



**School Board Special Emergency Meeting
Tuesday, November 10, 2020 5:00 PM**

I. Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

II. Discussion

A. Learning Models Update

Description: Operational challenges, especially in staffing, are emerging in the middle and high schools as COVID virus numbers are increasing in the community and state. This report will share the operational and virus case data as background information for the recommendation.

Presenters: Dr. John Schultz, Superintendent, and District Administrators

III. Leadership Updates



Board Meeting Date: 11/10/2020 Special

TITLE: Learning Models Update

TYPE: Discussion

PRESENTER(S): Dr. John W. Schultz, Superintendent, and District Administrators

BACKGROUND: Operational challenges, especially in staffing, are emerging across Edina Schools as COVID virus numbers are increasing in the community and state. The most significant challenge is staffing. This report will show detail on how quarantine and isolation have impacted staffing Edina's hybrid model.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Move Edina High, Middle, and Elementary Schools to the distance learning model according to the schedule proposed at the end of this report.
- Students who require site-based special education programming and who have previously been identified to receive additional in-person days in the hybrid model, will continue to receive those in-person instruction days.
- Other student populations, including those below, will be considered for in-person services over the next several weeks.
 - Non-site-based special education students
 - Multilingual students
 - Homeless, highly mobile students
 - Students with significant learning challenges
- Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts (AAA)
 - As staffing levels in AAA have remained stable for programming this fall, AAA will continue under the safety protocols implemented by EHS and the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL).

PRIMARY ISSUE(S) TO CONSIDER: Pivoting Edina Schools to Distance Learning

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Report (next page)
2. Graphs from Bloomington Public Health

Background

Since March 2020, Edina schools have adapted instruction and services to Edina learners and families as we face the COVID-19 pandemic. Last week and yesterday, elementary and secondary school administration encountered challenges in staffing due to adults being quarantined for COVID or other flu-like symptoms, close contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID, or tested positive themselves. This report provides information and data that supports a recommendation to pivot to a distance learning model. The first table details quarantines and positive tests for students and employees.

EPS COVID Quarantine and Positive Case Rate Data

		September				October					November	
		9/14 - 9/18	9/21 - 9/25	9/28 - 10/2	Sept Totals	10/5 - 10/9	10/12 - 10/14* MEA	10/19 - 10/23	10/26 - 10/30	Oct Totals	10/31 - 11/6	Nov Totals
Edina High School												
Student	Quart/Iso	48	90	66	204	66	56	79	76	277	199	199
	Positive	2	5	0	7	3	1	7	2	13	8	8
Staff	Quart/Iso	0	0	0	0	12	4	11	10	37	16	16
	Positive	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	1
Middle Schools												
Students	Quart/Iso	23	31	36	90	42	27	35	53	157	98	98
	Positive	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	5	8	4	4
Staff	Quart/Iso	9	10	12	31	10	2	12	7	31	7	7
	Positive	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0
Elementary Schools												
Students	Quart/Iso	55	69	63	187	116	67	74	115	372	161	161
	Positive	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	2	9	2	2
Staff	Quart/Iso	21	25	7	53	10	23	21	24	78	50	50
	Positive	2	1	6	9	0	1	0	1	2	6	6
Early Childhood												
Student	Quart/Iso	3	5	8	16	13	20	19	13	65	9	9
	Positive	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
Staff	Quart/Iso	1	0	0	1	4	6	4	1	15	0	0
	Positive	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0

