



Instructional Model Re-Assessment 2020 - 2021



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Background

- Complex Environment
- Careful Observation of Local Data
- Focus on Health and Safety Based on MDH Recommendations
- Continuous Improvement of Operations and Instruction
- Information Continuously Evolves
- Focus on Stability for Everyone in an Unstable Environment
- What We Know Today May Not Be Right Tomorrow
- Consultation with Incident Command Team
- Consultation with Other Districts

Tonight

- Review of the Data and Trends
- Review the Local Impact in Our Current Environment
- Overview of My Recommendation
- Possible Transition Philosophy
- Steps and Transition Recommendation Tenets
- Planned Next Steps

STAY SAFE MN

Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year

7/30/2020

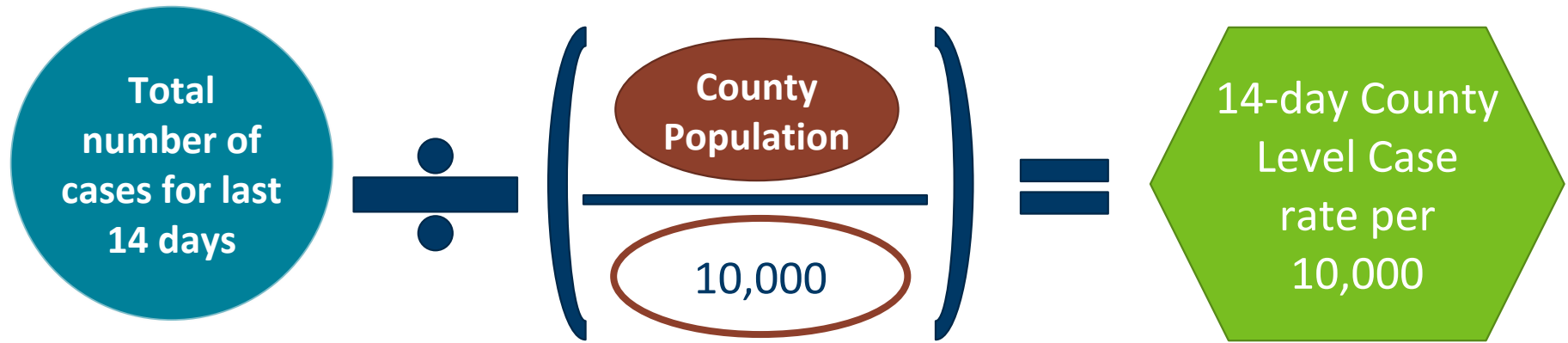
A Localized, Data-Driven Approach

Making a Decision: Goals

1. Prioritize the safety of students and staff
2. Prioritize in-person learning, especially for younger learners and those with most need
3. Recognize differences in potential spread among different ages
4. Support planning, while permitting flexibility for districts
5. Take into account disease prevalence at a local level

