

GREENBUSH – MIDDLE RIVER

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2683

www.middleriver.k12.mn.us



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ADMINISTRATION

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Sharon Schultz Principal / Athletic Director

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Allison Harder Kurt Stenberg

Director

July 21, 2020

A Message and Invitation from the Greenbush Middle River Superintendent of Schools

Please consider being a part of a representative group of Parents, Teachers, Students and School Staff to participate in an Ad Hoc "BACK TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE." The purpose of the committee is to provide information & input to school administration of "what school should look like" for the safe return for students and & staff this fall.

Meeting #1 (of likely 3) on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 @ 7:00 pm in the GMR School Cafeteria (to allow for social distancing). Please enter the building thru the parking lot (gym entrance).

Invited to participate on the Ad Hoc Committee are:

Lisa Bergsnev	Kara Heggedal
Kim Brichachek	Allison Harder
Madeline Waage	Meghan Kvien
Matt Williamson	Brad Dahl
Lyndsey Dvergsten	Todd Bergeron
Kelsey Grinsteiner	Tina Taus
Jess Foss	Lynn Balstad
Kara Nelson	Mariah Christian
Mark Glad	Lauren Stenberg
Kelly Christianson	

I recognize it is difficult to have a number of busy people in the same place at the same time. If you can attend the meeting(s), great! For planning purposes please e-mail me your



Supt. Guggisberg podium notes...

Governor Walz announced BACK-TO-SCHOOL plans for schools in MN on July 30

The wait for school opening guidance is over. Many watched the press conference announcement from the Governor and wondered where you and our school community fit. The main takeaway is that we all face many decisions in the coming days and schools will be revisiting there operating models every week. Processing and implementing the models will be challenging

How will school districts make those decisions?

One big factor will be the COVID-19 infection rate in each county. Using data compiled by the Minnesota Department of Health, the guidelines set out five scenarios depending on the infection rate over the previous two weeks, with classroom learning for the lowest rates and distance learning for the highest. In between will be hybrid models. These are guidelines, not mandates, and each district can take a different approach based on its unique circumstances. Schools must also take into consideration the physical layout of their buildings, inclus

STAY SAFEMN

here.

Data for K-12 Schools: 14-day COVID-19 Case Rate by County

Updated 7/30/2020

This document includes data that can be used by schools in making decisions about their safe learning model. It shows the number of cases by county of residence in Minnesota over 14 days, per 10,000 people by the date of specimen collection (when a person was tested). Any increase in case incidence can represent a greater risk, but schools may consider a 14-day case rate of 10 or more cases per 10,000 to be an elevated risk of disease transmission within the local community, especially when the level of cases per week is sustained or increasing over time.

Recommended policy options based on 14-day case rate range

Policy Option	Range (14-day case rate per 10,000 people)
In-person learning for all students	0 to less than 10
Elementary in-person, Middle/high school hybrid	10 to less than 20
Both hybrid	20 to less than 30
Elementary hybrid, Middle/high school distance	30 to less than 50
Both distance	50 or more

Planning for fall

School and district administrators are directed to develop three contingency plans to prepare for the 2020-21 school year using the three scenarios described below:

Scenario 1: In-person learning for all students. In this planning scenario, schools should create as much space between students and teachers as is feasible during the day, but will not be held strictly to enforcing 6 feet of social distancing during primary instructional time in the classroom. Activities and extracurricular programming should continue to follow the COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/socialdistance.pdf). This scenario may be implemented if state COVID-19 metrics continue to stabilize and/or improve. All requirements in this guidance apply to scenario 1.

