



ISD #118 Northland Community Schools

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PRESS RELEASE:

To students, faculty, staff and families,

Northland Community Schools is excited to announce the provision of an on-site virtual visit access point to your healthcare provider will be up and running in our school beginning this fall. This access site is being offered in partnership with Essentia Health and the Minnesota Department of Health and will be located on campus in a secure room in the south office nurses' area. This access site will be available for students in grades 7-12.

Services will include access to Essentia's 24/7 telecare team via secure interactive videoconferencing for minor and acute illness and pain, minor injuries, behavioral health care, follow-ups, and more. This program initiative will ensure immediate access to one of Essentia's expert providers when needed. While this on-site virtual visit access point is supported through our partnership with Essentia, students, faculty, and staff will have the ability to connect with providers from other healthcare systems as well.

By offering these on-site services, we hope to:

- Improve access to clinical and behavioral health services for our students.
- Reduce the need for our students to leave school for off-site appointments.
- Reduce parent or guardian time away from work to transport students to physical clinic sites.
- Utilize already established processes to virtual care provided by Essentia.

Additional communication will be provided as we approach the opening of this access site. We understand that there will likely be questions about how to access these services, insurance, etc. We look forward to sharing more details soon!

Northland Community Schools and Essentia entered a partnership to provide health and wellness services and education to our Hi-Liner community. As we continue to enhance our partnership with Essentia, we welcome your input and thoughts and encourage you to reach out to our school leadership.

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