

Principal's Report
December School Board Meeting
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown
PreK-12th Grade



PreK-12 Grade

We have fully transitioned to distant learning. We are working to bring students back as soon as possible following the latest guidance from Governor Walz and the Minnesota Board of Education. Thus far distance learning is going smoothly with little connection or device issues. Overall attendance for virtual meetings has been high. Staff are reporting the appreciation for office hours at the end of the day. When students access them they are able to receive additional support and walk through assignments that are giving them problems. I continue to be so very proud of our students, staff and families. The dedication to make the best of what we are dealing with is applaud worthy. WEM continues to show resiliency and takes on the community approach to doing whatever it takes.

For students that have truancy concerns we are continuing to work with our local county agencies to file paperwork, but more importantly seek ways to re-engage students and provide opportunities of additional support. This includes mental health and welfare checks. We are dedicated to ensuring students are safe and have what they need while at home.

Administration is looking into providing professional development around student engagement. I have been in communication with a Top 20 option. We would like to provide a district wide session as soon as we can return to in-person learning. Student engagement as we transition learning models is critical in assuring for academic success. Administration wants to ensure staff have tools and resources available to them as we continue to navigate teaching and learning during these times.

Semester I is coming to a close. There are 15 days left in the first half of the year. Grade reports and updates for students who were failing multiple classes were emailed and mailed home last week for high school students. Weekly grade checks will continue in January as well at the high school and junior high.

The middle level spelling bee and geography bee scheduled for the first week of January have been postponed at this time. We hope to reschedule late winter/early spring. As movement of numbers and guidance continue to change and expand we will monitor and hopefully set a date to provide these opportunities for our middle level students.

Students and staff will begin winter break after tomorrow. I'd like to wish everyone a relaxing and peaceful break.