

School Board Minutes

November 5, 2020

Members Present: C. Brown, K. Denzer, N. Donnay, J. Gottschalk, R. Hajlo, D. Keyes, A. Melendres (via Zoom), S. Mueller

Members Absent:

Board Advisors Present: J. Gutierrez, K. Gutierrez, J. Karetov, A. Kleinboehl, W. Renner, P. Rosell, A. Sachariason

Guest: C. Westlund

Call to Order

S. Mueller called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Open Forum

There were fifteen requests to speak at the Open Forum: Sarah Garceau (parent), Sandy Schreyer (US science teacher), Tim Howard (parent), Angela Schumacher (MS LA teacher), Danielle Yegge (parent), Kate Gilman (US history teacher), RaeAnn Rankila (parent), Christie Miller (US science teacher), Jessica Johnson (parent), Sarah Jacobson (LS teacher), Dan McGurran (parent), Kellie Nelson (LS teacher), Andrew Howard (US student), Karl Strobeck (MS & US teacher) and Glenn Fager (parent).

Covid Dashboard - C. Westlund

Candace reviewed the current Dashboard on the school's website, explained the definitions of quarantine and isolation, along with the Health Office protocols. The Washington County case rate data has removed the prison cases in its calculations.

To date, there have been a total of 10 positive Covid cases (1 hospitalization).

Review Learning Model - J. Gutierrez

Current factors to consider: the Covid case rate data (recommended guidance), staff coverage and the health and safety measures in place (6' of physical distancing). Of these considerations, the staffing coverage is our biggest challenge.

Lower School – at the end of September the board was looking at ways to move to a less restrictive learning model but since then, the case rate numbers have increased. At this point in time, we are short 8 staff within the Lower School and would make it difficult to go to full in-person. In addition, 6' of physically distancing in the classroom/buses/lunchroom is not possible all the time.

Every Minnesota school was assigned a Regional Support Team (RST) near the end of September. The RST has regular calls with the school's Covid Response Team to discuss the current case rate data and the school's Covid numbers. On last week's call, SCPA's Covid Response Team asked to maintain the hybrid learning model even though the county case rate numbers exceeded the 30+ which would require the school to move to distance learning. They agreed to revisit SCPA's learning model and county/school data

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on November 12. The RST will also review St. Croix Prep's Learning Model Transition plan.

Currently, the administration recommends there be no change to the learning model, move the next board meeting to Thursday, November 12 and continue to offer athletics and activities even if we switch to a distance learning model.

Motion to move the next school board meeting to Thursday, November 12: S.

Mueller

Second: K. Denzer

There was discussion about the difference between a working session vs. a board meeting.

Approval: All

There was discussion on how much notice families and staff should be given to move to a different learning model.

Motion to give 2 weeks notice to staff and families when moving to a different learning model, if allowable: K. Denzer

Second: N. Donnay

Yay: K. Denzer, N. Donnay, R. Hajlo, D. Keyes, A. Melendres (via Zoom), S. Mueller

Nay: C. Brown, J. Gottschalk

Motion passes.

There was further discussion about whether we will have a choice in staying in hybrid with the current county case rates and if RST will request our school move to DL.

A. Melendres proposed that we define a Learning Model Transition plan at the November 12 board meeting, with an emphasis on getting the kids back to school in person.

<u>Learning Model Transition Guidelines - K. Gutierrez</u>

Kelly met with teachers in each division to discuss what guidelines should be in place to transition between learning models.

Common ground – everyone agrees the best solution for students' education is a full return to the classroom but that is not always a viable solution to balance the needs of the students and staff. The goal is to educate in person and to maintain rigor and to come together as a community. In addition to our families, our staff is vitally important who care deeply for their students.

In coming up with guidelines, considered the guidelines set out by MDE, MDH and publicly accessible medical journals.

Guidelines for Lower School (K-4) In-Person to Hybrid:

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- At least one week above the MDE/MDH threshold of 10 cases/10K with 2 or more prior weeks of consecutive material increases in case rate numbers, or
- Three consecutive weeks above the MDE/MDH threshold of 10 cases/10K, or
- Case numbers more than 5 above the MDE/MDH threshold of 15 cases/10K.

