



# New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Public Schools

Independent School District No. 2168

## District Office

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Dale Carlson, Superintendent

## Secondary School

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David Bunn, Principal

## Elementary School

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(507)684-3181  
Fax (507)684-2108  
Douglas Anderson, Principal

*Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed.*

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July 30, 2020

NRHEG Families:

Earlier today, Governor Walz announced that public schools throughout Minnesota will begin the 2020-2021 school year in a learning model that satisfies health and safety metrics as determined by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). See [Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year](#). This decision will be made at the local school level in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and MDH.

The learning model options have not changed. They include:

1. In-person learning for all
2. Hybrid Model - 50% capacity based on state guidance and with strict social distancing requirements
3. Distance Learning Only

We continue to develop plans for each model as we anticipate the possibility of moving from one model to another either at the classroom, grade level, school building or entire school district based on the level of COVID-19 spread throughout our schools, communities, and counties as determined by MDH. Based on the information today, this will be a fluid process as school districts will be monitoring COVID-19 spread data based on the prior two-week period in order to determine the delivery model. As a result, what we may plan for today may change by September 8, and what we begin the school year under may change quickly based on the COVID-19 spread data.

The Governor's announcement today provides flexibility for local school districts to make decisions surrounding the start of the 2020-2021 school year based on county and local data. While having more local control in the decision making is appreciated, it could mean that neighboring school districts will operate under different delivery models and conditions based on the metrics determined by MDH as well as physical school building limitations.

We will update you as we finalize the 2020-2021 school year plan in the coming days. It is our intention to present a plan to the School Board at the August 17 School Board meeting for review and approval.

Please refer to *Important Coronavirus Information* on the District's website at <https://www.nrheg.k12.mn.us/domain/700> for updated guidance from the Minnesota Department of Education, MDH, CDC and other resources.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Dale Carlson, Superintendent

Doug Anderson, Elementary School Principal

David Bunn, Secondary School Principal