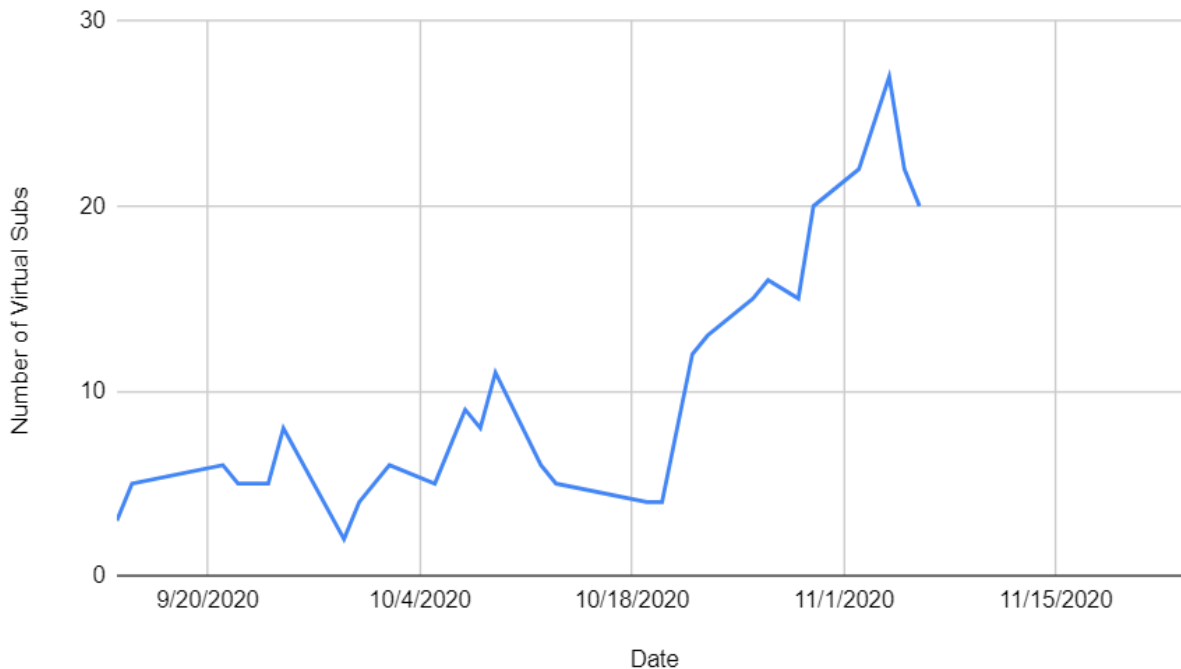
Key Observations

The table below summarizes trends, which includes increases from October 30 to November 6. Data table shows how quarantine and positive cases impact staffing.

	Quarantine	Positive Cases
Students:	81% increase	55% increase
Staff:	75% increase	133% increase

EHS COVID Related Virtual Subs

Virtual subs are teachers that direct instruction to students who are present in the high school hybrid learning model, but themselves are not physically present. Students are relocated to a space for employees to supervise during this instruction. The high school has shown an increase in virtual subs as the school year progresses.



EHS Athletic Coaches Absences

As EHS considers the county-level case data when determining the learning model, the number of confirmed cases, quarantines, staffing situations and close contacts in our community are also monitored by Athletics and Activities. MDH has called this the “scalpel approach” and this approach also allows EHS Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts to have the same discussion when considering programming.

At this time, we do not have any staffing concerns related to Athletics, Activities or Fine Arts. Our recommendation is to allow all Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts to continue as planned. Any issues that arise will be dealt with on a case by case basis using this scalpel approach in each program.

Community Education

Community Education Enrichment programs have played and will continue to play an important role in meeting the needs of Edina students and their families. Our classes, camps and programs provide opportunities for learning, growth, and connection in carefully-planned, safe and predictable environments that support social-emotional wellness.

Community Education programs, like Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts, will continue to operate during this time period. Programs will continue to be guided by the Governor's Executive Order and MDE and MDH guidelines to operate in a safe manner.

