

**School District of River Falls
Special Board Meeting**

Monday, October 26, 2020 - 6:00 PM

River Falls High School Media Center, 818 Cemetery Road, River Falls, WI 54022
or view via YouTube- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_ayO-dibHH1kd9TSzRbBA

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at
<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. **CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 p.m. in the River Falls High School Media Center also available via YouTube**

2. **MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING**

3. **HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS**

4. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - A. **Music Department COVID-mitigation presentation related to their request to allow greater opportunities to hold practice/performance indoors** **3**
 - B. **Learning environment updates for Virtual/e-School, Hybrid grades 7-12, in school grades PK-6**

 - C. **Future considerations for shift/pivot in learning environment (proactive planning)** **8**

5. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. **Consideration and/or Action to determine a change/pivot from the "HYBRID Learning Environment" and athletic/co-curricular programs, spectator updates and/or any details contained within our Wildcat Roadmap (district plan document for school operations during COVID-pandemic.)**
 1. **Staff and Student COVID-impact in District**
 2. **Regional and school district COVID-statistics**

Description: Administration will discuss existing COVID-statistics in our region and local school district criteria and if there is a perceived need to shift into an alternative learning environment and/or revise our Wildcat Roadmap. (Presentation link)

Recommended Action: Determine if we need to pivot/shift the "Learning Environment" and related program to include but not limited to athletics, spectators, co-curriculars, and music.

 - B. **Consideration and/or Action to approve October 19, 2020, Finance and Facilities Committee recommendations** **11**

Description: The Finance and Facilities Committee met on October 19, 2020, to discuss possible bond refinancing and the 2020-2021 tax levy.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

 - C. **Proposed/suggested items for the next regular and future Board meeting agenda(s)**

Description: As always, Board members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future Board member agendas.

Recommended Action: As needed.

 - D. **Schedule next Board/Committee meetings**

Description: Upcoming Board meeting dates, times and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set meeting schedule as follows:
Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, November 2, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Special Board of Education meeting: Monday, November 2, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Personnel Committee meeting: Monday, November 9, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Special Board of Education meeting: Monday, November 9, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Finance and Facilities Committee meeting: Monday, November 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Regular Board of Education meeting: Monday, November 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

All the above meetings will be held at River Falls High School, 818 Cemetery Road

6. ADJOURN

Music Department Covid Information

School Board Meeting 10/26/20

Lead Funders



Contributing Organizations



Contributing Organizations



Lead Researchers

Dr. Shelly Miller
University of Colorado Boulder



Dr. Jelena Srebric
University of Maryland



Research Team

University of Colorado Boulder

- Professor Jean Hertzberg
- Abhishek Kumar
- Dr. Sameer Patel
- Tehya Stockman
- Professor Darin Toohey
- Professor Marina Vance

University of Maryland, Center for Sustainability in the Built Environment

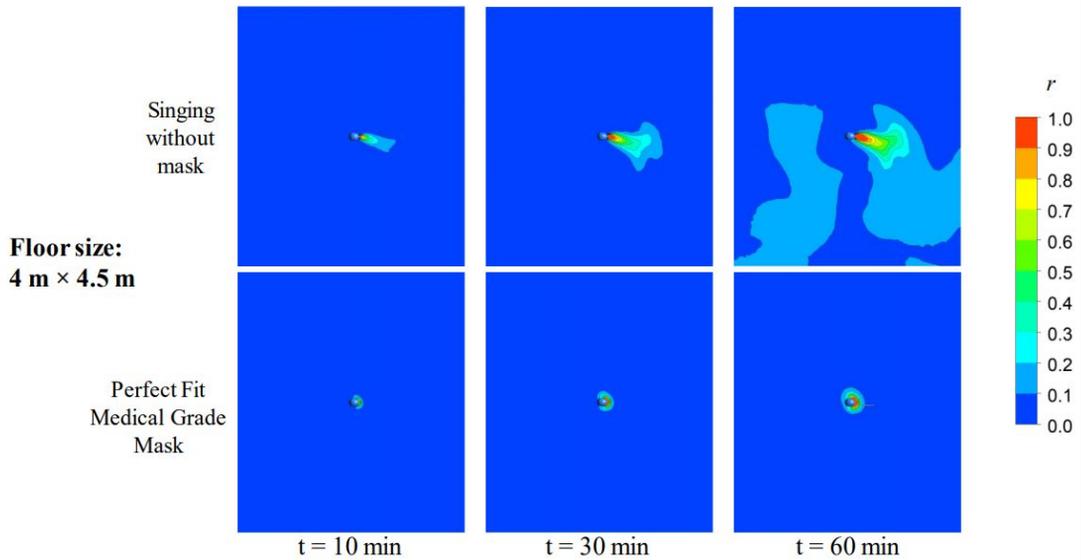
- Nicholas Mattise
- Sebastian Romo
- Lingzhe Wang
- Dr. Shengwei Zhu

