



## **UPDATE REGARDING START OF SCHOOL DATES AND DETAILS**

Dear Minnetonka Families,

I am writing to you with an update regarding the start of the school year. We have been working hard all summer to get ready to provide a positive opening of school for your students. Unfortunately, we just cannot be as ready for next Tuesday as we want to be.

Therefore, we are going to delay the start of the 2020-21 school year for Grades K-8 until Thursday, September 10. High school students will begin school, as originally planned, on Tuesday, September 8. Kindergarteners were already scheduled to start on Thursday, so we will continue with that plan for them.

Furthermore, we will have half of the hybrid students in Grades K-5 begin school on Thursday and half on Friday, so every student can begin school with their primary teacher. We will also have half of the hybrid students in Grades 6-8 begin on Thursday and half on Friday. Additionally, on the day hybrid students are NOT in school that first week, there will be no live-streaming of their classes. It will just be a day spent home.

This additional time before school begins for Grades K-8 will help to ensure an outstanding educational experience for students, starting with their first day.

For Grades 4-5, those two days will remain half days at school and half at home, as was communicated to families recently.

Principals will let families know which children will attend Thursday and which will attend Friday of that first week of school.

Students in K-8 who will not physically be in school (who are in full e-learning), will also start instruction on Thursday, September 10, and they will continue instruction on Friday, September 11.

I know that these changes will cause some challenges for families, and we certainly wish we could avoid that. However, we have reached the conclusion that delaying two days and having a staggered start to the school year the first week will set our students up to have an even better year.

Thank you for your continued support of Minnetonka Schools, our teachers and our staff. I hope you are staying safe and having a wonderful end to the summer with your family!

Dennis L. Peterson  
Superintendent