

#### Update on planning for 2020-21 - Spring Lake Park Schools Families:

As we continue to live with COVID-19 in our communities, planning for the 2020-21 school year involves a changing set of complexities. As a district, we are preparing to effectively adapt to whatever the situation is this fall. At its June 9 meeting, the school board reviewed our approach to 2020-21 planning. You can see the [1-page overview document](#) for likely public health scenarios, key assumptions and the models we're planning for next year.

Over the last month, we've reviewed family survey input and other feedback from the spring. We have also engaged more than 50 teachers and staff in input and design sessions around these three models, one of which will be selected by the Minnesota Department of Education for implementation in fall 2020:

- Open Campus – School buildings are able to open with modifications required for health and safety in operations and teaching and learning.
- Modified Campus Schedules - Schools are able to open with modified schedules to limit the number of students and staff in attendance to a percentage of the total.
- Extended Flexible Learning - School facilities are not able to reopen due to continued uncertainty and required health and safety mitigation strategies.

In our planning, we are exploring creative ways to use space and time. We're looking at different ways of aligning staff with students. We're discussing different ways to support students and the family members who support them. We have developed an initial set of plans for how we would do school for each model. This now requires us to do initial operations planning so we are able to implement well and seamlessly move between models as the public health context changes.

Our anchor within every model continues to be personalizing learning for each of our students and building on every aspect of our past experience to improve. We fully intend to move learning forward despite challenges presented by COVID-19. Our planning ensures we will be ready in late July when the Minnesota Department of Education announces which model we must implement.

Here's what you can expect over the next several weeks:

- Week of July 13 – We'll be asking you for information about the fall to help with our planning for implementation. Watch for a brief, online questionnaire. For any Spring Lake Park Schools family who chooses, full-time extended flexible learning (distance learning) will be an option for the fall. We'll want to hear from you about your plans.
- Week of July 27 – During this timeframe we expect the Minnesota Department of Education and Minnesota Department of Health to decide which model schools will be asked to use as we resume learning in September. All of our plans will be able to flex to whatever model is selected at the state level.
- Week of August 3 – We'll update you on our Spring Lake Park Schools plans for the fall and next steps to implement those plans.

Please plan to submit information to help with planning next week. We'll update you again the week of August 3 with more information about the fall at Spring Lake Park Schools. In the meantime, please know we are – and will – do everything in our power to move learning forward in this time while protecting the health and safety of our community. We appreciate your partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ronneberg, Ed.D.  
Superintendent