Preliminary Results Disclaimer

- These preliminary results are from our few weeks of exploratory testing. They will be further defined as the study continues. We are providing these preliminary results to assist in the safe return to classrooms. (Normally we do not release data until they have been quality assessed and peer reviewed).
- This study focuses strictly on the distribution of respiratory aerosols that are released while playing wind and brass instruments, singing, acting, speaking, dancing, and during a simulated aerobic activity.
- This study did not use a live virus or infected participants and therefore cannot be used to determine specific infection rates. This study was designed to (1) identify performing arts activities that generate respiratory aerosols including volume, direction, density, (2) estimate the emission rates of respiratory aerosol, (3) model the dispersion of these aerosols, and (4) investigate mitigation strategies.

Indoor Case Study: Mask Impact on Infection Risk

Infection risk r by Wells-Riley equation at the height of mouth opening, with breathing rate of 8 L/min.



KEEPING ARTS ED SAFE AT SCHOOL

MASK
Everything!



Research Brief: Musical instruments don't spread aerosols as far as you might think

October 19, 2020

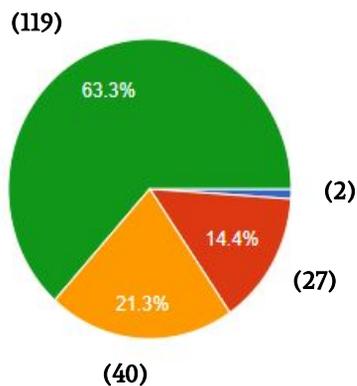


Mechanical engineering Ph.D. student Ruichen He uses an aerodynamic particle sizer to measure aerosol concentration near the outlet of a trombone played by Minnesota Orchestra Principal Trombone R. Douglas Wright. Credit: Travis Anderson

Regarding playing indoors: If you have a student in band, please select the option below that reflects the smallest separation that you are comfortable with. All options include using masks.



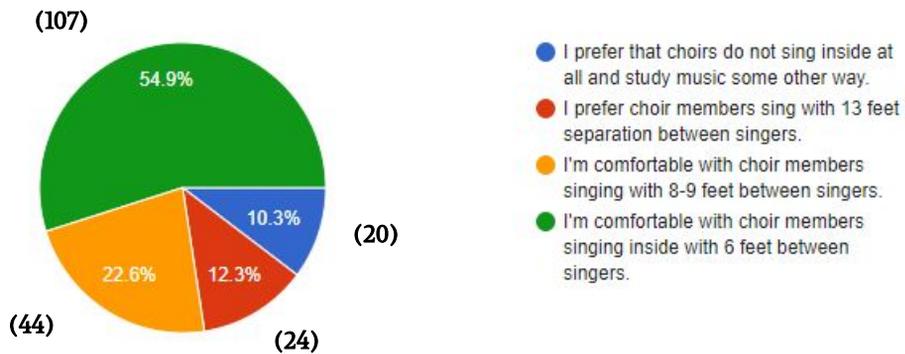
188 responses



- I prefer that bands not play instruments inside and study music some other way.
- I prefer band members to be able to play their instruments at 13 feet separation.
- I'm comfortable with band members playing their instruments with 8-9 feet between players.
- I'm comfortable with band members playing their instruments at a 6 foot separation.

