

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

January 2021

Elementary: Happy New Year! We look forward to having the students back in the building in 2021. Before winter break the district (E-12) partnered with Backyard Wishes to create holiday cards for the assisted living facilities in Waconia. Proudly, 1098 cards were delivered across town to spread cheer. The elementary staff continues to reimagine events and traditions that are extremely important to our elementary students and families. Here are some examples of staff going the extra mile; gingerbread house kits were delivered to kindergarten students to complete at home, staff read alouds were recorded for students to watch over winter break, meals and materials were delivered to families, and library books continue to be distributed to students.

We continue to be amazed at the perseverance and grit our students, staff, and parents show during this time of distance learning. We will look back on the year of 2020 with Wildcat PRIDE for all that we have accomplished and the support we gave one another.

Middle School:

8th Grade Gratitude- Members of the 8th grade team organized, communicated and orchestrated a drive to collect thank you cards from WMS 8th grade students and staff to share with front line workers in our community. The efforts provided an opportunity to show our gratitude for the work of people on the front lines and working behind the scenes. We are all appreciative of the personal risks these professionals take day in and day out to keep us all safe and healthy during these challenging times. Before we left on winter break, 8th grade staff members delivered the thank you cards along with cookies, treats and beverages to the front line workers in our community.

This year the WMS PTO created an avenue to recognize the essential groups at WMS that go above and beyond to make WMS such a great school. The **December Above and Beyond Group** is our food services, Cafe 110 staff. The award states, "On behalf of the parents, students, and staff, THANK YOU for going above and beyond to ensure that our students have a safe and healthy environment to come to every day. We couldn't do any of this without you." Presented to: **Lorraine Calvente, Pam Fredrickson, Amanda Holt-Olson, Mary Stifter and Angela Williams.**

On Tuesday, we honored our **December WMS Teacher of the Month** for the 2020-21 school year. French teacher Mrs. Buettner was nominated by seventh-grader Cheyenne Burandt. Cheyenne wrote about her exceptional talents as a teacher to make learning fun and enjoyable. Cheyenne also highlighted her personal characteristics of being kind, helpful and caring. Furthermore, Cheyenne shared how Mrs. Buettner goes above and beyond in her generosity to

provide experiences like baking French crepes for students to experience the taste of true French cuisine. Congratulations to Mrs. Buettner, the WMS December Teacher of the Month and thank you to Cheyenne for submitting a great nomination letter. Both Mrs. Buettner and Cheyenne received treats including Laketown chocolates and a Target gift card as a token of appreciation from the WMS PTO.

High School: Happy New Year! The halls of Waconia High School were very quiet as we “returned” from our winter break. Even as students moved back into their distance learning classes, activity in the building has been limited to before and after school athletes.

As we enter January, the registration process for the 2021-22 school year is just around the corner. The Guidance Department is busy organizing the registration materials for next year and making plans to provide virtually all of the information they normally share through class and parent meetings. All of this will roll out by the end of the month.

Activities: www.waconiaathletics.com

Community Ed:

After a brief pause on Community Education activities during the month of December. We will be starting youth recreation practices the week of January 11. Other youth enrichment classes and programs will start the week of January 18. There will be a lot of changes with our recreation programs with the new mandate that masks need to be worn at all times.

Our Early Childhood program is looking forward to being able to offer in person learning again in January! Our teachers and families continue to do a great job with all of the changes that have come up throughout the year.

Human Resources:

A revised Board Policy Number 522 Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process is on the School Board’s agenda for consideration and action. Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination against both students and employees of educational institutions on the basis of sex. This updated policy is the result of new regulations that define sexual harassment for Title IX purposes and require changes to the process of investigating Title IX complaints. Additional information about Title IX can be found on our district’s website at <https://www.isd110.org/departments/title-ix>.

Student Services:

The Week of January 25th has been designated as Paraprofessional Recognition Week by MDE and the Governor. This is a great opportunity for us to recognize the incredible work and contributions that paraprofessionals make in our schools and with students. Each building typically recognizes this group of staff at that level. MDE recently announced that after several years of moving this week around on the schedule, that going forward, the last week in January will be Paraprofessional Recognition Week annually.

Teaching & Learning:

Assessment Update: Our department continues to prepare for the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) this spring as a federal waiver has not been granted to suspend statewide accountability testing. The MCAs are administered in the following subjects and grade levels:

Reading: Grades 3-8 and 10

Math: Grades 3-8 and 11

Science: Grades 5, 8, and 10

If we continue to be in a hybrid or in-person model of instruction, testing will be administered much as it has been done in the past. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) continues to explore options for remote administration of these assessments for our distance learners. We will learn more from MDE in February if remote administration will be possible. A big thanks to Tracy Edsill for coordinating the back-end tasks to prepare our district for these assessments.

ACT testing will continue at this point for all Juniors on April 13th. To create a positive testing experience for our juniors, grades 9, 10, and 12 will be off-site for a remote learning day. Weekend ACT testing is currently on pause by the state.

Cultural Competence Cohort: This year's Cultural Competence Cohort continues their learning activities in a virtual mode. On December 3, we participated in the first of 3 leadership sessions through the YMCA Center for Equity and Innovation. This session was titled, Bridging Cultural Differences: Understanding Identity and Diversity, which was informative and well done by YMCA facilitators UyenThi Tran Myhre and Anne Koo Thornquist. We look forward to the two remaining sessions on February 10 and April 7.

D110 has been able to secure streaming rights to a really great documentary titled, ***Race: The Power of an Illusion***. This is a provocative 3-hour series that provides eye-opening information to help people examine their beliefs about race, privilege, policy, and justice. Contact Kathy Oliphant if you are interested in viewing this series.