Hybrid to Distance:

- At least one week above the MDE/MDH threshold of 50 cases/10K with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material increases in case rate numbers, or
- Three consecutive weeks above the 50 cases/10K, or
- Case numbers more than 5 above the MDE/MDH threshold or 55 cases/10K. Distance to Hybrid:
 - At least one week 10 points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 40 cases/10K with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material decreases in case rate numbers, or
 - Three consecutive weeks 10 points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 40 cases/10K, and
- Classrooms/lunchrooms configured for a minimum of 6' social distancing. Hybrid to In-Person:
 - Three consecutive weeks below the MDE/MDH threshold of 10 cases/10K.

Guidelines for Middle and Upper School (Grades 5-12) In-Person to Hybrid:

• Same as Lower School

Hybrid to Distance:

- At least one week above the MDE/MDH threshold of 30 cases/10K with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material increases in case rate numbers, or
- Three consecutive weeks above the MDE/MDH threshold of 30 cases/10K, or
- Case numbers more than 5 above the MDE/MDH threshold or 35 cases/10K.

Distance to Hybrid:

- At least one week 10 points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 20 cases/10K with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material decreases in case rate numbers, or
- Three consecutive weeks 10 points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 20 cases/10K, and
- Classrooms/lunchrooms configured for a minimum of 6' social distancing.

Hybrid to In-Person:

• Same as Lower School

The reason for the case numbers 10 points below the MDE/MDH guidelines is to achieve stability so there won't be potential for switching back and forth between learning models. In addition, staff feel it would be important to stay in a hybrid learning model for six weeks before transitioning to fully in-person to give staff and families sufficient notification to return to the building and the ability to maintain school protocols.

Any transition in learning models would include a two day minimum for faculty planning and to prepare synchronous and asynchronous learning tools.

There was discussion about why these guidelines are more restrictive than what the MDE/MDH has outlined and if we need to look at these guidelines and make adjustments

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before presenting school guidelines to the RST next week. Determined there is a need to have a working board session before the board meeting on November 12.

Motion to add a working board session on Tuesday, November 10 at 6pm: B.

Hajlo

Second: D. Keyes Approved: All

S. Mueller apologized to the school board and to the parents present for allowing the outbursts that occurred during the meeting. He expressed his understanding that parents and teachers have a desire to be heard but lost order of the meeting in that effort.

Motion to move Grades 5-12 to distance learning starting November 16-25: C.

Brown

Second: J. Gottschalk

R. Hajlo respectfully asked C. Brown to withdraw his motion. C. Brown declined.

There was discussion. K. Denzer said it would be going against the board announcing to the school community there would not be a vote to change learning models this evening and that there needs to be further discussion before making a decision at this time.

Yay: C. Brown, J. Gottschalk

Nay: K. Denzer, N. Donnay, R. Hajlo, D. Keyes, A. Melendres (via Zoom), S. Mueller Motion does not pass.

Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm: K. Denzer

Second: C. Brown Approved: All

Submitted by S. Peterson, St. Croix Preparatory Academy



St. Croix Preparatory Academy Board Meeting Agenda November 5, 2020

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Open Forum
- 3. Agenda
 - A. Learning Model -- Current County data, school data, Regional Support team, transition guidelines
- 4. Adjourn Meeting



Activities Director's Report to the Board

Date of Report: November 2020

Report Prepared By: Rich Dippel/Keven Seim

Operational Items:

The Activities Department, like the other parts of our school, has been managing a fluid situation since the beginning of the current situation.

Athletics

The Minnesota State High School League has been responding to the changing landscape also and has made multiple changes to our athletic and activities seasons over the last four months. Late in the summer the decision was made by the MSHSL to move football and volleyball to a spring season. For SCPA that meant we would only be programming boys & girls soccer, boys & girls cross country and girls tennis. Then due to changing circumstances, the MSHSL moved football and volleyball back to the fall in mid-September. Below is a summary of the two fall seasons and the scheduled dates for the winter season.

