



**BHM SCHOOLS**

Buffalo Hanover Montrose

# 2020-21 Learning Plan for BHM Schools

August 24, 2020



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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

# COVID Stabilization Resources

# COVID-19 Stabilization Resources

- **Governor's Emergency Education Relief fund (GEER)**
- **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER)**
- **City/County Federal CARES Funding – Transferable to Minnesota Schools**
- **FEMA's Public Assistance Program - PPE**
- **Health & Human Services Provider Relief Grant – Special Education**
- ***Pending Legislation* – Additional Coronavirus Relief Funds requested by MDE from Federal Government.**



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**Minnesota Department of  
Education  
Safe Learning Plan  
2020-21**

# Process for Determining a Safe Learning Model

STAY SAFE MN 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

## How do schools determine their safe learning model?

### STEP 1

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will use data from counties to determine a base learning model for public schools.

### STEP 2

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) will share county data and the consultative process for public schools to engage with education and public health experts to review their county health data and safe learning plans.

### STEP 3

Public schools, with their incident command team, will evaluate their ability to implement required and recommended health best practices.

### STEP 4

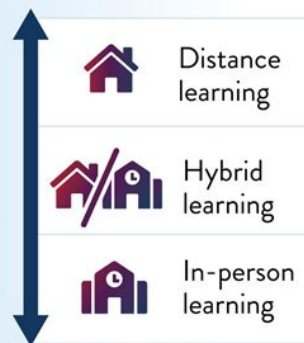
Public schools, in consultation with public health, will determine a learning model to begin the school year and communicate that decision with their school community.\*

### STEP 5

Public schools and MDH will monitor the community and school-level impact of COVID-19 on a regular basis. Adjustments will be made to the learning model if needed.

mn MINNESOTA

## Safe learning models:



\* Regardless of learning model, all public schools must offer an equitable distance learning option to all families.

# State Data Dashboard

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Total number of cases for} \\ \text{last 14 days} \\ \hline \end{array} \div \left( \frac{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{County population} \\ \hline \end{array}}{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline 10,000 \\ \hline \end{array}} \right) = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{14-day county case level} \\ \text{rate per 10,000} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

## Recommended policy options based on 14-day case rate range

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

## Safe Model Determination

- Schools may choose to dial back to a more restrictive learning model than what is required by the state's Safe Learning Model Guidance
- If a school is considering dialing forward to a less restrictive learning model than what is required under the state guidance, it must consult with local public health officials, MDH and MDE through the Regional Support Teams

## 14-Day County COVID-19 Case Rates

	July 5-18	July 12-25	July 19 - Aug 1	July 26 - Aug 8
Wright County	13.18	12.88	11.90	11.53

# Wright County Recommended Model

## Recommended policy options based on 14-day case rate range

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

## Consultation - MDH (8/10) & Wright County Public Health (8/5)

- Reviewed student enrollment population in Wright and Hennepin Counties (6.4% Hennepin County, 93.6% Wright County).
- Wright County Public Health supported using Wright County Data.
- MDH approved In-Person learning for elementary schools based on Wright County COVID Case Rates.
- MDH approved the Hybrid Learning model for Buffalo Community Middle School and Buffalo High School based on Wright County COVID Case Rates.



## Road to Reopening

- 110 teachers participated in focus groups in June
- 1,045 student survey responses in June
- 1,825 parent/family survey responses in June
- The majority of BHM parents and students (91%) indicated that their quality of communication was good or very good last spring.
- Strong appreciation for the effort by staff to put a Distance Learning plan together in a short period of time last spring
- Task force consisting of administrators and two employee groups met beginning on June 17th through August 17th
- Administrators met with teachers and staff throughout the summer
- In August the majority of BHM parents (83.5%) indicated that their first choice was to have students return to school on-site this fall (fully In-Person or Hybrid Learning model)

# Start-of-Year Proposal

## In-Person Learning for Grades Pre-K-5

- Students will attend school in person every school day (Monday-Friday).
- Student cohorts will be used to limit mixing throughout the day, including at lunch and during recess.

## Hybrid Learning for Grades 6-12

- Students with last names A-K are assigned to **Group A**
- Students with last names L-Z are assigned to **Group B**
- **Group A** - attends school Mondays and Wednesdays with At-Home Learning on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- **Group B** - attends school Tuesdays and Thursdays with At-Home Learning on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Fridays are At-Home Learning Days for both Groups with opportunities for additional help/instruction from teachers.
- All students living in the same household, regardless of last name, will follow the same Hybrid Learning schedule.