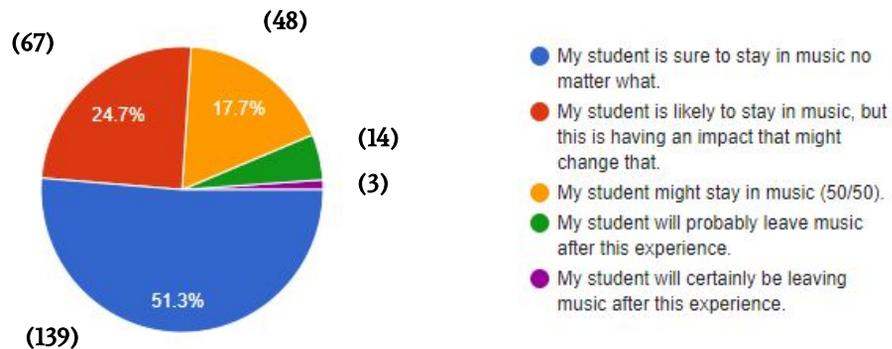
Regarding singing indoors: If you have a student in choir, please select the option below that reflects the smallest separation that you are comfortable with. All options include using masks.

195 responses



If music classes continue as they have been for the first 8 weeks, how likely is your student to stay in music?

271 responses



Our River Falls School District Priorities

1. Provide social and emotional support *for students and staff.*
2. Increase connectedness *of traditional marginalized students.*
3. Address the achievement gap *by focusing on growth.*



Current Delivery Option: RFHS Hybrid Wednesday Model

Summary: Our current model divides students into two alphabetical cohorts as “early week” and “late week” students. All students in addition to participating in two in-person days, also complete two self-paced, at-home digitally developed lessons, as well as a synchronous online Wednesday in which all students use as a check and connect day.

Strengths:

- Students are in-person at least 2 days a week
- Students receive 5 days of school in three modes; in-person, online synchronously, digital self-paced e-lessons
- Allows staff and students to continue to practice a three models if we have to pivot from hybrid to fully digital, or in-person
- Contact tracing benefit to students in cohorts with a day in between

Concerns:

- Three modes of instruction that both students and staff have to manage
- Each cohort is either two days ahead/behind (Instructional pacing out of sync)
- Little time for staff to support/ intervene with students as they are teaching 5 out 5 days.
- 4 day gap for each cohort in between instruction/interaction with teacher
- High workloads and stress indicated by survey results with parents, students, and staff

(See Page 2)

Proposed Term Two Option: RFHS Wednesday WIN Model ([Link](#))

Summary: This model would restructure our current Wednesday model and provide interventions for academically and social emotionally struggling students. Students onpace and meeting academic standards would not be required to attend but could do so voluntarily.

Part of each Wednesday will be used for targeted academic support to meet minimum standards for the courses enrolled. Counselors, case managers, and other student support personnel will also be available to students by appointment for targeted interventions. Students not requiring any additional academic or social emotional support would have the day to work on school work as needed. The remainder of the time would be used for teacher collaboration, individual prep, and to redesign/modify high quality instruction and assessments for students.

Strengths:

- Wednesdays provide an opportunity for working with students who are struggling and need additional support, re-teaching of key concepts and making up missed work.
- Viewed as a sustainable plan long-term during our COVID era pandemic for students, staff, and families as related to academic and social emotional stressors.
- Transcribed coursework, college coursework, and AP coursework would still be able to deliver instruction synchronously on Wednesdays with students.
- Continues to have contact tracing benefits with students separated in cohort models.
- SPED off-cohort day model currently proving effective. It is becoming unsustainable due to larger numbers. This would give another day for them to come in and they could work with their classroom teacher.
- Provides staff support and additional time for teaching staff to collaborate with peers to develop higher quality forms of curriculum, instruction, and assessments.
- Students and staff demonstrated synchronous learning for 7 weeks and have worked most of the bugs out that if a pivot to online is made we could adjust fairly easily.
- Does not change the calendar or the pattern of instructional delivery that RFHS students and families have noted that they prefer the current Wednesday model according to the survey results.
- Allows MMS staff and students to continue to deliver Wednesday instructional/intervention mode as needed without causing a change to their current model.