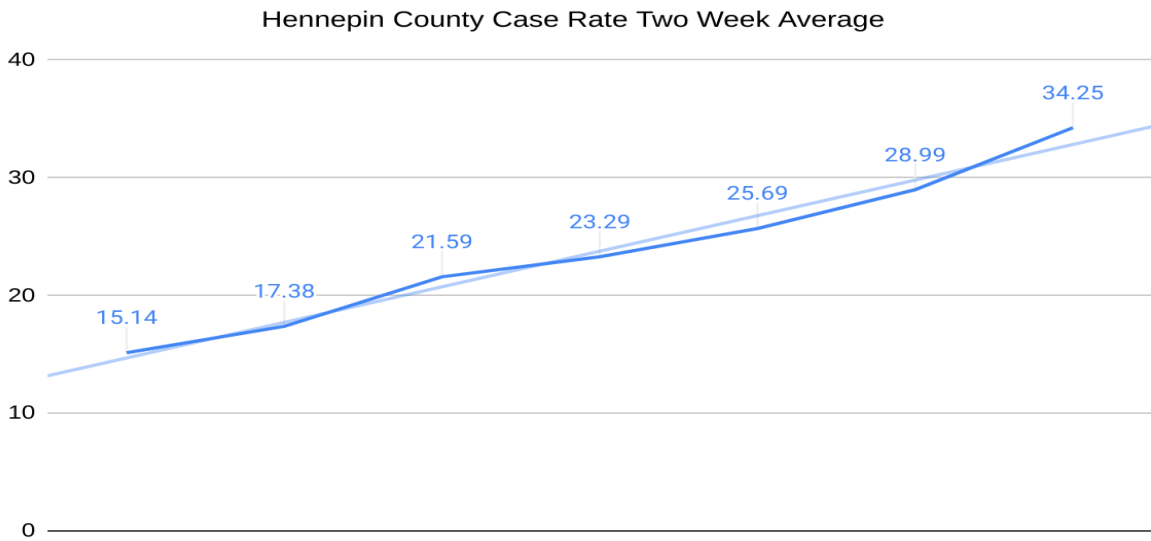
Learning Models Movement Matrix

COVID-19 Rate Threshold for Movement of Learning Models

	Distance Learning	Maintain / Monitor	Hybrid	In Person for all
Secondary	Above 30; Uptrend last four weeks	Flat, minimal change	Below 30; Downtrend last four weeks	Below 10; Downtrend last four weeks,
Elementary/Early Childhood	Above 50; Uptrend last four weeks	Flat, minimal change	Below 50; Downtrend last four weeks	Below 20; Downtrend last four week

Current Data

Operational Factors	Week of 9/21	Week of 9/28	Week of 10/5	Week of 10/12	Week of 10/19	Week of 10/26	Week of 11/2	Trend
Hennepin County Case Rate 2 wk avg	15.14	17.38	21.59	23.29	25.69	28.99	34.25	Upward
Edina City COVID Rate Data		18.0	19.9	18.8	18.6	23.5	32.5	Upward
EPS COVID Positive Student Cases	Month of Sept: 9		Month of Oct: 32				To date Nov: 14	Upward
EPS COVID Positive Staff Cases	Month of Sept: 10		Month of Oct: 8				To date Nov: 7	Upward
EPS Quarantine/ Isolation Students	Month of Sept: 497		Month of Oct: 849				To date Nov: 467	Upward
EPS Quarantine/ Isolation Staff	Month of Sept: 87		Month of Oct: 168				To date Nov: 73	Upward



Key Observations:

- The metrics above show how COVID is creating challenges in staffing. In all categories, there is an upward trend in these numbers.
- Acceleration in quarantines and positive case rates in the last few days have created staffing challenges.

Summary

We examined the data presented in this report and concluded that Edina staff shows increases in quarantines and isolation. Bloomington Public Health also reported increases of the virus in the community, which is contributing to the staffing challenge. It is the data in these staffing metrics that leads to the administration making the following recommendation. We also want to be clear that this announcement doesn't preclude the potential need to quarantine students, classrooms, or buildings the remainder of this week. We are reevaluating our ability to staff and provide quality education to our students on a day-by-day, minute-by-minute basis.

Recommendations

- Move Edina High, Middle, and Elementary Schools to the distance learning model according to the schedule proposed at the end of this report.
- Students who require site-based special education programming and who have previously been identified to receive additional in-person days in the hybrid model, will continue to receive those in-person instruction days.
- Other student populations, including those below, will be considered for in-person services over the next several weeks.
 - Non-site-based special education students
 - Multilingual students
 - Homeless, highly mobile students
 - Students with significant learning challenges
- Move Early Learning Programs to models described at the end of this report.
- Athletics, Activities and Fine Arts (AAA)
 - As staffing levels in AAA have remained stable for programming this fall, AAA will continue under the safety protocols implemented by EHS and the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL).

Implementing Distance Learning across all Schools and Programs, November 2020

High School Distance Learning (“DL”) Ramp-up

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| • Last day of In-Person Learning for EHS | Monday, November 9 |
| • Distance Learning Begins (Async Days) | Tuesday through Friday, Nov 10-13 |
| • No School/Teachers Prepare for DL & Materials | Monday and Tuesday, Nov 16 & 17 |
| • Typical Async Day | Wednesday, November 18 |
| • Distance Learning Begins | Thursday, November 19 |

Middle Level Distance Learning (“DL”) Ramp-up

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Last day of In-Person Learning for MS | Friday, November 13, 2020 |
| • No School/Teachers Prepare for DL | Monday and Tuesday, Nov 16 & 17 |
| • Typical Async Day | Wednesday, November 18 |
| • Distance Learning Begins | Thursday, November 19 |

High School and Middle Level Materials Pick-Up (Hours TBD)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • A-K Cohort (EVA and Hybrid) | Thursday, November 19 |
| • L-Z Cohort (EVA and Hybrid) | Friday, November 20 |

Elementary Distance Learning (“DL”) Ramp-Up

- Asynchronous Learning Days Monday through Wed, Nov 16-18
- In person Hybrid School Day for A Cohort Thursday, November 19
- In Person Hybrid School Day for B Cohort Friday, November 20
- No School/DL Preparation Monday and Tuesday, Nov 23 & 24
- Distance Learning Begins Monday, November 30, 2020

Elementary Materials Pick-Up

Elementary schools will provide materials pick-up on an “as-needed” basis.

