

**NORTH BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 138  
NORTH BRANCH AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL, MEDIA CENTER  
38705 GRAND AVENUE  
NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056  
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 12, 2020  
4:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
  - A. School Board Member Heather Osagiede will be attending the meeting remotely at the following location: 9876 State Highway 176, Walnut Shade, MO 65771
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Superintendent's Report 2
- V. Work Session Topics
  - A. High School Redesign
- VI. Adjournment

# Superintendent Update



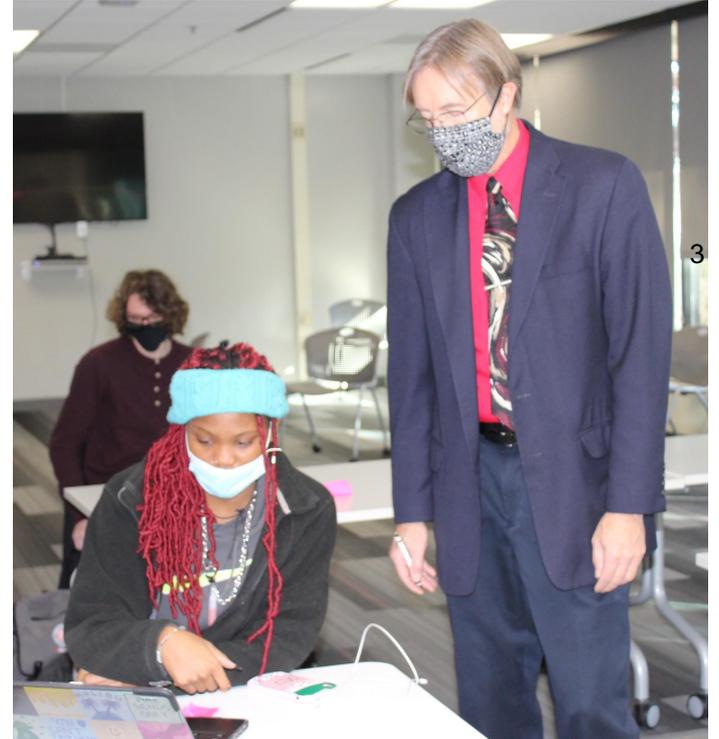
2

Better Together  
Superintendent Sara Paul  
November 12, 2020

# COVID and the NBAPS Response



- Current Model
  - K-8 hybrid five-day in-school model
  - 9-12 hybrid red-white day schedule
  - Distance Learning Academy
    - Over 500 enrolled



# COVID and the NBAPS Response



- What we have accomplished by providing five-day model for most students
  - Predictability for families
  - Positive learning environments to address the social-emotional well-being of students
  - Academic gains from learning loss associated last spring

*If you could see what I see*



# How are we doing?



## **Nov. - Nov. 8**

9 student cases (2600 students)

7 staff cases (300 staff)

*NBAPS COVID guidelines result in few close contacts*

6

## **What's working?**

- Mask mandate being followed
- Creative use of space to spread students out
- Shortened school days
- Transportation adjustments

# Local Context



[District COVID-19 Dashboard](#)



# Learning Model Shift Ahead



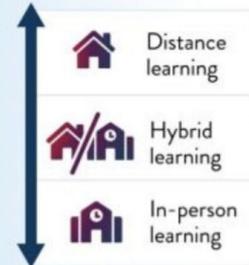
# Five-Step Process

- NBAPS follows the five-step process provided by Governor Walz
  - Local county data
  - Weekly consultation with local public health officials to provide the most accurate and localized data

## How do schools determine their safe learning model?

- STEP 1** Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will use data from counties to determine a base learning model for public schools.
- STEP 2** Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) will share county data and the consultative process for public schools to engage with education and public health experts to review their county health data and safe learning plans.
- STEP 3** Public schools, with their incident command team, will evaluate their ability to implement required and recommended health best practices.
- STEP 4** Public schools, in consultation with public health, will determine a learning model to begin the school year and communicate that decision with their school community.\*
- STEP 5** Public schools and MDH will monitor the community and school-level impact of COVID-19 on a regular basis. Adjustments will be made to the learning model if needed.