Fall Season 1

Boys Soccer Start Date: 8/17/20 End Date: 10/24/20 Regular Season Games: 11

Participation: 35 Regular Season Record – 9-2-1

Girls Soccer Start Date: 8/17/20 End Date: 10/24/20 Regular Season Games: 11

Participation: 48 Regular Season Record – 9-2-2 (Skyline Conference Champions)

Boys & Girls Cross Country Start Date: 8/17/20 End Date: 10/24/20

Regular Season Meets: 7 (Duals and Tris only)

Participation: Girls -10, Boys -16

Girls Tennis(JV) Start Date: 8/17/20 End Date: 10/17/20

Meets Participated In: 6 Participation: 17

Fall Season 2

Football Start Date: 9/14/20 Last Regular Season Game: 11/12/20 End Date: 11/28/20

Regular Season Games: 6 Participation: 51 (SCPA-28)

Volleyball Start Date: 9/28/20 Last Regular Season Game: 11/28/20 End Date: 12/12/20

Regular Season Games: 14 Participation: 36

Winter

Boys Hockey(coop with Gentry Academy) Start Date: 11/23/20 Last Regular Season Game: 2/20/21

End Date: 3/13/21 Participation: TBD (3 to 5)

Girls Hockey(coop with Woodbury) Start Date: 11/30/20 Last Regular Season Game: 2/27/21

End Date: 3/20/21 Participation: TBD (1 to 3)

Boys Basketball Start Date: 11/23/20 End of Regular Season: 2/27/21 End Date: 3/20/21

Participation: TBD (40 to 45)

Girls Basketball Start Date: 12/7/20 End of Regular Season: 3/13/21 End Date: 4/3/21

Participation: TBD (25 to 30)

Alpine Skiing Start Date: 11/30/20 End of Regular Season: 2/3/21 End Date: 2/27/21

Participation: TBD (15 to 20)

Archery – At this point we are still waiting to hear what the archery season will look like for the coming season. This program is not administered through the MSHSL so there is more flexibility in this programming. We hope to have this schedule in place by December.

Activities

The MSHSL sponsored activities programs have moved to a virtual model for this year. Debate and speech tournaments are being held virtually in order to ensure participant safety. If activities/athletics are moved to a model that does not allow for face to face contact, the debate and speech seasons will be able to continue with their current competition schedule. Practices and working with coaches will have to move a virtual model.



Proposal: Learning Model Transition Guidelines

Purpose

Establish a tool to guide school leaders' decisions surrounding a transition between learning models

Common Ground:

times, this will not always be a viable solution as we attempt to balance the academic, physical and menta "The best solution for students' education would be a full return to the classroom. However, in these pandemic health, and social needs of our students as well as the physical and mental health of our staff."

"Students learn best face to face, and especially true for lower school"

"Our goal is to bring students back to an in person learning environment."

"We want to ensure the safety of all students, teachers, and staff."

"We are short staffed and I don't even know where we will find staff."

"Stability and consistency is important."

as an unsafe work environment." "Our intent is not to remove students from the classroom, nor is it to pressure teachers into what they may feel

medical journal articles Because we are not experts in the field of virus pathology, and instead rely on the guidelines set out by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and publicly accessible



interaction between students - but not at the cost of the health of our broader community. **Goal:** To maintain the rigor of our school, connections between students and faculty, and positive social

and consistent learning environment for students and being responsibly proactive and reactive to the variations countless; therefore, in combination with the thresholds provided here, this process requires the Plan is a guide, not a definitive and binding decision tree. The factors that must be weighed are many and continually evolving impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in our school community. This Learning Model Transition human art of reasoning required in good decision making. Introduction: To achieve our goal, this plan was created with the dual priorities of maintaining a stable



Learning Model Transition Guidelines

- Consultation with MDE's Regional Support Team (RST)

 o Regional Support Team (RST) is comprised of a Coordinator, MDH and MDE personnel
- Consideration of the following MDE/MDH case numbers trends and thresholds:

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or 15 cases/10k	than 5 above the	Case numbers more		of 10 cases/10k	MDE/MDH threshold	weeks above the	Three consecutive		numbers.	in case rate	material increases	consecutive	weeks of	two or more prior	of 10 cases/10k with	MDE/MDH threshold	above the	At least one week	In-Person to Hybrid
	or 55 cases/10k	MDE/MDH threshold	than 5 above the	 Case numbers more 	OR	of 50 cases/10k	MDE/MDH threshold	weeks above the	 Three consecutive 	OR	case rate numbers.	material increases in	of consecutive	or more prior weeks	cases/10k with two	threshold of 50	above the MDE/MDH	 At least one week 	Hybrid to Distance
distancing	Lunchrooms configured	 Classrooms and 		IN ADDITION:		or 40 cases/10k	the MDE/MDH threshold	10 points or more below	 Three consecutive weeks 	OR	numbers.	decreases in case rate	consecutive material	more prior weeks of	cases/10k with two or	MDE/MDH threshold or 40	points or more below the	 At least one week 10 	Distance to Hybrid
													cases/10k.	threshold of 10	MDE/MDH	weeks below the	consecutive	• Three	Hybrid to In-Person