Scenario 2: Hybrid model with strict social distancing and capacity limits. In this planning scenario, schools must limit the overall number of people in school facilities to 50% maximum occupancy. Sufficient social distancing with at least 6 feet between people must occur at all times. If distancing cannot be achieved in a space, the number of occupants must be reduced. Schools must also limit the overall number of people on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy. Schools must include plans for contactless pick-up and/or delivery of meals and school materials for days that students and staff are not in the school building, as well as implementation of a school-age care program for critical workers. This scenario may be implemented if COVID-19 metrics worsen at the local, regional, or statewide level. Scenario 2 may also be implemented within a school if they experience clusters of cases within a classroom or the school. All requirements in this guidance apply to scenario 2, with additional requirements noted in the Social Distancing and Minimizing Exposure section noted for scenario 2 only.

Scenario 3: Distance learning only. This scenario may be implemented if local, regional, or statewide COVID-19 metrics worsen significantly enough to require the suspension of in-person learning. The requirements in this guidance regarding in-person protections would not apply to the general school community, as students and staff would be utilizing distance learning and would not be gathering in groups on school grounds. However, schools may be open to provide emergency child care or other functions.

Families and school districts are weighing difficult decisions on whether to return to school in person, online or a combination of both during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Greenbush Middle River School District will start the 2020-2021 school year with inperson learning for Pre-K-12 students with safety precautions for students and staff (this includes masking requirements as per Governor Walz Executive Order on July 22, 2020. (source: GMR School Website: July 31, 2020)"

No matter what education model is chosen — in-person, distance learning or a hybrid of the two, we want to provide guidance to parents, children, teachers and staff on how to stay as safe and healthy as possible this school year.

Disclaimer (as per MN Dept. of Health): This response is as accurate as the time we sent it. This situation is fluid and unprecedented and we will continue to do our best to give the most up-to-date guidance.

What Is Coronavirus?



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

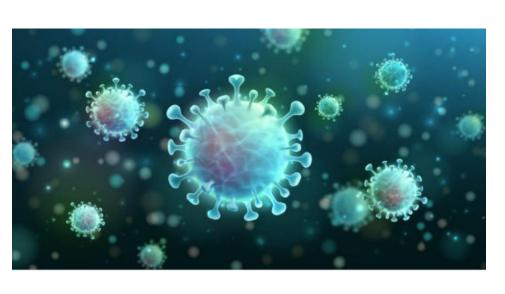
COVID-19

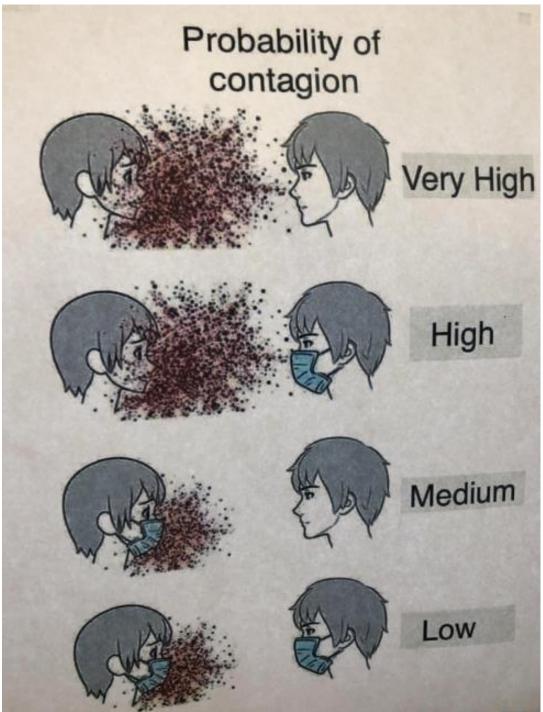
- COVID-19 is the disease caused by the new coronavirus that emerged in China in December 2019.
- COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, headache, fatigue, nausea or vomiting and congestion or runny nose. COVID-19 can be severe, and some cases have caused death.
- The new coronavirus can be spread from person to person. It is diagnosed with a laboratory test.
- There is no coronavirus vaccine yet. <u>Prevention</u> involves frequent hand-washing, coughing into the bend of your elbow, staying home when you are sick and wearing a cloth face covering if you can't practice physical distancing.

How does the new coronavirus spread?