## Safe learning models:



\* Regardless of learning model, all public schools must offer an equitable distance learning option to all families.



# Why is change needed?

- Proactively plan for increased social gatherings over the holidays
- Taxed internal capacity

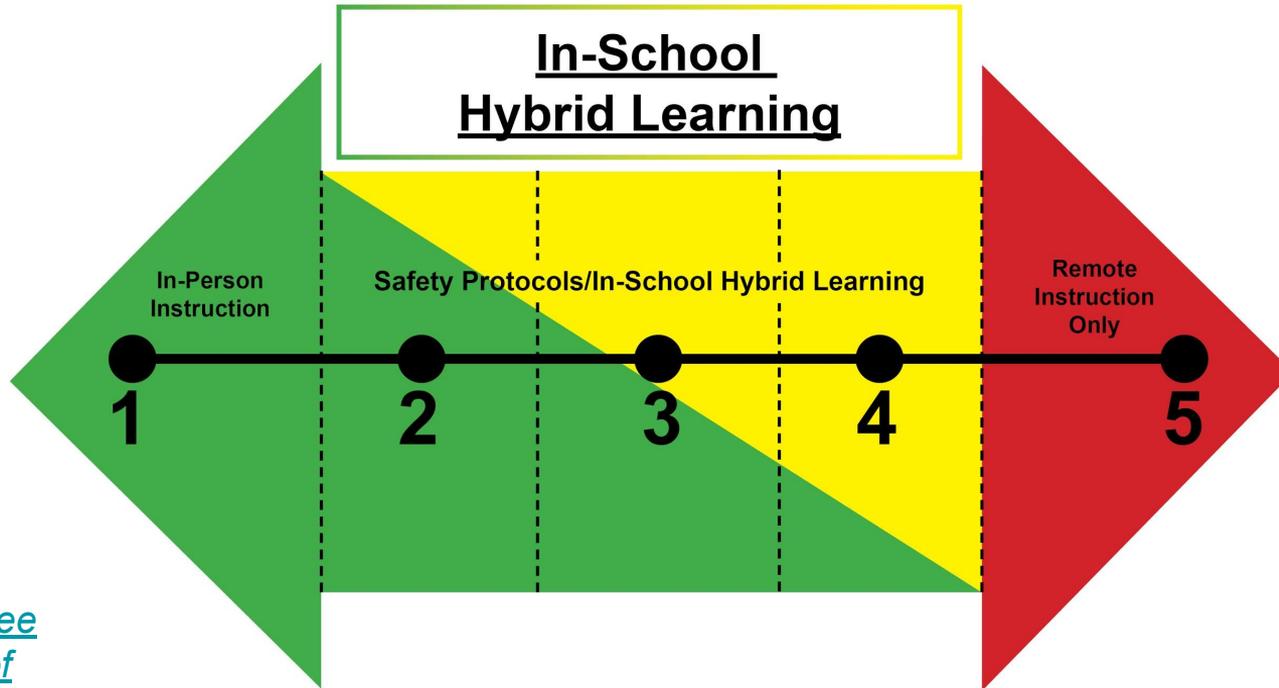


# Changes to Safe Learning Levels



- Beginning November 30, all schools will have a change to the learning level.
  - Level 5- Districtwide Remote Learning

# Flexible Learning Continuum

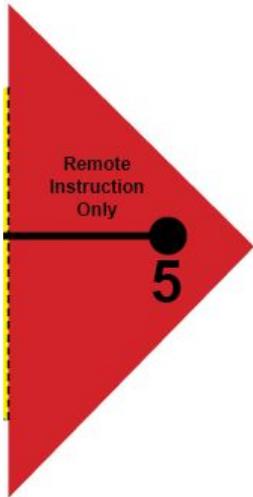


[Click here to see a description of each level.](#)