Early Childhood Special Education

November 16-24 Program Options to Include:

- Shift to Distance Learning for 3-5 year old program (11 staff members in quarantine)
- Virtual Services or onsite appointments continue for students Birth to 3 year olds
- Onsite Special Education Evaluations/Screenings

November 30: Program Options to Include:

- Shift to Distance Learning virtually for 3-5 year olds
- In person ECSE services by appointment (OT, Speech, ECSE, PT, DHH)
- Highest Need Students onsite in smaller cohorts following tight safety guidelines (IEP team decision)
- Virtual Services or onsite appointments for students Birth to 3 years olds
- Onsite Special Education Evaluations/Screenings

Early Childhood Family Education

- Classes continue in person model. Maintain tight safety and cleanliness protocols
- If a teacher isn’t able to make class due to their own illness a sub will be contacted. If a sub is not available, class will be canceled.
- If a teacher isn’t able due to quarantine requirements, a sub will be contacted If a sub is not available, class will be delivered through the DL model.

Preschool Classes

- Classes continue in person model. Maintain tight safety and cleanliness protocols
- If a teacher isn’t able to make class due to their own illness a sub will be contacted. If a sub is not available, class will be canceled.
- If a teacher isn’t able due to quarantine requirements, a sub will be contacted If a sub is not available, class will be delivered through the DL model.

Early Childhood Screening

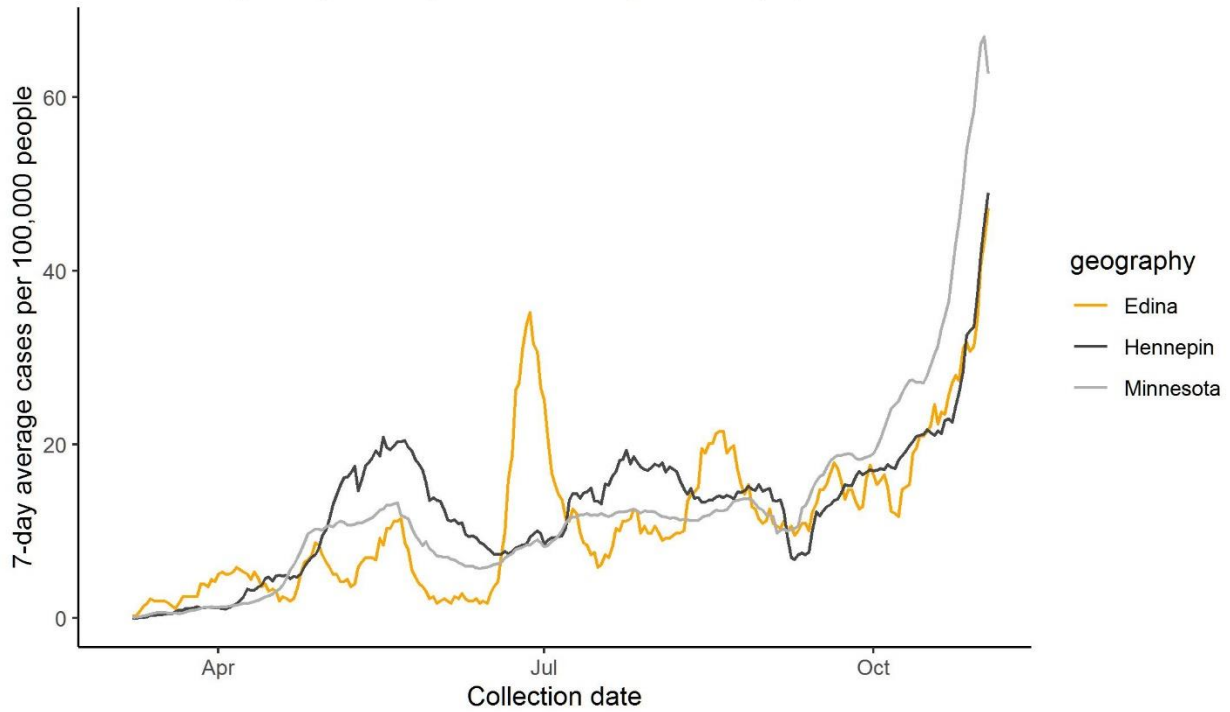
- Screening will maintain the virtual model we are currently using.

Early Childhood Materials Pick-up

- Early Childhood will provide materials pick-up on an “as needed” basis.

Graphs from Bloomington Public Health

Edina rolling 7 day average new cases per 100k population



Edina cases by age group