14-day county level case rate

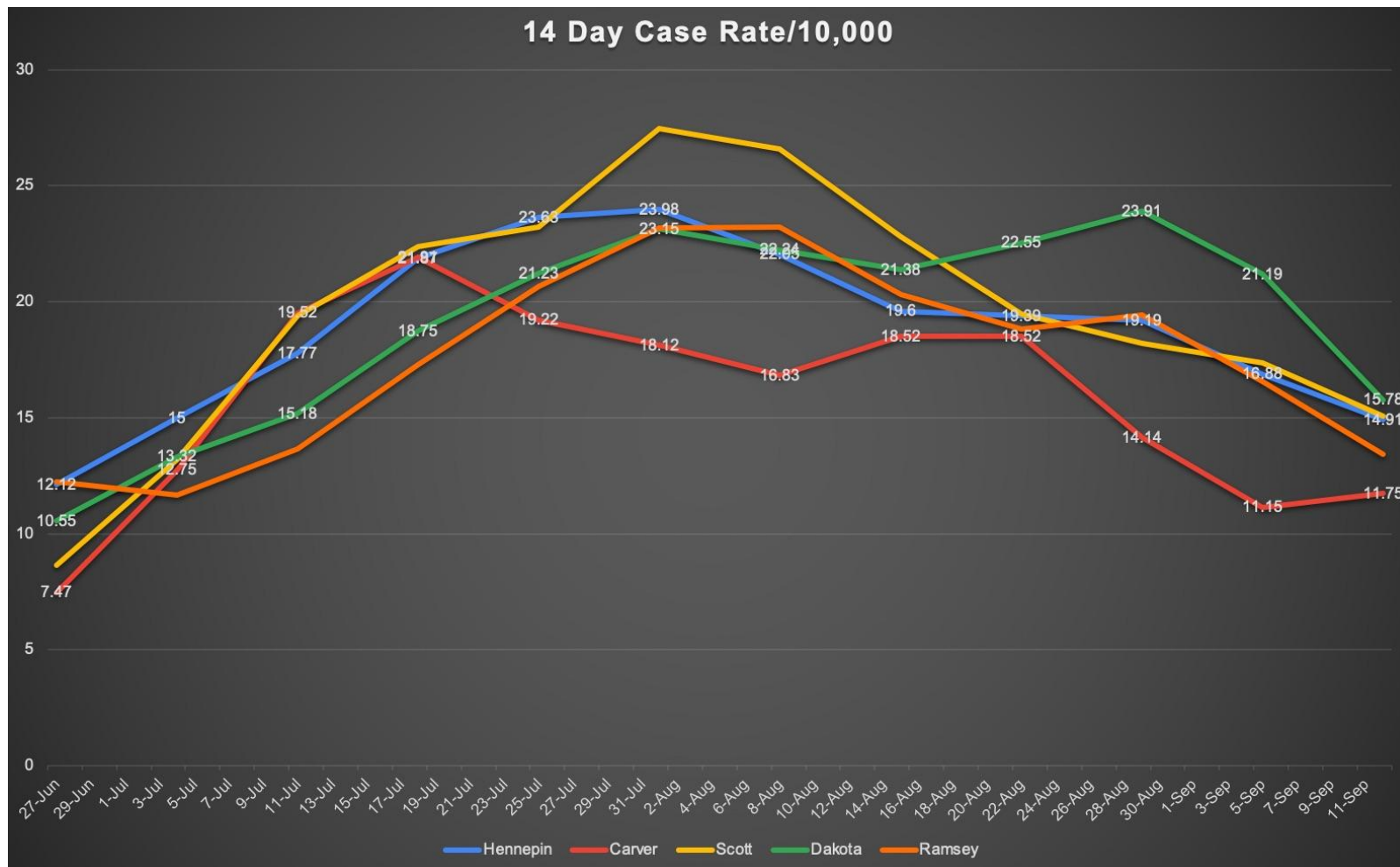
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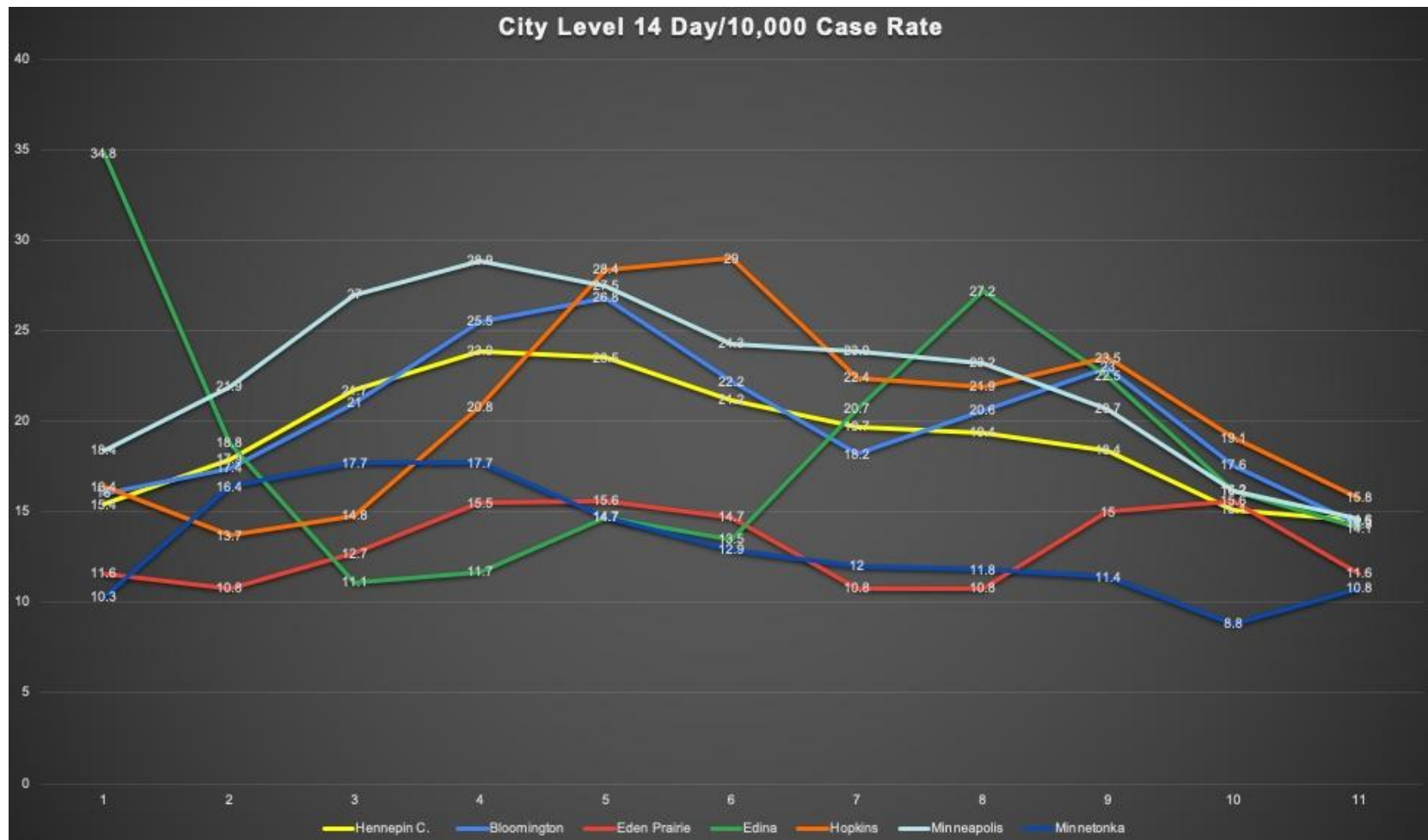
Selecting a learning model for school opening

