

Monthly Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Google Meet

Duluth, MN 55802

4:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Curriculum and Instruction

1) Action Items - Consent Agenda

a. Presentation Items Requiring Approval - NONE

b. Resolutions - NONE

c. Other Action Items - NONE

2) Informational Items

a. Presentations

(1) Art Standards Implementation Update and Secondary Scheduling Recap 2

Interim Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jen Larva and Visual//Media Arts Curriculum Coach Deb Hannu

Brief update regarding the requirements and timeline of the Art Standards Implementation.

(2) Return to Learn Update 13

Superintendent John Magas

Brief update on the Return to Learn Plan and learning model shift.

(3) Strategic Planning Status Update

Superintendent John Magas

Brief update on the status of the District's strategic planning process.

B. Other

1) Public Comment Web Page Guidelines 30

Discussion related to public comment guidelines.

C. Future Items

4. **ADJOURN**



DANCE

MEDIA ARTS

MUSIC

THEATRE

VISUAL ARTS

2

Arts Standards Implementation

Duluth Public Schools

In Minnesota, public **elementary and middle schools must offer at least three and require at least two** of the five arts areas: dance, media arts, music, theater and visual arts.

In order to graduate, students must earn one arts credit “sufficient to satisfy all of the state or local academic standards in the arts” (Minn. Stat. § 120B.024, subd. 1(6)).



Music	Visual Arts	Media Arts	Theatre	Dance
K-5 30 min per 4 days*	K-5 60 min per 8 days	K-5 Some embedded in Visual Arts	K-5 Occasional outside activities*	K-5 Some embedded in PE*
6th - Required quarter, three choices	6th - Required quarter, one choice	6th Some embedded in Visual Arts	6th -	6th -
7th - Required quarter, three choices	No requirement nor elective	No requirement nor elective	7th -	7th -
8th Elective only, full year, three choices	8th Elective only, full year, one choice	8th Elective only Some embedded in Visual Arts	8th	8th

Music	Visual Arts	Media Arts	Theatre	Dance
9-12 16 choices	9-12 5 choices	9-12 Some embedded in Visual Arts	9-12 Occasional extracurricular opportunities	9-12 Some embedded in PE

Students must take one year of an arts area

The Arts Standards are embedded in Level 1's (Visual Arts)

Recommended Minnesota Arts Education Standards Transition Timeline, 2019-22*

Groups Actions for Development Phase*
January 2019-September 2019

Actions for Transition, Phase 1*
September 2019-June 2020

Actions for Transition, Phase 2*
July 2020-June 2021

Full Implementation*
2021-22 School Year



Secondary Scheduling Recap

Revisiting the 6 period day



The Past

- At the school board's request, the Secondary Scheduling Task Force was formed
- SSTF included district administrators, principals, DFT exec members, teachers, and counselors
- SSTF met from March 2017-March 2018
 - Conducted research
 - Surveyed the community
 - Created a proposal for board review
- 3 viable options were presented to the school board April-May 2018
- Cost analysis was provided and was slated to be the third question on the referendum

The Why

- Support the District Key Strategies
 - MTSS
 - PLCs
 - Safe & Welcoming
- Community Feedback
 - More elective options
 - Access to college courses on site
 - Access to more Career and Technical Education courses
 - Credit recovery options during the school day
 - More time for relationship building, in-depth learning, feedback and support, etc.
- Aligned with current DFT contract
 - WIN (What I Need) period
 - Student content time per week

Why Now (again)?

- 6 period day continues to limit options
 - No time for MTSS in secondary schedules
 - Electives
- WIN is NOT an intervention
- Inconsistent PLCs
- Limited time for Social Emotional support from social workers and guidance counselors
- Art Requirement Changes

Current Reality

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Period 1	English	English	English
Period 2	Math	Math	Math
Period 3	Science	Science	Science
Period 4	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Period 5	PE / Music	PE / Music	PE / Health
Period 6	Art / Computers	FACS / Ind Tech	One Elective: Music, Art, Computers, FACS, Ind Tech, World Language

The classes in red have required state standards aligned to them. The classes in blue have academic standards that must be established and reviewed locally.

What is Next?