**Distance Learning Academy is an option available for students grades K-12**



# Level 5 - Flexible Learning Continuum - What to Expect\*



- Student support provided onsite based on student needs
- All instruction delivered remotely
- On-site child-care offered based on MDE/MDH guidance
- Decisions regarding Activities will follow guidance from the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL)
- Families will be invited to pick up pre-packaged meals



# Timeline

- Here is the timeline for our model shift:
  - The last day of in-school instruction for students is Nov. 20.
  - There will be no school for all in-school students (PK-12) on Nov<sub>14</sub>, 23, 24, 25.
  - Remote learning will commence for all in-school students on Monday, Nov. 30.
  - Tuesday, Jan. 19 is the target date for a return to in-school instruction following the remote learning period.

# Calendar Adjustments



- November 23-25 Planning Days, no school
  - MDE considers these instructional days
- December 4 will remain a PD Day

15

No official changes needed on the school calendar

# Student and Family Engagement



- Thoughtexchange
  - Link to Thoughtexchange in Friday November 12 message to families
    - Window for input will be from Friday November 12 through Sunday, November 22.
  - Student and family input will be used during the staff planning days on November 23-25

# Preparations



- Student and Parent input- Thoughtexchange - Pat
- Critical Workers- School Age Childcare - Brett
- Access to Meals - Todd
- Internet and Device Access - Darin
- Transportation - Todd?
- Facilities Access and Community Rentals- Art and Brett
- Activities and Athletics- Andrea
- Habitual Truancy-David
- Attendance and Grading-David
- Asynchronous and Synchronous Learning Opportunities-David
- Needs of multilingual families and American Indian Students-Reid/Kendall
- Student Mental Health Supports- All
- Special Education Services- Jen and Principals
- Targeted Services- David, Kelly, Lori
- Staff Support- Todd, Jen, Principals
- Professional Learning-David and Coaches

# Going RL - Implications for Activities

18

Nov 30th - Jan 18th

# Fall Sports Remaining Comp. Dates

## Football

- Postseason Tourney (Sections)
  - Nov 17, 21, 28

## Volleyball

- Regular Season
  - Nov 22, 23
- Postseason Tourney (Sections)
  - Nov 30 - Dec 12

# Winter Middle School Sports

## MS Girls Basketball

- Nov 30 - Jan 15
  - There would be no girls season

## MS Boys Basketball

- Jan 19 - Mar 5
  - Boys would have full season

Equity?

# Other Winter Activities

## MSHSL:

- Remote Capable
  - Speech, Debate
- Not Remote Capable
  - One Act Play, Robotics

## Non-MSHSL:

- Remote Capable
  - Knowledge Bowl (HS Only), Math League (MS & HS)
- Not Remote Capable

# Winter Activities - Athletics (If able to practice for at least two weeks prior)

	<b>Pre COVID</b>	<b>SY 20/21</b>	<b>RL</b>
<b>Boys Basketball</b>	25	18	10
<b>Girls Basketball</b>	25	18	12
<b>Dance</b>	15	8(11)	2
<b>Gymnastics</b>	15	9(11)	6
<b>G Hockey (coop)</b>	25	18	11
<b>Boys Hockey</b>	25	18	8
<b>Wrestling</b>	22	16	10

# Schools in RL with Full Activities

## No Activities:

- Chisago (Currently RL),
- Rush City (Currently RL)

## Confirmed Yes near us:

- Big Lake (Currently RL), Princeton (Currently RL), Becker, Buffalo, White Bear Lake (Currently RL), Forest Lake

## Undecided or haven't had conversation:

- Cambridge-Isanti, St Francis, Monticello

# MSHSL LEAD Meeting

- MSHSL currently gathering info from individual schools
  - RL, Hybrid, In-Person?
  - Spectators?
  - Activities?
- Discussions will take place regarding potential push back of competition in <sup>24</sup> coming week(s)
- Return to Play COVID - Trainer
  - Cardiac screening
  - Cardiac scarring
- Governor's Recent Orders
  - No changes to Activities

# Activities for All

- Our students still need to find ways to connect with one another and with school staff
  - Stay physically active
  - Stay engaged in non-class structured moments
  - Create new co-curricular opportunities to stay connected with adults and friends
  - Create safe spaces for students to be high schoolers in the broader sense of the term
- Utilize student feedback to drive activity/club choice
- Increasing opportunity rather than reducing opportunity during this time of RL



# Partnerships

- Partner videos! ([www.isd138.org/returntolearn](http://www.isd138.org/returntolearn))
  - Local partners helped get school going this fall!