As of now, researchers know that the new coronavirus is spread through droplets released into the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. The droplets generally do not travel more than a few feet, and they fall to the ground (or onto surfaces) in a few seconds — this is why physical distancing is effective in preventing the spread.







Gov. Tim Walz orders masks be worn in indoor public spaces across Minnesota



Minnesota is now joining more than two dozen states where the use of face coverings in public spaces is mandatory to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Gov. Tim Walz on Wednesday [July 22] signed an executive order that requires all people to wear face masks or face coverings in indoor places of public accommodation and for workers in outdoor spaces where social distancing may be difficult. The mandate is set to go into effect Saturday. [July 25]

People with a medical condition, mental health condition or disability that makes it difficult for a person to wear a mask or face covering is exempt from the order. Children under 5 years old are also exempt, however if they are between the ages of 2 and 5 they are encouraged to wear masks if able.

Face coverings may be removed when eating or drinking and when taking part in indoor physical exercise such as in a gym where the level of exertion makes wearing a mask difficult among other cases.

The governor's office said while the hope of the executive order is voluntary compliance, a person who violates the mandate could face a petty misdemeanor and face a fine of up to \$100. Businesses that are violating the mandate can be punished by a fine of up to \$1,000.

Add to school supply list

Washable / reusable face mask and / or gaiter

WATER BOTTLE

School Supply Lists

(NO MECHANICAL PENCILS -2 boxes of crayons -2 large erasers -16 glue sticks

-Fiskars scissors

-Backpack

-ear buds 4 wide ruled notebooks plastic folder w/pockets

-All students K-12 are required to have headphones or ear-buds for technology activities.
-For open gym, recess in the gym, phy-ed and sports prac-tice, ALL k-12 students are required to wear tennis shoes that are to be used exclusively indoors to protect the gym -All students K-12 are required to have headphones or ear--For open gym, recess in the gym, phy-ed and sports prac-

-PLEASE MARK ALL SUPPLIES WITH STUDENTS NAME Grades K-6: -Elementary students should not bring trapper keepers' or similar items

-4 large glue sticks -1 bottle of glue -1 box Ziploc -Rest Mat

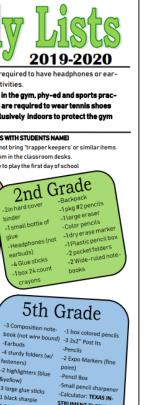
3rd Grade 4th Grade

1-70pg Wide-ruled notebook -Scissors -Small Pencil Box

1 Washable large glue stick -2 pocket folders

-2-3 Notebooks -1-2 Highlighers -3-4 Glue Sticks -1 adult scissors -12 pencils -Earbuds -Pencil box 6th Grade -2-3 Fine point expo markers -2-3 Pens -2-3 Folders -Calculator (for home): Texas Instrument Ti-30XS

-4 sturdy folders (w/







School Supply Lists

Grades 7-12:

BACKPACKS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN CLASS-ROOMS. PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY

-Pens -Memory Stick (flash drive all high school students: -Notebooks -Pencils -Headphones/earbuds

Instrumental Music

Math

English

 $\textbf{ENGLISH7-9THGRADE:} 1 pkg \, 3x5 \, notecards. \, hightlighters. \, \textbf{JUMBO book covers.} \, colored$

 $\textbf{ENGLISH I1-12TH GRADE: 1} \ \rho kg \ 3x5 \ notecards, highlighters, 3-subject \ notebook, colored$

Science

-Headphones and

7-9th Grade Folder, pens/pencils, colored pencils, highlighter, book cover, calculator (not on



As announced last Thursday, Governor Walz is dedicating funding to ensure Minnesota schools have face masks for every single student and staff member, as well as a supply of face shields for educators and staff:

- •Every K-12 student will receive one cloth face covering.
- •Every school staff member will receive one cloth face covering.
- •Every school will receive three disposable face masks per student.
- •Every school will receive face shields for all licensed teachers and 50% of non-licensed staff.