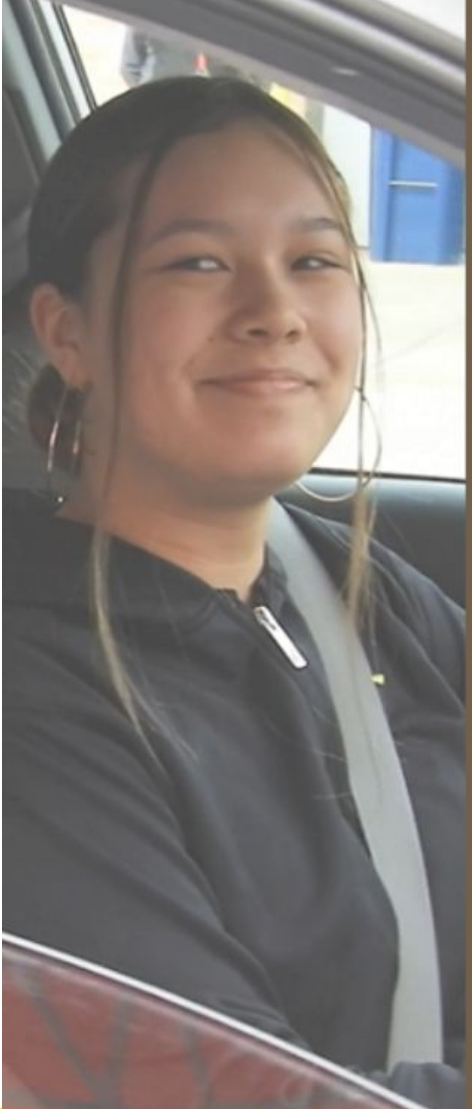
- Contacted MDE re: Art implementation schedule
 - Oversight of standards implementation and arts education requirement is the school boards responsibility
 - MDE does not monitor or enforce compliance with statute and rule UNLESS in extreme situations
- Transition Plan
 - MDE allows for a transition plan that might extend beyond the implementation timeline
 - Must be supported by all levels of leadership from the school board to teacher leaders

Superintendent's Updates

January 5, 2021

Return to Learn Update

2020 Return to Learn



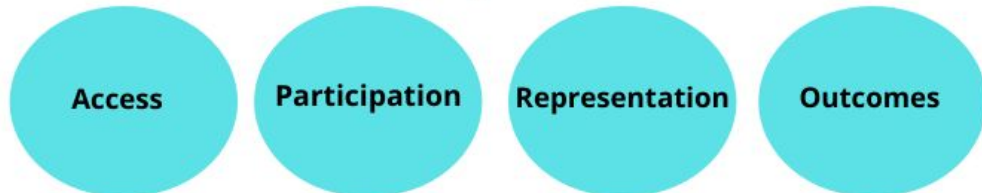
ISD 709

Guiding Principles

FOR RE-OPENING SCHOOLS

- 1 Ensure the safety and wellness of students and staff
- 2 Deliver high-quality instruction to students, regardless of delivery model
- 3 Equity: Ensuring all means all
- 4 Optimize use of resources (space & materials)
- 5 Community and stakeholder engagement in plan development

Equity Criteria:



ISD709.org/Equity

2020 Return to Learn

Current Local COVID-19 Numbers

St. Louis County Bi-Weekly Case Rate for Schools

- 9/12 - 16.14
- 9/19 - 22.47
- 9/26 - 33.37
- 10/03 - 35.2
- 10/10 - 32.7
- 10/17 - 34.2
- 10/24 - 39.8
- 10/31 - 54.3
- 11/07 - 105
- 11/14 - 153.9
- 11/21 - 169.7
- 11/28 - 154.1
- 12/05 - 127.4
- 12/12 - 100.2
- 12/19 - 72.6

Policy Option	Range (14-day case rate per 10,000 people)
In-person learning for all students	0 to less than 10
Elementary in-person, Middle/high school hybrid	10 to less than 20
Both hybrid	20 to less than 30
Elementary hybrid, Middle/high school distance	30 to less than 50
Both distance	50 or more

2020 Return to Learn

Governor's New Guidance

The new state guidance is designed to prioritize in-person learning for the state's youngest students. Per the Governor's announcement:

- Schools play a critical role in the health, well-being, and education of Minnesota's children.
- Youngest kids are less susceptible to serious complications from COVID-19.
- We have learned how to reduce spread in schools from success in other settings.

[Recent research shared by the CDC](#) indicates that children who tested positive for COVID 19 were more likely to have attended gatherings such as weddings, parties and playdates and not as likely to have attended child care or school in-person.

2020 Return to Learn

According to the [new state guidelines](#), returning to full in-person learning at elementary requires a rolling start, with no more than 3 grade level bands added during a two-week period.

[Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan](#) requires 2 to 5 days for preparation and transition to a less restrictive model change. We would use three days, beginning after the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday Monday January 18. Friday January 22 is semester break.

As per the state's Safe Learning Plan, our middle school and high school students must continue with distance learning, with exploration and planning for returning to in-person learning as conditions and guidance allow.

