



**SAINT PETER SCHOOL BOARD
Special Board Meeting
Monday, February 1, 2021
Virtual Meeting, Live Stream,
<https://www.stpeterschools.org/about/board-of-education>, SAINT PETER, Minnesota 56082
6:30 PM**

- I. Call Meeting to Order**
- II. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda**
- III. Consider Requests to Speak on the Agenda**
- IV. Action Items**
 - 1. Consideration of Learning Model Transition

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V. Upcoming Meetings of the School Board

- 1. Calendar Committee
 - Tuesday, February 2, 2021
 - 3:00PM
 - SPMS-Room 124

- Policy Review Committee
 - Friday, February 5, 2021
 - 8:00AM
 - SPMS-Room 124

- Instructional Program Committee
 - Wednesday, February 10, 2021
 - 11:00AM
 - SPMS-Room 124

- Regular School Board Meeting
 - Thursday, February 18, 2021
 - 6:30PM
 - TBD

VI. Adjournment



ADDENDUM

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING Monday, February 1, 2021 Live Stream 6:30PM

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. AGENDA ITEM #1

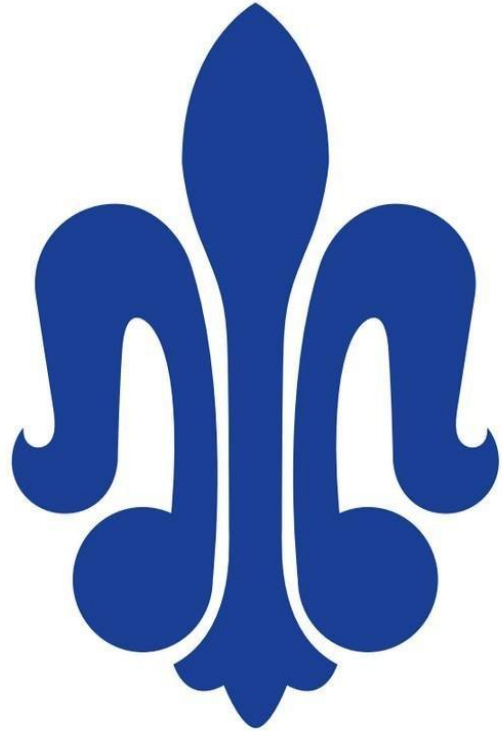
Subject: Consideration of Learning Model Transition

Action: Requires a motion

Background: In response to COVID-19 data in our community we have been in varying learning models. Currently, North and South are using an all in-person model while the Middle School, High School, Rockbend, and Hoffman Learning Center are using a hybrid model. With an ever changing environment of a worldwide pandemic, we have reviewed the data to consider changing our learning models. Information will be shared and recommendations provided.

Presentation: Superintendent of Schools

Options/Recommendation: I recommend accepting the recommended transitions.



COVID- 19 Data Analysis & Instructional Model Review



Changes

- Elementary Schools have returned to all in-person and that has gone well.
- Middle and High Schools have returned to Hybrid Learning and that has gone well.
- Activities have resumed with specific protocols and preparedness plans in place. There have been some close contacts related to activities-mostly during transportation.
- Vaccinations have begun for about 60 (~20%) staff members. This process continues to change. We are planning for a possibility of a large vaccination event in mid-February and 2nd dose in March.

Requirements



- Must follow State Guidance-- Regional Support Team Consultation & Approval Required for changes to learning model.
- Provide at least 2 days of planning prior to a learning model change
- Masks required in all district buildings and events- shields recommended
- Quarantine for Close Contacts
 - MDH guidelines define close contacts
 - 14 days
- Assigned seating on buses & in classrooms
- Recommended at least 3' distance in all in-person learning models if 6' is not possible
- Distance Learning continues to be an option upon request
 - There are currently **5 in Pre-K (6%)**, **17 in Gr K-1 (7%)**; **33 in Gr 2-4 (7%)**; **93 in Gr 5-8 (14%)** ; and **116 in Gr 9-12 (17%)**; Total **264 students (12%)**



County COVID-19 Data

We have seen inconsistent trends in 14-day rates over the past few weeks.

	Latest Official Numbers			Current but unofficial
Nicollet County:	39.66	43.51	34.63	28.6
Le Sueur County:	41.81	45.74	38.24	33.6
Blue Earth County:	40.56	44.48	38.75	26.8

St. Peter Schools Data: Among students and staff we currently have 3 positive cases and 35 quarantines due to close contacts.



Priorities

- Health and safety of students and staff
- Follow State guidelines regarding response to COVID-19
- Prioritize all in-person learning for our youngest students
- Transition all students to in-person learning

Considerations



- Ability to maintain cohorts throughout the school day
 - This is more possible with grades 5-6 but during advisory, interventions, and Saints Time students combine cohorts.
- Ability to distance at least 3' in classrooms and other spaces (6' preferred)
 - Class sizes and classroom sizes do not allow for this at the middle school.
- Avoid high quarantine numbers due to close contacts during the school day
 - With the inability to properly distance during the school day, and the combining of cohorts, any positive cases have the potential to cause many close contacts.
- Vaccination rate, process and timing
 - Changes in the process may cause delays in the vaccination process
- Staff Input
 - Staff has shared concerns regarding transitioning to in-person while rates are not steadily declining, unable to properly distance, and vaccines have not been available to a majority of the staff.

Recommendations for Changes in Learning Models

This plan has been developed with and approved by the Regional Support Team.

Early Learning, South Elementary (Gr K-1) & North Elementary (Gr 2-4)

Continued in-person learning

Middle & High School, Rock Bend, Hoffmann*

March 18 & 19 - Teacher Planning Days- No School for Students

March 22 - All grades begin all in-person learning with distance learning on Fridays

****Dependent on County 14-day COVID Rates***

FAQ- Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Are these dates solid?

A: All of the planned transitions are dependent on COVID-19 data. If the rate of spread rises in our communities it will affect the current plans. Our ability to staff appropriately will also be a determinant.

Q: Can we do this sooner?

A: COVID-19 rates are still above the indicated rates for in-person learning. Only about 20% of our staff have begun the vaccination process. While we would like to be able to start sooner, we do not believe we could safely do so at this time.

Q: Will Saints Overtime Continue?

A: There will be before and after school care and during Early Releases.

Q: Will distance learning still be available for any families who choose it?

A: Yes.

Q: What are the accommodations for staff who are at high risk?

A: Staff who have medical documentation should continue to work through Human Resources to arrange for accommodations or a leave of absence. They have also been prioritized for vaccination.

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Q: Does this change restrictions on activities and events?

A: No, we are still required to follow all state requirements for gatherings outside the school day



Questions?