

**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
MARCH 25, 2021
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
 - II. Roll Call

 - III. Pledge of Allegiance
 - IV. Work Session Topics
 - A. Superintendent Update
 - B. Legislative Engagement
 - C. Continuous Improvement - Next Steps
 - V. Adjournment
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Superintendent Update

Better Together
Superintendent Sara Paul
March 25, 2021

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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 environments³

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**

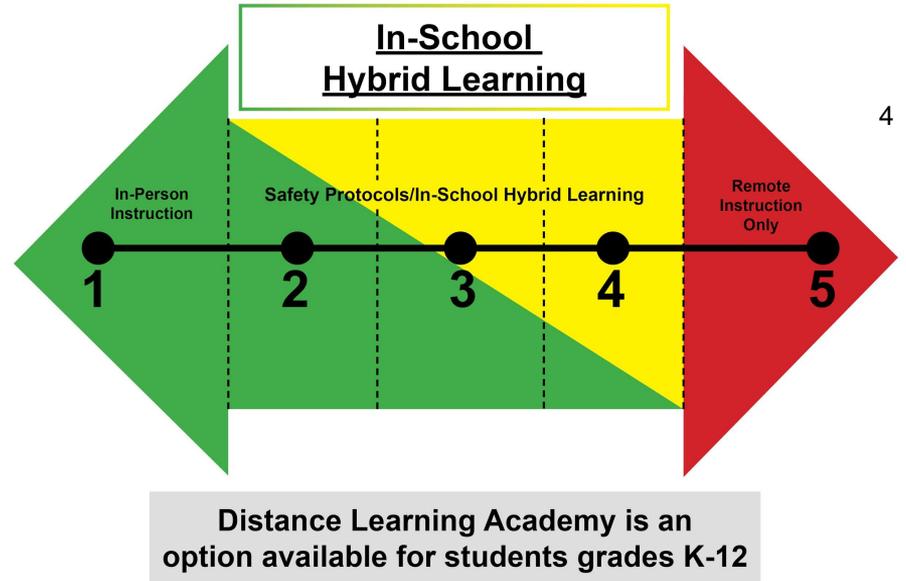
Safe Learning Update



- K-12 students are attending school 5 days per week- Level 2
- Distance Learning Academy providing quality option



Flexible Learning Continuum



COVID Update



- For the week of March 15-21, NBAPS had 10 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and nine close contacts related to a high school sports program. These cases were not in school during the infectious period. There were no staff cases.
- Community spread
 - Chisago County- 19.73 per 10,000
 - Isanti County- 18.22 cases per 10,000

Ongoing Vigilance and Appreciation



Vigilance

- All staff message
- COVID Screening
- Vaccine Opportunities

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Acknowledgements

- Custodial Staff to be recognized at April 8 Board meeting

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Access to In-Person Learning

NBAPS has a model worthy of replication

- *Long-awaited data produced in response to an executive order from President Biden offers the first nationally representative picture of what proportion of schools offer remote learning, in-person learning, or a hybrid of the two. Only 38% of grade 4 students and 28% of grade 8 students attending in person. (ASBO)*
- *Statewide, this pandemic has exacerbated historical inequities within our school system. As we move forward, the programs we create, the support we provide, our systems, and our structures must ensure that our students, each and every one, has access, participates, is represented, is valued, seen and heard, and has options in their lives. (Heather Mueller- Incoming Commissioner of Education)*

Celebrating Student Excellence



NBAHS walk-through pep rally for state-bound wrestlers and gymnasts

Wrestlers:

- 106- Evan Pommier
- 145- Josh Logan
- 152- Ashton LaBelle
- 160- Brandt Bombard
- 220- Caleb Norwig
- 285- Jackson Marcussen

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Gymnasts:

- Dakota Esget
- Paige Bauer

Legislative Engagement

Better Together
Superintendent Sara Paul
March 25, 2021





Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

- As elected officials chosen by the voters to represent the interests of children, school board members have a profound responsibility to speak out for the children in their community.
- School board members must take advantage of their political clout with policymakers.
- Because school board members are also elected officials, their voices can carry even more weight. Legislators are more influenced by constituents than by lobbyists.



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work



Sen. Mark Koran

- Chair - Technology and Reform Policy
- Vice Chair - Aging and Long-Term Care Policy
- Health and Human Services Finance and Policy
- State Government Finance and Policy and Elections



Rep. Anne Neu Brindley

- Republican Lead - Preventing Homelessness Division
- Redistricting
- Rules and Legislative Administration
- State Government Finance and Elections



Rep. Brian Johnson

- Republican Lead - Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform
- Finance and Policy
- Judiciary Finance and Civil Law
- Ways and Means



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Mar 26–April 5: Legislative Easter/Passover break

April 9: Third deadline. This is the deadline by which committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills.

April 22 School Board Meeting- Legislator Engagement

May 17: End of the regular session



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Compensatory Revenue set to reduce

NBAPS Potential Impact:

FY 21 Compensatory Revenue \$583,511

FY 22 Preliminary Compensatory Revenue \$207,926

Reduction for FY 22 -**\$375,585**



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Transportation Sparsity Bill Information

The bill—SF 408 authored by Senator Housley—would update the transportation sparsity formula.

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NBAPS Potential Impact

This adjustment would bring approximately \$473,000 to North Branch. Brad Lundell has informed committee members of SEE's support for the bill.



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Expanded School Board authority to approve the continuation of existing operating or capital projects referendum

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NBAPS Potential Impact:

\$500,000 Capital Project Levy currently in place and will sunset in 2027. If this passes, the school board will be authorized to renew the Capital Project Levy.



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Equalization Funding

The proposed legislation would increase state aid for school districts with a voter-approved levy and provide greater equalization funding in school districts.

We do not have a voter-approved levy at this time.



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

Showing Appreciation

- Thankful for support from elected officials of local decision-making in determining our learning model.
- Thank for support from our elected officials in highlighting the importance of refraining from new mandates.
- Thankful for support from our elected officials for supporting our partnership with the city of NB to close the digital divide and for their ongoing efforts to close the digital divide



Legislative Engagement

Governance Work is Advocacy Work

MASA/MSBA/SEE Talking Points of Strategic Importance to NBAPS

- **Update Transportation Sparsity Formula**
- **Encourage your senators to ask their leadership to approve the federal funding that is currently being held for review on the Legislative Advisory Committee. (MASA)**
- **Our high school redesign necessitates support to strategically address subject shortage areas (MACTA)**
- Provide equitable access and flexibility to facilities funding (MSBA, SEE)
- Improve equilization of all school levies (MSBA, SEE)
- Increase the basic formula allowance by 2 percent each year and index to inflation (MSBA)

Legislative Engagement

Discussion

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