

# Board Meeting Date: April 22, 2021

## COVID-19 Board Report

PURPOSE: Provide an Update about District 191's efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively (Maximize resources for optimal student learning).

Tonight, I will share information related to primary areas of our planning: Health & Safety, new MDH and MDE guidance and more information regarding our secondary Learning Model.

### Health and Safety (MDH):

**County Updates:** Represents confirmed cases 3/28/21 to 4/10/21. Dakota County is 57.84, an increase from 52.06 and Scott County is 69.33, an increase from 67.94. Today, we received new guidance related to Athletics and Minnesota's COVID-19 screening program from MDH and MDE. MDH has revised Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan guidance for activities. MDH is now not requiring masks for outdoor sports when athletes are actively engaged in practice or competition. This is the same guidance as the fall for outdoor athletic events. Spectators, coaches, and officials are all still mandated to wear masks.

Also, The COVID-19 Saliva Testing Guide for schools has been updated to include information on how to offer testing for students along with our existing staff testing program. The update is prompted by Minnesota experiencing a high circulation of variants of COVID-19. Commissioner Heather Mueller shared with superintendents and charter school leaders that "For example, it is currently estimated that 60% of all COVID-19 cases in Minnesota are the B.1.1.7. variant strain, which is a new version of the virus that spreads more easily. **The spread of COVID-19 variants, including B.1.1.7, are contributing to a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases statewide in Minnesota. More specifically, we are seeing increased cases concentrated in our school-age population, especially among middle and high school students.**

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has continued to emphasize the importance of COVID-19 testing in slowing the spread. As a result, we are asking our schools to help make testing more accessible to our students by promoting existing testing opportunities in your communities and offering testing opportunities for students on-site in middle and high school buildings".

We will provide information to our families about the testing opportunities for students.

Now, through a presentation we will share the remainder of the report. Presenters will be Bernie Bien, our lead licensed school nurse, Brian Gersich, assistant superintendent, Stephanie White, director of Student Support Services and Lisa Rider, executive director Business and Financial Services.

**Learning Model Parameters**

<b>Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence</b>	<b>Learning Model</b>
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In-person learning for elementary students; hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students