November 10, 2020

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents,

At the time of this letter, we have had 49 days of direct instruction with all our students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. These daily interactions allowed staff to build relationships, offer face-to-face academic instruction, provide daily meals, and the opportunity for students and staff to start the year with a level of routine despite the COVID-19 pandemic. This past weekend has created a difficult combination of increasing positive COVID-19 cases, increasing student and staff being identified as close contacts, and increased staff shortages. From the start, flexibility was going to be needed as we contend with the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of these circumstances, it is time to make a short-term change in our learning model from face-to-face to remote learning starting on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 for all students in NRMS (Grades 6-8) and NRHS (Grades 9-12). Please note there will be no changes to the learning model for students in grade 4K-5 throughout the District as they will continue with our face-to-face learning model.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NRMS and NRHS Summary Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 11, 2020</td>
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<td>Thursday, November 12, 2020</td>
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<td>Friday, November 13, 2020</td>
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<td>Monday, November 16, 2020</td>
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<td>Tuesday, November 17, 2020</td>
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<td>November 17 – November 24</td>
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<td>November 25 - November 27</td>
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<td>November 30 - December 4</td>
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<td>December 7, 2020</td>
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These changes will assist the SDNR in the following ways:
- Utilize NRMS and NRHS staff to assist at the elementary levels.
- Provide a consistent learning model for all students including over 400 quarantined students as of today.
- Allow staff to focus on one model of remote learning instruction.

COVID-19 Clarifications:
- The District will accept proof of a negative test from PCR (molecular) and will accept positive tests from PCR and Antigen tests. Antigen positive tests should follow up with a PCR test within 5-10 days. Please note that antibody testing has no clinical value in the context of returning to school or determining whether or not to quarantine.
- When a student or staff member is a close contact of a household member, the ONLY option for a 14-day quarantine is if the student or staff member is in a completely separate household from the positive person for the duration of the quarantine. We are NO LONGER accepting that a parent or sibling is “staying in their room”. Therefore, most close contacts with positive household members will be out 24 days at minimum, longer if more household members test positive. Each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Other Announcements:
- Special education updates and programming will be sent in a separate notice by the end of the week.
- Attendance will be taken remotely so please make sure your child still follows a regular routine.
- Free meals will be available to all Middle and High School students through curbside pickup.
  - The first pickup will be 11-13-20 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Middle and High School. Sign-up is required, by Wednesday at 11:59 pm, through the online form HERE for each week.
  - Future pickup dates will be communicated for the weeks ahead.
- Our Chromebook distribution plan will proceed with those that notified us of this need at the start of the year.
- These schedule changes do not affect students in grades 4K-5. Please reference the SDNR 2020-21 calendar for more details.
- Late Start Wednesdays will still continue for SDNR students in 4K-5.
- Please reference the SDNR Tiger Launch Plan 2020-21 (8-13-20) for further clarification.

Thank you for your patience and support as we navigate our way through the current pandemic challenges. We continue to monitor and make appropriate changes as needed at all levels. The staff is dedicated to providing the best education possible and need your help to avoid gatherings, wash your hands, and wear your mask to further assist the District in moving back to a face-to-face or hybrid learning model at NRMS and NRHS levels. As a District, we will reevaluate this plan and make a formal announcement by December 4, 2020.

Respectfully,

Patrick B. Olson
District Administrator