≧	(Grades: 5-12 th)	Division	EST 2000
 Additional Scenarios that will result in a mov MORE restrictive model: Inability to meet social distancing requirements as suggested by MDE/MDH In-person Model at current case counts. Inability to maintain a school wide COVID protocol Inability to staff In-person Model. 	same as Lower school	In-Person to Hybrid	
ditional Scenarios that will result in a move to a RE restrictive model: Inability to meet social distancing requirements as suggested by MDE/MDH for In-person Model at current case counts. Inability to maintain a school wide COVID protocol Inability to staff In-person Model.	 At least one week above the MDE/MDH threshold of 30 cases/10k with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material increases in case rate numbers. OR Three consecutive weeks above the MDE/MDH threshold of 30 cases/10k Case numbers more than 5 above the MDE/MDH threshold or 35 cases/10k 	Hybrid to Distance	
 Additional criteria required to move to a LESS restrictive model: Commitment to a minimum of 6 calendar weeks in the Hybrid Model met before transitioning. Sufficient notice to prepare for students to return to the building (families, transportation, food services, etc.), which would be approximately 2-3 weeks. Ability to maintain a school wide COVID protoco. Ability to staff less restrictive Learning Model including in the event of multiple outbreaks. 	 At least one week IO points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 20 cases/10k with two or more prior weeks of consecutive material decreases in case rate numbers. OR Three consecutive weeks 10 points or more below the MDE/MDH threshold or 20 cases/10k IN ADDITION: Classrooms and Lunchrooms configured for a minimum of 6ft social distancing 	Distance to Hybrid	
criteria required to move to a LESS model: tment to a minimum of 6 calendar weeks Hybrid Model met before transitioning. Int notice to prepare for students to to the building (families, transportation, prvices, etc.), which would be imately 2-3 weeks. to maintain a school wide COVID protocol to staff less restrictive Learning Model ng in the event of multiple outbreaks.	School	Hybrid to In-Person	



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Any transition to in learning model would include a minimum of 2 days of faculty planning, to facilitate preparation of both synchronous and asynchronous learning tools. The learning model transitions would begin the week after the criteria has been met. Exceptions to this include a school-wide or county-wide outbreak.

Conclusion

best in balancing the needs of our students and the broader community. The above guidelines provide a series of criteria that can be and physical health of our students and our staff. Using the state guidelines and local concerns allows us, as non-experts, to do our commitment is to the education and health of our students no matter the model the board chooses to implement. used to gauge when and how to transition between learning models while preserving local control. At the end of the day our While we would all prefer to be fully in-person, in our classrooms, with our students, we must balance that preference with the mental

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Review of Learning **Model Transition**

Learning Model Options

COVID CASE RANGE*	POLICY OPTION	LS	NS.	SU
0-9	In person learning for all students			
10-19	Elementary in-person, Middle/Upper School Hybrid		6 9	€
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students	69	ြ	6 9
30-49	Elementary Hybrid, Middle/Upper School Distance	ြေ		
50	Distance Learning for all students			



Covid-19 Response Team

Program Coordinators

Jon Gutierrez, Candace Westlund (School Nurse)

Team Members

Smith, Marianne Thole, Rich Dippel Kelly Gutierrez, Joann Karetov, Amy Kleinboehl, Wanda Renner, Andrew Sachariason, Peggy Rosell, Bill Blotske, Chad Olson, Terri



Learning Model - Key Factors

(Beginning of the School Year)

- County COVID-19 case rate
- Staffing coverage
- Instructional preparedness
- Building readiness
- Technology access
- Service readiness (nutrition and transportation)
- Health and safety readiness





Objective Factors Now Model Change -

Covid-19 County Case Rate Data

- and MDE for MN Safe Learning Plan Establishes recommended guidance from MDH
- Establishes safety perception for faculty, parents, and students
- faculty/parent discord when learning model departs from recommended learning model Creates potential liability/safety issues and



