



July 28, 2020

Dear Parent or Community Member:

Last night, I presented the following recommended plan to our Board of Directors for starting the 2020-21 school year. What was recommended is an all remote start. This is different from what we were planning last week and is the result of the recent increase in COVID cases for our community.

Moving to a remote start was directed by local health officials after a meeting with them as regional school districts to review plans for starting the school year. Ideally, providing remote only instruction will be a short-term situation. However, we were told this need may continue into the fall or winter depending on what happens with local conditions.

Unfortunately, my recommendation to the Board also included the need to reduce staff given our services are very different in a remote instructional model, then when we have students on campus and engaging in common school activities.

Local health officials have expressed support for our plan as it allows for adjustments in small groups either on or off campus. It also recognizes research showing our younger grades are the safest to serve on campus for both employees and students.

Thanks for your patience and hard work as we prepare for a very different school year. Please don't hesitate to share your concerns and suggestions with your student's principal as we have learned there are many issues in providing P-12 educational services in this environment.

Sincerely,

Garn Christensen  
Superintendent