



BRIDGE TO SUCCESS

Dr. Robert McDowell
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Hastings Public Schools

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Hello Raider Families,

Governor Walz addressed the state yesterday afternoon and shared an important update to the Minnesota Safe Learning Plan. After consultation with our Regional Support team, as well as our Incident Command Team, and in accordance with the 2020-21 Minnesota Safe Learning Plan, we **will continue our distance learning model for the first two weeks of January.**

Based on the guidance in the announcement by Governor Walz, we plan to bring kindergarten, first, and second grade students back to in-person learning **Tuesday, January 19, 2021**. We plan to bring third and fourth grade students back to in-person learning **Monday, February 1, 2021**. All other grades will remain in distance learning based on the guidance outlined in the Safe Learning Plan. As we make plans for this or any shift, we must consider the impact to safety, school bus routing, school meals, instructional planning, staffing and so much more. Our teams are hard at work adjusting the plans for the shift to in-person learning. Of course, it is important to remember that while we are planning for an elementary learning model change on the dates above, much can change over the next few weeks. Therefore, we will continue to monitor data and information, and will communicate the most up-to-date details and/or changes to this plan **no later than January 8, 2021**.

We know that changing guidance and shifting learning models is not easy on anyone. We continue to work to minimize the impact these changes can have on learners and families. Thank you for your continued grace and flexibility as we work to serve the needs of our community through these trying times.

Sincerely,

Bob McDowell, Ed.D.

Superintendent