Christianson and Co.



Viking Vittles



Kim Theis/NBAEF



Neighborhood National Bank



Olsen Fire Protection



Innovative Office Solutions



# Partnerships

- Community Kindness Ambassadors
  - Chisago County Schools' Life Work Center students spreading community cheer to staff!
  - Many local business and Chamber members contributed to welcoming staff



# Considerations for January

- We are effectively mitigating risk of viral spread in our school settings
- Busing Guidance and impact on many families needing to quarantine

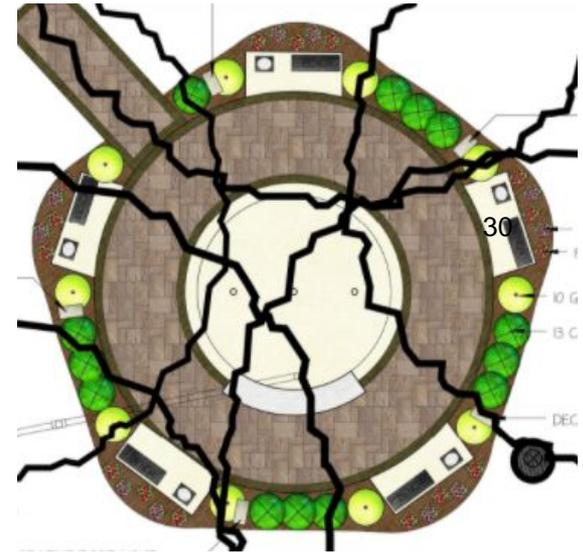


# Veterans Memorial Update



# Veterans Memorial Update

- District staff met with Vets memorial representatives on October 28
  - Local Veterans groups, the Beautification Committee, and NBAPS have partnered to bring a Veterans Memorial to North Branch Area Public Schools
    - Vets group seeking design changes
      - Original design cost prohibitive
        - Sought district guidance on design parameters
    - School district involvement requested
      - Student and/or staff to assist with design process