Retrieved on Aug. 4, 2020 @ 10:00 am from https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecover.html

People exempted from the face covering requirement

- Children under age 2 years must not wear face coverings. Children between the ages of 2 and 5 years old are not required to wear face coverings, but are encouraged to wear a face covering when in public if they can do so reliably in compliance with CDC guidance on How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings (i.e., without frequently touching or removing the face covering).
- People who have medical or other health conditions, disabilities or mental health, developmental, or behavioral needs that make it difficult to tolerate wearing a face covering.
- Any person who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, sleeping, incapacitated, or is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- People at their workplace when wearing a face covering would create a safety hazard to the person or others as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.
- Alternatives to masks such as clear face shields may be considered for those
 with health conditions or situations where wearing a mask is problematic.
 Face shields may also be used as an alternative to face coverings when
 specifically permitted in the applicable Industry Guidance available at Stay Safe Minnesota.

As of July 25, 2020, per the <u>Governor's Executive Order 20-81</u>, people in Minnesota are required to wear a face covering in all indoor businesses and public indoor spaces, unless alone. Additionally, workers are required to wear a face covering when working outdoors in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained. Research has shown that use of face coverings can greatly reduce the risk of infection when combined with other prevention efforts such as social distancing and hand hygiene.

Contributors to Today's Meeting	Topic
Brittany Burkel – Kindergarten Teacher EMT	COVID-19 & the importance of masking
Josh Kern – Buildings & Grounds Volunteer Fireman	Sanitation & Cleaning
Jeremy Sovde – Transportation Director	Transportation
Sharon Schultz – Principal / Activities Director	Fall Student Activities















Daily Update:

Because all data is preliminary, the change in number of cumulative positive cases and deaths from one day to the next may not equal the newly reported cases or deaths.

52,281				
Total positive cases (cumulative)				
480	4			
Newly reported cases	Newly reported deaths			

Daily Update:

Because all data is preliminary, the change in number of cumulative positive cases and deaths from one day to the next may not equal the newly reported cases or deaths.

57,779				
Total positive cases (cumulative)				
629	9			
Newly reported cases	Newly reported deaths			

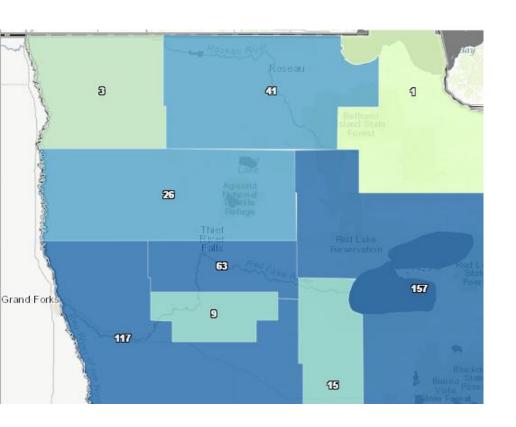
August 5, 2020

July 28, 2020

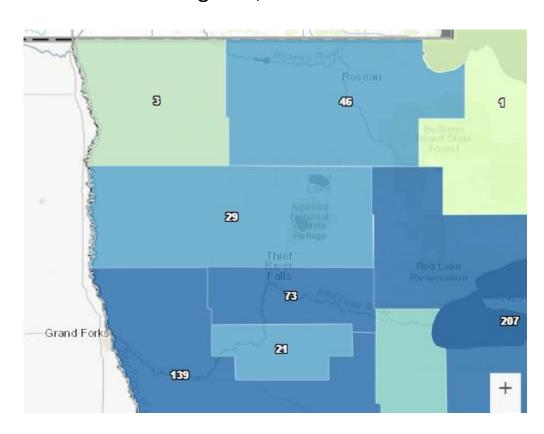
Source: MN Department of Health (as of July 28, 2020 @ 1:15 pm)

https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html#case2

July 28, 2020



August 5, 2020



Source: MN Department of Health (as of July 28, 2020 @ 1:15 pm)

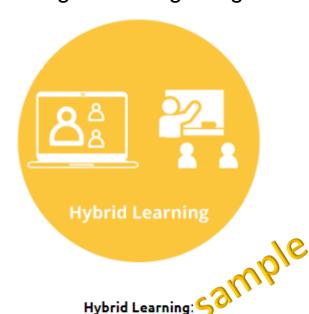
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html#case2

This school year is going to look and feel different no matter what model we start the year with. We are committed to partnering with our families to make sure everyone has the tools to be safe and successful. No matter how we return, we will continue to grow stronger together this year in the GMR School District.