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Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Learning model
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



Hennepin County at 14.91 and Neighbors Range from 11.75 to 15.78



EP Rate at 11.6 and Neighbors Range from 10.8 to 15.3

Assessing cases in a school after opening

- How many cases are there? Are they close together in time or spread out over several weeks?
- Are new cases traceable to the school community or are they likely the result of a different exposure?
- Where are cases occurring, and do they have any common themes?
- How many close contacts does each case have?
- Are students, parents, and staff forthcoming about close contacts?
- Is there other significant transmission in the surrounding community that will likely impact families and staff?
- Are you able to maintain your current learning model based on staffing?

Local Facts and Figures

- 8 Confirmed cases District-wide
- As promised, public notification has occurred at the school level
- These cases have occurred in 5 of schools to date
- Our systems are working: Social Distancing, Masks, Hygiene
- Identify, Isolate, Report, Trace, Communicate, Clean
- These steps and practices have been key to health, safety, and success to this point
- If we are not able to social distance this may change the landscape

Safe Schools Model Recommendations

- The secondary schools are in the “low metrics” of Hybrid, but stable.
- I am not recommending an immediate transition for Elementary, but.....
- We are now in a place to consider a planful return to in-person learning for elementary students 2-6 under Safe Schools Plan.
- The public health case rate data trend appears to be stable or declining for now.
- We have been very successful with our Hybrid model and our “designed” health and safety processes.
- A smooth and successful transition will require time.
- So, I am recommending we examine a possible transition for grades 2-6, engage stakeholders in the process, monitor the data, and set a date for transition, if the data holds.

Possible Transition Plan Philosophy

- Thoughtful and Planful Approach
- Continuously Leverage the Framework of the Safe Learning Plan
- Maintain Stability and Predictability for Families and Staff
- To the Extent Possible Use a Natural Break
- Gather Input, but Make a Wholistic Decision that is Student and Educationally Centered While Keeping MDE and MDH Recommendations for Health and Safety Top of Mind
- Ensure all staff, operations and instructional, are ready

Broad Transition Plan Implementation Components

- Stakeholder Input
 - Parents
 - Staff
 - Incident Command Team
 - MDH
- Preparation for Possible Operational and Instructional Changes
- Preparation of Communication and Training for Operational Changes Like:
 - Parent Drop Off
 - Podding and Lunch Process
 - Classroom Quarantine Process
- Review of Data Trends
- Set and Communicate Dates at least 2 weeks ahead of time

We have planned all three models....

