



Board of Education Recap

September 9, 2020



Post-Labor Day greetings, Vikings!

Just need the FAQs (facts)?
I hope [this link](#) helps!

Have you seen the [Vikings @Home Virtual Learning](#) site? There, parents/students can find staff created “how to” video tutorials and details about our instructional program!

The first Board of Education meeting of the 2020-21 school year took place on Tuesday night. Here are a few highlights of their important work:

Summer School 2020 Report: Summer School Coordinator, Mr. **Erick McCormick**, was on hand to share the results of a survey administered to families. We are pleased to report 96.1% of the 77 participants felt their student benefitted from participation. The entire report can be found [here](#). While we are pleased with the results, it is important to have a growth mindset, and slide 17 helps us identify ways that we can improve. Thank you to all who participated!

COVID-19 Update: Since the Board last met, Public Health Madison and Dane County (PHMDC) issued a new order, [#9](#). At the end of the first day of school, they provided an [amendment](#) to their order regarding in-person support for special education students. (The next day, Director of Student Services, Mr. **Brian Johnson**, sent a message to applicable families.) Besides the headlining news, what is also important to know:

1. Once we move to Step 3 in our District’s [Gradual Reopening Plan](#), PHMDC has changed the maximum number of people in a classroom from 25 to 15. This may cause us to revisit our plan to split students into cohorts for an AB schedule, as was previously discussed.
2. This graphic, from PHMDC, helps to answer the question: “When can all children in grades 3-12 return?”

Current Status

Last updated September 3, 2020; Data from August 18 to August 31

Current average number of cases per day, averaged over 14-day period: 45

| Grade Levels | Target for Possibly Resuming In-Person Pupil Instruction | Status |
|--------------|---|---|
| K-2 | A 14-day average of 54 or fewer cases per day, sustained for four weeks | Met on August 18, may open per Emergency Order #9 |
| 3-5 | A 14-day average of 39 or fewer cases per day, sustained for four weeks | Not met |
| 6-12 | A 14-day average of 19 or fewer cases per day, sustained for four weeks | Not met |

Once we achieve an average of 39 cases per day, averaged over a 14-day period, the clock will start and will be tracked on this page. Dane County will need to maintain this level for four consecutive weeks. Once that target is met, Public Health Madison & Dane County will assess reopening grades 3-5 for in-person pupil instruction. This target will be used to help inform Public Health decisions to reopen schools and will be assessed in combination with Forward Dane metrics, case trajectory (increasing, stable, or decreasing), current best practices, federal and state guidance, and unforeseen influencing factors.



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One caveat, please: this information is only as of this writing. We will continue to monitor any new developments and respond/communicate accordingly.

My colleagues and I made it a point to walk the hallways in each of our buildings during the first days of school. I cannot tell you how excited I was to hear your children's' laughter, see staff smiling, and our community get back to learning. There are celebrations to be had and problems to be solved. In an effort to stay up-to-date on both, I hope you might accept this invitation:

**Start to School
Community Feedback Session**

Members of the District's administrative team want to know what questions, suggestions and/or concerns are popping up with our virtual education program. We will host a live, virtual chat on:

Wednesday, Sept 16 at 5:00 p.m.

<https://live.myvrspot.com/st?cid=OGJiMm>

Feel free to send your thoughts in an email ahead of the visit to salernosteve@mhasd.k12.wi.us.

If you cannot attend, we will record the session.

#mohovikings #alltogether

Technology Update: Regardless of the platform, Google Meets or Zoom, it appears there are disruptions to teaching and learning. As we connect with educators around the state/country this appears to be a common theme. It is leading to concerns big (no access) and small (being kicked out of meetings). While out Technology Coordinator, Mr. Josh Cataldo, assures me we have not reached the District's maximum bandwidth, we have been told simply disabling any plugins (especially third-party designed) may help to minimize problems. We remain committed to monitoring the issue and passing along any additional information/tips.

I am proud to be a Viking and I hope you are too!

Steve Salerno