Superintendent:

Happy New Year to All!!

Welcome back from Winter Break. Hopefully you had a relaxing and rejuvenating break. As we come back to school in 2021, we are excited to see our students, even if it is virtual. 2020 was an unbelievable year that was full of amazing commitment and dedication by staff, students and parents to maintain our ONE10 excellence....THANK YOU! It is our hope that, at some point in 2021, we can return the school experience to some sense of normal.

Early Childhood and Elementary Students return to In-Person Learning on January 19th!

We know that the Governor's Executive Order in December allows us to bring E-5 students back to in-person instruction on January 19th. We are very excited about this opportunity. Based on Minnesota's evolving knowledge and understanding of the virus, the Safe Learning Plan has been updated so that early learning and elementary schools can return to in-person instruction without the need to meet the Hybrid safety protocols. Knowing that the data shows that elementary schools are safe to return to this educational model is good news for our students, parents and staff. We are looking forward to bringing our elementary school students back and will follow the updated safety protocols that are required.

The January 19th Learning Model for Students in Grades 6-12 will be announced 1/12/21

The MDE Regional Covid Advisory Team has approved the return of students in grades 6-12 to Hybrid Learning on January 19th (if this is what students, parents and staff would like to do). At the school board meeting on January 4th, the school board asked that we conduct a survey to determine the desired preference. Survey information is being collected and will be one data point in determining the school model we will recommend offering students in grades 6-12 starting on January 19th. Here is the link for the parent survey for those who have students in grades 6-12. Parents, please complete the survey by Sunday, 1/10/21. [Parent Choice Survey](#).

There is good rationale to support either educational model for students in grades 6-12. The social emotional interaction of the Hybrid model is very beneficial and the ability to have all students in a virtual classroom each day receiving instruction five days a week is also very beneficial. Administration will look at the survey data and other data to determine the best educational model for student learning and safety. We will put student learning first and the best interest of staff and parents will also be a factor. A recommendation will be made to the school board and the decision will be shared with staff, parents and students on Tuesday, 1/12/21.

Planning Time for the Transition and the Future Expectations

Depending on the plan, there may be non-instructional time that will be needed for planning to make the transition. On 1/12/21 parents and staff should expect to receive confirmation on potential student non-instructional time to allow for teacher planning time that would be scheduled for the end of next week.

As we move forward with the next learning plan we will continue to monitor the covid cases and the staff/student quarantine numbers to ensure safety and that we are delivering the best learning model under the conditions. Having enough teacher substitutes is still a concern. Unless the state changes their requirements, we should be able to stay with E-5 In-person instruction for the foreseeable future. It is our hope to transition the 6-12 students back in phases to eventually be back In-Person. Time, the state, the safety protocols and the covid numbers will determine if that will be possible.

WE Are ONE10

The 2020-2021 school year continues to be one with constant changes due to the pandemic. It is important that we all stay flexible and work together. In the end, working together to keep everyone safe will offer students the best opportunity for success. ONE10 staff is committed to providing the best learning environment possible during this pandemic. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Stay safe. Be well
Pat Devine

Saliva Test and Vaccine

The State of MN will be supplying ONE10 with COVID-19 saliva tests for all employees that want to be tested as soon as February 1st. Employees will be given the opportunity to be tested for COVID-19 every two weeks. Testing for employees is optional. More information about employee saliva testing sites and times will be shared soon.

The phasing schedule for the Covid-19 Vaccine is still unknown. We know that educators will be one of the first waves, yet the rollout is moving slower than anticipated. The information we are hearing from the MDH is that we may see the vaccine getting to our school employees as early as February and as late as April. We will inform all as soon as we have more precise information. The vaccine will be optional for employees, but we are encouraging all staff to consider receiving the vaccine for your health and the health of all at ONE10. Current guidance from MDH states that although the vaccine will offer protection, it will not exempt those persons vaccinated from wearing masks and continuing to follow MDH safety guidelines and requirements.

Trend of Carver County 14-day case rate per 10,000 people by date

I want to thank and congratulate our staff, students and community for doing their part to bring down the number of positive covid-19 cases so that we can get our students back in school.

Number - Date posted:

153.56 -11/14/20

178.96 -11/21/20

147.49 -11/28/20

119.00 -12/5/20

93.91 -12/12/20

58.36 -12/19/20

33.96 -12/26/20

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

Parent Survey Results

ISD ONE10 sent the parents a Safe Learning Plan Parent Survey in late December. Overall the feedback from the survey is very positive. We are proud to know that we continue to partner well with our families and deliver excellence the best we can during a pandemic.

LINK to results:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-BVJOhPiZ443TZEEeMmF_cCbqzEChnxZQ9WpkraT5r2k/edit

Attendance and Grade Data

Kare 11 requested ONE10 to report grade and attendance data from this fall. We are pleased that we show low impact from our current learning model delivered this fall. In talking with many other schools our results are much more favorable....thanks to our wonderful students, staff members and parents. WE are ONE10!!

[Kare 11 Data Request info](#)

Resources used for Covid-19 related decisions at ONE10:

- [Carver County Covid-19 Dashboard](#)
- [MDE State Covid-19 Data](#)
- [Unofficial Current Covid-19 Trends by county or school district](#)
- [MDE Covid-19 Updates and Resources](#)
- [Executive Order 20-82](#)
- [Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year](#)

Happy New Year to All!
A Big Thanks for making ONE10 a Great Place for Kids!!
WE Are ONE10!!