Staffing Coverage

- accommodate learning model changes Existing personnel needs to be in place to
- symptoms Substitute pool and staff need to be in place to accommodate absences related to Covid-19



Health and Safety

- Physical distancing is key factor which changes between learning models (due to facilities)
- Hybrid Learning Model 6' physical distancing strictly enforced (classroom, bus, lunch)
- In Person Learning Model 6' physical distancing only when feasible



Moving to a Less Restrictive Model







Lower School Example Transition to In Person

Moving to a Less Restrictive Model

From Distance to Hybrid; or Hybrid to In-Person

Key Factor	Time to Make the Model Change
Washington County Case Rate	N/A – note the 14 day lag on data
Staffing Coverage (if already fully staffed)	Immediate to 1 Week
Instructional Preparation	Immediate to 1 Week
Technology Access	Immediate to 1 Week
Building Readiness	1 Week to 2 Weeks
Service Readiness (Nutrition and Transportation)	2 Weeks to 3 Weeks (Note timing impact)
Health and Safety Readiness	1 Week to 2 Weeks



Learning Model Decision Dates

February 17	January 26	January 7, January 14 January 21
January 20 (new Quarter)	December 15 (no meeting set)	December 3, December 10
January 4, January 20	November 5, November 10, November 17	October 29, November 5, November 12
November 9	October 6	October 1, October 8, October 15, October 22
Effective Date of Potential Model Change	School Board Update (potential action to change model)	COVID-19 Response Team Meetings



County Case Rate Data

7 County Metro Area

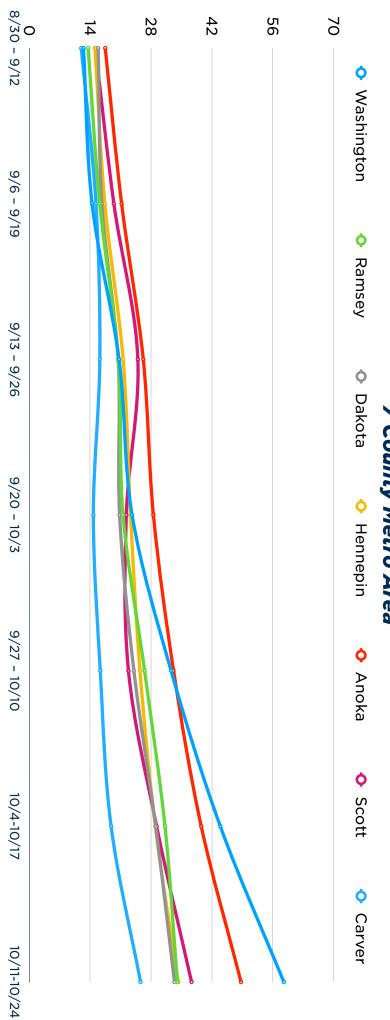
County	8/30 - 9/12	9/6 - 9/19	9/13 - 9/26	9/20 - 10/3	9/27 - 10/10	10/4-10/17	10/11-10/24
Washington	12.47	14.45	20.65	23.65	32.61/28.02	43.94/36.08	58.54
Ramsey	13.54	16.20	20.46	21.57	26.52	31.21	34.07
Dakota	15.85	16.69	20.44	20.78	24.06	29.08	33.40
Hennepin	15.11	17.38	21.59	23.29	25.46	28.99	34.25
Anoka	17.47	21.24	26.22	28.55	33.19	39.55	48.70
Scott	15.21	19.46	24.97	22.32	22.81	29.29	37.32
Carver	11.95	15.34	16.23	14.74	16.33	18.82	25.59

^{*14-}day case rate per 10,000 people by date of specimen collection



County Case Rate Data









Case rate & Transition Timing (LS)

Begin				October 23
	Hybrid	Hybrid	32.61/28.02	October 22
	Hybrid	Hybrid	23.65	October 15
	Hybrid	Hybrid	20.65	October 8
Begin				October 2
	Hybrid	In Person	14.45	October 1
	Hybrid	In Person	12.47	September 24
	Hybrid	In Person	17.13	September 17
	Hybrid	Hybrid	22.11	September 16
Transition Action Plans	Learning Model Implemented	Learning Model Recommended	WA County Case Rate	Date
:				!



