person Learning soon.

At Monday's Board meeting the decision was made to adjust the Hybrid Learning Model so that Wednesdays become a Distance Learning Day for our students. On this day our teachers will likely be connecting with students, while providing support to them and maintaining interaction with their class. While we have a wide variety of ages in our building, how we provide Distance Learning support may look different at certain grade levels. We continue to work with our youngest learners on technology skills, using the iPads, becoming familiar with Seesaw and online practices. Online learning for those students continues to be developed and learned by our students. Packets and online learning for others will likely be used to support Distance Learning goals on Wednesdays. All teachers are working hard to make certain that Wednesdays will be a productive, educational day for our students.

Nothing is more important than the health and safety of our students, staff and District families. We will continue to follow all COVID related safety procedures as defined in the NRHEG Safe Learning Plan, and we strongly encourage you to visit our COVID-19 resource page below for helpful resources.

<https://www.nrheg.k12.mn.us/domain/700>

Working together we can ensure the safety of everyone in our school community. I appreciate your flexibility and support. Thanks!  
Mr. Anderson



## **TEAMWORK... AT WORK!**

*Early Thursday morning one of our drinking fountains sprung a leak which brought a fair amount of water down the primary education wing hallway. Our custodian Paul discovered it upon arriving at work at 5:30 a.m. and by 8:00 a.m. it had been extracted, mopped up, dealt with and our students were in line able to get their breakfast. The elementary staff went above and beyond to pitch in, support, and help those who needed to relocate to other rooms. Due to **their** efforts we were able to hold classes for those most closely affected. I am honored to work with this team.*

## **Talking About COVID-19 With Your Child**

### **Be open and listen**

Allow your child to talk freely. Ask them open questions and find out how much they already know.

### **Be honest**

Always answer their questions truthfully. Think about how old your child is and how much they can understand.

### **Be supportive**

Your child may be scared or confused. Give them space to share how they are feeling and let them know you are there for them.

### **It is OK not to know the answers**

It is fine to say "We don't know, but we are working on it; or we don't know, but we think." Use this as an opportunity to learn something new with your child!

### **Heroes not bullies**

Explain that COVID-19 has nothing to do with the way someone looks, where they are from, or what language they speak. Tell your child that we can be compassionate to people who are sick and those who are caring for them. Look for stories of people who are working to stop the outbreak and are caring for sick people.