Concerns:

- Loss of an all student contact day may be perceived as lowering expectations of students.
- Does not continue to practice synchronous instruction for all students in the course, if RFHS were required to pivot to fully online.

RFHS WEDNESDAY WIN SCHEDULE

What is WIN?

- WIN stands for **What I Need**
 - For each individual RFHS student WIN might look different. Students need time to make up exams, receive additional academic support, time to ask questions or receive feedback, etc.

Who is eligible for WIN?

- All RFHS students not demonstrating 70% minimum proficiency in their courses are required to attend Wednesday WIN. Students will only need to attend the courses in the schedule that they are not demonstrating adequate proficiency or understanding of the essential standards in a course.
 - If students are below 70% in two 3rd or 4th Block A/B courses the student and teachers will determine how the student will attend WIN.
- All other RFHS students are welcome to participate in all or parts of WIN to receive additional support as well. This can be used to ask teachers questions, make up exams, lab work, or seek academic support.
- Students enrolled in college transcribed coursework and AP coursework would still attend their designated course or block.

How can students attend WIN?

- Students are welcome to attend in-person at RFHS provided they have their own transportation.
- Students may also participate in virtual course meetings by closed invitation.

Attendance Policy

- Per state law, students designated to WIN will be expected to attend in-person or virtually.
- Attendance will be taken for each class period in Infinite Campus.
- All student absences should be excused by a parent through our RFHS main office.

Block One	8:00 am - 8:40 am	40 mins.
Break	8:40 am - 8:45 am	5 mins.
Block Two	8:45 am - 9:25 am	40 mins.
Break	9:25 am - 9:30 am	5 mins.
Block Three	9:30 am - 10:15 am	40 mins.
Break	10:15 am - 10:20 am	5 mins.
Block Four	10:20 am - 11:00 am	40 mins.

Student Participation and Online Etiquette:

- First and foremost we would love to see you in our building if you are able to be in-person!
- Camera on--if this isn't possible, let your teacher know via email.
- First and last names need to be used for Zoom or Google Meet.
- Respond as requested, contribute to learning and conversations.
- Complete formative assessments and activities in virtual learning classrooms.
- Stay engaged in the learning process by responding appropriately and being present throughout the class period.

School District of River Falls
Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Report

Monday, October 19, 2020 - 6:00 PM
River Falls High School Media Center
818 Cemetery Road
River Falls, WI 54022

The Board of Education’s Finance and Facilities Committee meeting was held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at River Falls High School Media Center, 818 Cemetery Road. Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. It was ascertained that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the appointed locations, and sent to the Star Observer, WEVR Radio Station, and the Eau Claire Leader Telegram.

PRESENT

Committee members Mike Thompson (Chair), Amy Halvorson and Todd Schultz were present. Also present were Board members Bob Casey, Stacy Johnson Myers, and Alan Tuchtenhagen. Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Finance and Facilities Chad Smurawa, Director of Human Resources and Leadership Development Dave Bell, River Falls High School Principal Kit Luedtke, and Jeff Seely from Ehlers were also present.

HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS

1. Review 2020-2021 Tax Levy

Smurawa provided an overview of the 2020-2021 tax levy with committee members. The Final Mill rate is less than presented at the annual meeting. Mill rate will decrease from \$9.04 (19-20) to \$8.29 in 2020-2021. No action, informational only.

2. Discuss possible bond refinancing

Committee discussed bond refinancing options presented by Jeff Seely of Ehlers. Committee expressed strong support for the bond refinance “option 2” presented which offers faster payback of bond debt reduces interest costs and increases future financial bonding flexibility of the district.
No action, informational only.

3. Proposed/suggested items for the next regular and future Board meeting agenda(s)

As always, Board members were given the opportunity to suggest items for future Board member agendas. Suggested items included:

4. Schedule next Board/Committee meetings

Set meeting schedule as follows:
Finance and Facilities Committee meeting, Monday, November 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Meeting will be held at River Falls High School, 818 Cemetery Road

5. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mike Thompson, Finance and Facilities Committee Chair