What's are Some of the Differences between Hybrid and In-Person Learning?

- Social Distancing and Contact Tracing
- Podding Requirements
- Bus Routing
- Nutrition Services
- Teacher Workflow
- Daily Schedules
- Quarantine Practices



Quarantine

- Without Social Distancing We Will Have Close Contact
- What that Means???
 - If Positive Case Close Contacts Are Quarantined
 - Whole Classes or Groups May Be Quarantined for 14 Days
 - You CANNOT Test out of Quarantine
 - Quarantine Mean Students Are at Home for 14 Days
 - No Activities, Sports, Social Environments, Etc...
 - Everyone in Distance Learning, as possible, for that Class

Decision Making

The decision to move between models is a complex one and there is no single metric that will be used to make the recommendation. It will be a combination of:

1. 14 Day Case Rate Data at the County Level has remained stable and is not near a case rate band in the Safe Learning Plan guidance that could necessitate a quick return to a prior model (There is no evidence that the 14 day Case Rate may spike soon).
2. 14 Day Case Rate Data in Eden Prairie and surrounding cities has remained stable.
3. We have been able to mitigate and contain positive cases in our schools and community.
4. We are prepared to implement the required health and safety measures in a new model.
5. There is little evidence that a shift would require we end up quarantining classrooms or large groups after moving to a less restrictive environment.
6. Operational readiness such as: transportation, nutrition services, facilities, scheduling, etc....
7. Childcare readiness when moving models.
8. We have adequate staffing to serve students instructionally and operationally.

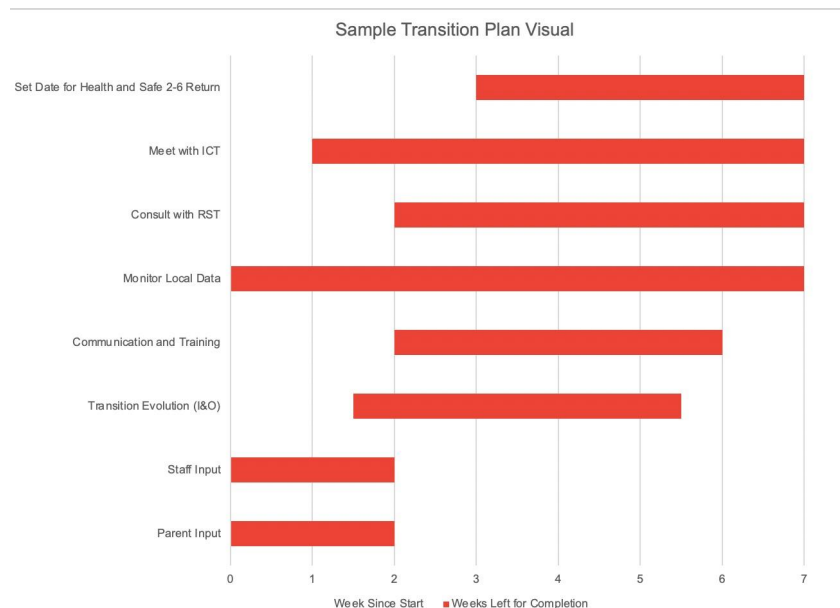


Transition Plan Benefits

- Stability and Planning for Parents
- Clarity and Preparation for Staff
- Time to Actualize Our Transition Plan and Framework Successfully
- Continue to Learn from Others
- Cautious, but Data Informed
- Keeps What's Best for Students at Heart
- Honors the Tenets of the Safe Learning Plan
- Is Responsive to the Data, but a Responsible Approach
- Will Provide Time and Space to Manage the Potential Change Effectively

Next Steps

- Gather Input
- Collaborative Work and Communication of Transition Plans
- Training and Communication Development
- Monitoring the Local Data
- Continue to Update the Board
- Continue to Meet with the Incident Command Team
- Consult with Our Regional Support Team from MDH
- In the Future Set a Possible Date to Return to In-Person Learning for 2-6 Graders



Safe and Healthy Future Transition



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