Three weeks of case rate data before considering/making a transition

Transition to less restrictive takes two to three weeks due to food service/bus transportation

Three weeks of subsequent case rate data initiate a change back and unwind previous three weeks of planning

Lower School Staffing

Hybrid - (+ In Person)

County	*	1	N	W	4	Total
Teachers	0	0	0	0	0	0
EAs	3	1	0	1	0	IJ
SPED Teachers	0	0	1 (+1)	0	0	1
SPED EAs	0	0	1 (+1)	1	0	2
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health Office*	0 (+1)	0	0	0	0	0 (+1)
Total	3 (+1)		2 (+2)	2	0	8 (+3)

^{*}Additional students will require additional health office staffing



LS Change to In-person – Staffing

- Hybrid model staffing currently understaffed, additional work for existing staff making hybrid model very challenging,
- In person model cannot be accomplished without hiring open positions
- Open positions have been posted since August



LS Change to In-person – Health

- Physical distancing cannot be adhered to in classrooms, buses, and during lunch
- Quarantine/Isolation procedures in case of be for entire classrooms, entire bus, and other positive Covid-19 case, quarantine/isolation will close contacts

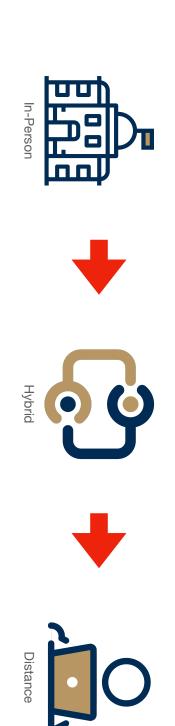


Regional Support Team (RST)

- Meeting on October 29, November 12
- Explained county data, school data, staffing
- RST "comfortable" with Prep hybrid model until could make a distance learning decision November 12 meeting – asked how soon we
- RST has ultimate decision-making authority



Moving to a More Restrictive Model







Middle/Upper School Example Transition to Distance

Moving to a More Restrictive Model

From Hybrid to Distance; or In-Person to Hybrid

Key Factor	Time to Make the Model Change
Washington County Case Rate	N/A – note the 14 day lag on data
Staffing Coverage (if already fully staffed)	1 to 2 days
Instructional Preparation	1 to 2 days
Technology Access	1 to 2 days
Building Readiness	1 to 2 days
Service Readiness (Nutrition and Transportation)	1 to 2 days
Health and Safety Readiness	1 to 2 days



Case rate & Transition Timing (MS/US)

				November 12
			58.54/???	November 5
	Hybrid	Distance	43.98/36.08	October 29
	Hybrid	Distance	32.65/28.02	October 22
	Hybrid	Hybrid	23.65	October 15
	Hybrid	Hybrid	20.65	October 8
	Hybrid	Hybrid	14.45	October 1
	Hybrid	Hybrid	12.47	September 24
	Hybrid	Hybrid	17.13	September 17
	Hybrid	Hybrid	22.11	September 16
Action Plans	Implemented	Recommended	Case Rate	
Transition	Learning Model	Learning Model	WA County	Date

- Three weeks of case rate data before considering/making a transition

 Transition to more restrictive takes two days for planning; families may need longer lead time for preparation
- require an additional two to three weeks for facilities, food service, and transportation planning. Three weeks of subsequent case rate data initiate a change back; a change back to less restrictive (hybrid) would



Positive Tests at Prisons

- Positive tests at local prisons -
- ➤ October 12 80 positive cases
- October 18 90 positive cases
- >October 24 300 positive cases
- October 28 70 positive cases
- ➤ October 31 210 positive cases
- Adjusted WA County case rate data -- Still community spread increasing



Moving to a More Restrictive Model



- Hybrid to Distance School leadership can make decisions that impact the school for 1-5 days.
- Hybrid to Distance Board must make decision on learning model change longer than 5 days.





Miscellaneous

Other Considerations

- K-12 School with shared faculty (5-12), families with students in all divisions; one building requires consistency in procedures/protocols
- MDH will publicize Covid-19 case rate data by school, beginning October 2
- Isolation/Quarantine procedures for staff with Covid-19 symptoms will be more challenging in the next weeks

- Prep student choice (80% hybrid/20% distance) is higher than other districts (60-75% hybrid/25-40% distance
- K-4 and 5-12 are different learning model decisions?
- Activities Decision, based on other schools' decisions
- Liability when outside of the MN Safe Learning Plan guidelines



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