In-Person Learning:

Students return to school buildings five days per week with enhanced health, cleaning, and distancing protocols.



Students return to school buildings two days per week with enhanced health, cleaning, and distancing protocols at 50% capacity. Students will learn remotely on the other three days.



Distance Learning:

Students learn remotely five days per week using district provided technology devices and other age appropriate learning resources.

2020-2021 is just not going to be school as usual. Our students will be coming back differently, with some challenges, some feelings, some experiences. We are going to have to be thoughtful in what we're doing to prepare and support teachers and students.

Governor, Department of Health, Department of Education need to understand managing health risks and making smart, informed choices about when classroom instruction is safe and who would best benefit from it. To succeed, this strategy will take flexibility, adjusted expectations and acknowledgment that reopening is not easy or risk-free. How and when to reopen safely is a dauntingly complex decision.



To-date, schools response to COVID-19 hasn't been easy and will continue as such...progress will be incremental. It will take time to develop habits around new protocols.

STAY SAFE

2020-2021 Planning Guide for Schools

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS FOR NAVIGATING COVID-19

Reopening of school is critical during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many children and families are experiencing additional economic hardships, social isolation, and other stressors. Schools are a critical component of communities and have tremendous impact on the health, well-being, growth, and development of students and families. Education is a fundamental determinant of health because it cultivates life skills, knowledge and reasoning, social-emotional awareness and control, and community engagement, which serve people over the course of a lifetime. Schools themselves also function as tools and resources for public health intervention by addressing core needs such as nutrition, access to health and social support services, and engagement and support of families and the community as a whole.

The spring of 2020 brought about unprecedented changes to our society and our education system. As we look forward to the 2020-21 school year in our pre-kindergarten (pre-K) through grade 12 schools, we anticipate that SARS-CoV-2 – the virus that causes COVID-19 – will continue to circulate. Students, teachers, and other school staff will be at risk for transmitting and acquiring infection. It is important that everyone in the school community take steps to reduce transmission, particularly to those at high risk, while balancing the need to maintain a strong education system that effectively supports staff, students, and communities.

We developed this document to provide pre-K through grade 12 (K-12) school leaders guidance around policies, practices, and strategies that districts and schools must implement and recommendations they should consider to optimize education and promote health and safety, while mitigating risk throughout the school year. Use this guidance document in combination with the additional guidance provided by the Minnesota Department of Education, which includes both strategies for implementation of health guidance in schools, as well as other non-health related considerations for the 2020-21 school year. Additional guidance will be published as the COVID-19 response evolves throughout the summer and into the fall.

2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR PLANNING

STAY SAFE



2020-21 Planning Guidance for

Minnesota Public Schools

July 23, 2020

BACK-TO-SCHOOL... Greenbush Middle River studying re-opening plan with creation of Ad Hoc Committee

Committee consists of parents, administrators, teachers, a para professional representative, pre-school high school and students.

Its goal is to find solutions to keep students and staff safe, given the coronavirus pandemic.

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The district hopes that by mid-August there will be a plan in place, depending on decisions by the governor, and requirements from the state departments of education and health.

School districts are currently working under the guidance that three plans are possible: (1) in-person learning, (2) distance learning; or (3) a hybrid of both.

