

## **WE Are ONE10 is a philosophy for partnership**

When the “WE Are ONE10” phrase took off several years ago, little did we know how relevant it would be for the times we are currently experiencing.

We need to take care of each other to get us through the Covid pandemic. That is exactly what we mean by “WE Are ONE10”. We are one school community that watches out for each other in everything that we do. As frustrating as it can be at times, we need to continue safely moving forward until Covid is behind us and we can get back to some sense of normalcy.

### **Rising positive Covid-19 cases lead to additional quarantines**

As much as all want, Covid-19 has not gone away. In April, we have seen a rise in positive cases in ONE10 and Carver County. We will continue to use the links in our [Determining Factors](#) document to monitor the numbers and help guide our decisions to keep students and staff as safe as possible. The current measurement for a safe learning plan pivot is when 5% of a building has positive Covid cases with people who are symptomatic. This would be a very high number and one we have not been close to this year. So as of today, we will stay with In-person Learning and continue to follow our contact tracing and quarantine protocols. The safety measures and protocols used at ONE10 allow for us to stay with In-person Learning.

Stay safe and follow the safe schools protocols so we can all be well.

### **Federal Covid-19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)**

The Federal Covid-19 Funding, ESSER, has been finalized from the state and it continues to use the Title 1 guidelines. The Title 1 formula for Covid Relief Funds that is used at the federal level and adopted at the state level is highly inequitable. There are 330+ school districts in the state and Waconia Public Schools ranks 7th from the bottom in the amount of [ESSER funding per student](#) received. ONE10 continues to advocate to change the funding formula to make it more equitable among all school districts. Any help we can get from our legislators about making ESSER funding more equitable is welcome.

### **SouthWest Metro Intermediate District 288 E-Learning**

As much as we have been working hard to keep all students In-Person Learning, there are some students who prefer Distance Learning. ONE10 is exploring options and partnering with SouthWest Metro Intermediate District 288 as we look at learning opportunities for the 2021-2022 school year. We are very excited about the progress on this initiative to date and we are working on how to make this work. We expect to have a full catalog of K-12 online offerings for families to check out by mid-July. We want ALL students from ONE10 to remain Wildcats!!!!

### **ONE10 is a Welcoming and Inclusive Place for Students**

Waconia Public School is always looking for ways to ensure we have a welcoming and inclusive culture for all our students. The diversity, equity and inclusion work that we have done in partnership with the Minneapolis Y has been very impactful. It is a vibrant, strong and supportive group that has been created and we will continue offering cultural competency cohorts to staff each year. All administration has gone through the cultural competency process and we are working on plans to have this type of support at every level. This important and critical work is being done so that everyone feels welcome at ONE10. This is the core of the WE ARE ONE10 spirit!

We are also building on the great work we have done with Unified Sports to provide an inclusive school. At WHS the Unified Sports program has such a positive impact on everyone involved, so we are looking at expanding these

opportunities to E-12 students. A design team is working on fully inclusive programming that would help us become a Unified Champion District. When implemented, we would become only the fourth school district in the state to reach this inclusive status. We are very excited to explore this for students and watch the relationships that develop as a result of participating in Unified Sports.

### **Congratulations Paul Sparby, New High School Principal**

Paul Sparby was named the new principal after Mark Fredericksen announced his retirement effective at the end of this school year. In the three years that he has been at ONE10, Paul has proven to be a great leader and is ready for this new position. Paul has over 20 years experience as a principal and is a great fit for WHS. I look forward to seeing the great work that he and the amazing high school staff will do together. Congratulations to Paul Sparby, Waconia High School and ONE10!

### **Next AP at WHS has been Selected**

With Paul Sparby becoming the high school principal, that opened up the assistant high school principal position. We had nearly 95 candidates apply. It is so great to see the interest from such high quality applicants for this position. ISD ONE10 is a destination location for educators. It was fun to hear the pride of our school from the students who helped with the interview process and the candidates in the interviews. At the May 10th school board meeting, I will be recommending Tonya Constantine for the WHS AP position to start July 1. Read more about her in the [WHS Newsletter](#).

### **ONE10 is Exploring the Continuation of Tiered Bussing**

Waconia Public Schools is in conversations with Brian Koch and the admin team is exploring the potential of continuing a tiered bussing schedule after the pandemic. For social distancing reasons, we have been running a tiered bus system this school year with an earlier release time for elementary students. It's

been a great opportunity to slowly make the transition to a potential permanent tiered bussing schedule next school year.

We see a lot of upside to tiered bussing:

- Elementary and secondary students are separated
- Fewer buses are needed
- Start times allow for more impactful learning especially at the secondary level
- More creative student offerings before and after school
- Koch Bus can deliver tiered bussing without a financial increase

We will continue to explore the pros and cons and hope to bring a recommendation to the school board over the summer. This is an exciting opportunity for ONE10.

**Have a Fantastic Weekend!**

**WE Are ONE10!!**