# High School Redesign



## Planning Update and Timeline

- Graduation Requirements
- Schedule
- Timeline

# NBAPS - High School Redesign Alignment



**Student Schedule  
and Programming**

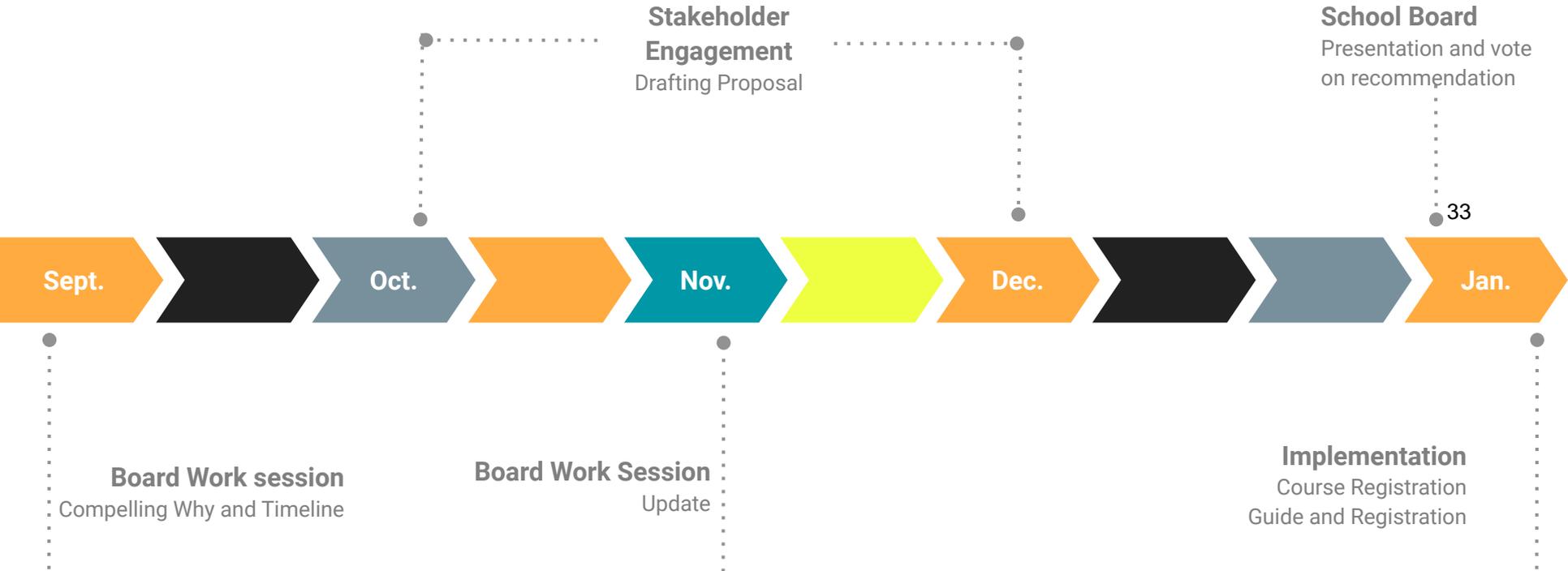


**Graduation  
Requirements**



**Culture and  
Climate**

# High School Redesign Adjusted Timeline



# NBAPS - High School Redesign

Students must complete a minimum of 21.5 course credits as follows:

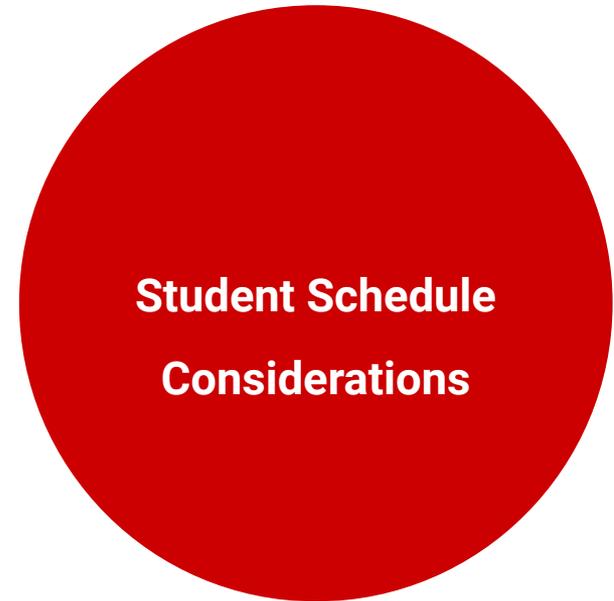
- 4 credits of language arts
- 3 credits of mathematics
- 3 credits of science
- 3.5 credits of social studies
- 1 credit of art
- 7 electives



**Graduation  
Requirements  
Considerations**

## **FLEX TIME**

Flex time allows for a system of intervention and enrichment for all students during the school day. All students may take advantage of this time to meet with teachers to learn concepts that they might have missed or do not understand. Other opportunities for acceleration may also be available for students who are caught up and want to excel in their learning.



# NBAPS Goals



## *Prepare all learners for success in school and in life.*

- **Flexibility and choice** for families to decide what is best for each child: distance learning or 5-day, in-school option
- Value **safety** and place a priority on the **health and wellness** of **students and staff**

## *Raise accountability for all staff and programs*

- Establish **mutual commitments** for procedures/protocols to mitigate risk
- Provide **predictability** of daily schedule, instructional model and learning environments<sup>36</sup>

## *Increase community engagement*

- Include students, families, and staff members in a **responsive, adaptable,** and **ongoing** planning process

## *Commit resources to district priorities*

- Share the responsibility to **maximize resources**