2020 Return to Learn

Consultation with MDE and MDH

- Met with formal team yesterday to receive feedback on current elementary in-person planning and considerations for secondary
- The MDE/MDH team was fully supportive our in-person elementary return plan aligned well with the governor's guidance
- Current guidance for secondary remains based on COVID rates,

2020 Return to Learn

We are currently in distance learning at elementary and secondary levels. We are preparing for:

In-person classes for PK-2 on January 25 and grades 3-5 on February 8. (Families may choose to remain in distance learning.)

Additional synchronous learning at the secondary level beginning on January 25 and continued planning for return to in-person as soon as current rates or state guidance allows, as well as resumption of in-person targeted supports

2020 Return to Learn

Planning Period

- Elementary planning and preparation for a safe and productive return
- January 19th-21st
- In-person and Distance will be paused due to scheduling and planning

2020 Return to Learn

Continued Stakeholder Communication and Collaboration

- Meeting with District Advisory Committee tomorrow
- Problem solving meetings with administration and teachers
- Staff and family updates
- Virtual staff meetings

Model Selection Update

As of 3:45pm today:

- Total elementary student enrollment - 3371
- Total responses 2992, 88.8% return rate
- In-person - 2579, 86.2%
- Distance Learning - 413, 13.8%
- Of the total 2992 responses, 2454 (82%) were previously in hybrid, 538 (18%) previously in DL

Saliva Testing

- Initial order of 1400 saliva tests have been placed
- Initial testing sites will be the 9 public elementary schools
- Hours are still being determined and will vary based on site
- Licensed School Nurses and Health Assistants will act as site coordinators
- 1st required testing date for the district is 1/27/20

Saliva Testing

Testing is optional for staff but the district is required to offer testing to all staff working in-person in the school buildings during in-person and hybrid learning. This includes: bus drivers, child care and early learning program staff (including ECFE, ECSE, PreK, school readiness, and school-age care), child care or school-age care program staff who operate within the school building (whether operated by the district or run independently), community education staff, educators, nutrition staff, paraprofessionals, school and district administration/office staff, school nurses, service coop staff, and support staff such as social workers and guidance counselors.

2020 Return to Learn

Monitoring/Implement State and Guidance

- Tier 1B vaccinations announcement
- Additional interpretation of Safe Learning guidance
- Potential changes for secondary

Next Steps:

- Continue planning for safe and successful return to in-person instruction
- Finalize process to determine who wishes to remain in distance learning and adjust staffing accordingly
- Continue to monitor and implement quickly changing state and local guidance
- Continue communication and collaboration with all stakeholders

Strategic Planning Update

Overview

Given the current focus on COVID-19 model change and the limited time since my previous update, I have a few minor updates to report.

- Brief meeting with TeamWorks
- Additional conversation with District Continuous Improvement Team
- Seeking additional board input

Public Comment Guidelines

The Public Comment portion of the meeting is for the School Board to listen to community members. Opinions and ideas contributed by students, parents, staff and other citizens are valuable to the School Board. The Board will receive such input without comment to any items brought forth. The Board may direct the Superintendent of Schools to consider such an item at an appropriate place on the agenda or at a subsequent meeting.

- Those wishing to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meeting should sign up on the sheet on the table at the front of the board meeting room listing their name, address and the matter on which they will speak
- The Board has set aside up to 45 minutes for this purpose, and asks that each individual limits their comments to three (3) minutes.
- Persons addressing the Board may not merge their time in order to allow one person to speak for more than three minutes
- If there are more than three (3) individuals wishing to speak about the same topic, the Board encourages participants to identify three (3) individuals to speak on behalf of the group, and to submit the remaining comments in writing
- If you have handouts for the Board, please give them to the School Board Secretary located in the back of the room
- Persons addressing the Board shall confine their comments to matters pertaining to the agenda or relevant to matters of administrative concern

During this time that the public is not allowed to attend the meetings due to the pandemic you have two options for submitting public comment:

- Leave a message on the public comment voicemail @ 218-336-8730
 - State and spell your name, state the topic you are speaking to - you will have three minutes to make your comments
 - The voice messages will be played at the regular monthly school board meeting
- Submit an email to public.comment@isd709.org
 - The emails will be attached to the regular board meeting agenda as a public document and will not be read aloud
 - Please note that all board members receive the public comment emails and voice messages as they come in
- Please follow the civility code when making your comments.
- When the public comment period opens the School Board Chair will ask the voice messages to be played

If you would like to send comments to school board members, without having them part of the public comment record, you can email all board members at schoolboard@isd709.org