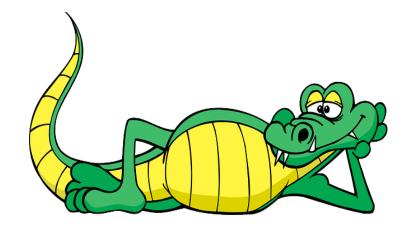
July 28... Meeting #1... Basic Introduction and "what has the GMR School done so far?" GMR Parent Survey [July 13-28, 2020] results.

Aug. 5... Meeting #2 ... (post Governor Walz back-to-school announcement) convey information & seek input towards solutions to keep students and staff safe, given the coronavirus pandemic.
Invited presenters [topic] at Meeting #2: Josh Kern – [sanitation & cleaning], Jeremy Sovde –
[transportation], Brittany Burkel – [COVID-19 health awareness items] – Sharon Schultz [Principal / A.D. – Activities

Week of Aug. 10... Meeting #3 (post Governor Walz back-to-school announcement) convey information & seek input towards solutions to keep students and staff safe, given the coronavirus pandemic.

Recognizing that in-person learning would mean offering a dual delivery model. MDE has specifically stated that even if schools do reopen to in-person learning this fall, families will be able to opt out of that model in favor of distance-only education. Teachers to figure out how are we going to teach kids that are in front of us and kids that are distanced at the same time.

GMR TEACHERS



Grade Level of Students	Greenbush Middle River Elementary School
K	19
1	21
2	18
3	14
4	13
5	17
6	20
	Greenbush Middle River High School
7	
7 8	High School
	High School 16
8	High School 16 21
8	High School 16 21 11

ESTIMATED K-12 enrollment in GMR School District



How can we communicate with parents what we are doing as a reaction to Governor's directives?

Eg: Masking

Eg: Coming to school feeling well? ...

Temperature checks prior to being on bus

Temperature checks in specific doors

Eg: Guidance from MDH on how to handle confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19, with information from MDH currently limited to asking that districts appoint a contact person for reporting, impose a daily regimen of pre-screening for symptoms and designate sick rooms for students and staff who show any signs of illness during the school day.

Eg: Transportation – half capacity

seating arrangement distancing

Eg: Sanitation & cleaning

- everyone will be cleaning

Eg: Food Service – school meals

Eg: No visitors

Eg: We need Substitutes (teachers & paras)

Eg: Recognizing that in-person learning would mean offering a dual delivery model. MDE has specifically stated that even if schools do reopen to in-person learning this fall, families will be able to opt out of that model in favor of distance-only education. Teachers to figure out how are we going to teach kids that are in front of us and kids that are distanced at the same time

Eg: May be a priority for more classroom days to those students who might benefit more from in-person instruction, including those in special education, which follows a recommendation by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

Guidance around getting tested in the event a teacher or student displays symptoms, or in the timeline for return to school after being symptomatic, is also anticipated July 30. Test results are generally not available for two to seven days; current recommendation from MDH is to quarantine for 10 days from onset of symptoms. School officials are as yet undecided on whether entire classrooms would be asked to remain at home if a student or teacher in that class does test positive for COVID-19.

Additional costs associated with re-opening within COVID-19 pandemic

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Cleaning and sanitation supplies
- Technology Access
- Over-time eg: Paras
 [limited] Funding Source: FEDERAL CARES ACT funding

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting #2 the week of August 5 \rightarrow post Governor Walz announcement

SPORTS - MN State High School League announcement on August 4, 2020 following *Gov. Walz announcement*

Low Risk

Medium Risk

High Risk





Potential Coronavirus Vaccines Enter Final Phase Of Testing

By Bill Galluccio July 28, 2020











Scientists have moved one step closer to developing an effective coronavirus vaccine. Moderna and Pfizer both announced their potential vaccines have entered the final phase of testing.

Moderna, which partnered with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Institute of Health, is recruiting 30,000 people in the United States for their trial. Half of the volunteers will receive the vaccine, while the other half will be given a placebo. They hope to have preliminary results by late fall or early winter.

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting #2 @ 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria (for social distancing) the week of August 3 → post Governor Walz announcement

July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26