# First Day of School

- With the changes in how the day-to-day school procedures will look this year, it is recommended that additional time be provided for our staff to ensure that classrooms are ready and all COVID-19 requirements are being met.
- This will provide all staff time to be able to work through the new procedures that will be put into place before students attend the first day of school.
- We also want to take additional time to help students adjust to the new daily routines.
- The district typically has four days with teachers to plan and prepare for the arrival of our students prior to the start of the school year.
- In a normal year, having only four days with teachers is limiting and, in a pandemic, it is not sufficient.
- Therefore, it has been determined that the school calendar should be modified and the first day of school be moved to Thursday, September 10, and attendance will be scheduled in a way to have smaller groups of students attend the first two days of school.
- This gives all staff two additional days to prepare for the return of students and gives students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with classroom locations and new procedures in a smaller group setting.

# First Day of School

## **Thursday, September 10 - Group B** (last names begin with L-Z)

- Pre-K-5 students attend school
- BCMS 6th graders attend school
- BHS 9th graders attend school
- Distance Learning begins for elementary students and 6th and 9th graders

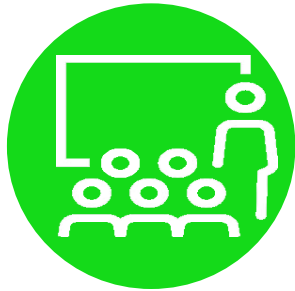
## **Friday, September 11 - Group A** (last names begin with A-K)

- Pre-K-5 students attend school
- BCMS 6th graders attend school
- BHS 9th graders attend school

## **Monday, September 14**

- **All Pre-K-5** students start In-Person Learning at school Monday through Friday
- **BCMS** students start Hybrid Learning model with **Group A** students attending school and **Group B** students doing At-Home Learning. (Information will be communicated with students for At-Home Learning.)
- **BHS** students start Hybrid Learning model with **Group A** students attending school and **Group B** students doing At-Home Learning. (Information will be communicated with students for At-Home learning.)
- Distance Learning begins for students in grades 7-8 and 10-12.

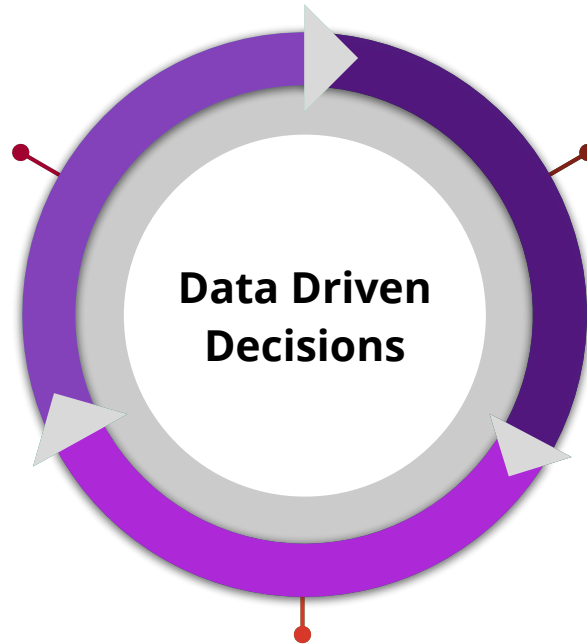
# 2020-21 School Year Planning



In-Person



Hybrid



Distance Learning



## Contingency Planning

- **14-Day Case Counts:** Every 2 weeks, school districts will be given updated data on the COVID-19 impact in their counties. If the data changes, or if we learn of clusters of positive cases directly impacting our schools, we may need to pivot toward a different learning model.

**All families are strongly encouraged to make contingency plans around all three learning models (In-Person, Hybrid and Distance Learning).**



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**Under All Three Models, You Can  
Expect:**

# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **MDH and MDE Guidelines:** BHM Schools will follow all requirements from the Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Department of Education.
- ❑ **District Health and Safety Coordinator:** A BHM Schools' Health and Safety Coordinator position has been created.
- ❑ **School COVID-19 Coordinators:** Principals will serve as the school-level COVID-19 coordinator and will communicate concerns, challenges, and lessons learned related to COVID-19 preventive activities as needed with staff, students/families, school and district leadership, and local health officials.
- ❑ **Staff Training:** All staff will be trained on COVID-19 awareness and the proper use of cleaning materials.
- ❑ **Large Group Gatherings:** Schools will discontinue activities that bring together large groups of people or activities that do not allow for social distancing, including assemblies, In-Person field trips, etc.
- ❑ **Visitors and Volunteers:** Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations will be restricted.



# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Arrival and Dismissal:** Staff will monitor arrival and dismissal to curtail congregating and ensure students go straight from vehicle to their classroom.
- ❑ **Social Distancing Reminders:** Schools will have new signage, floor/seating markings, spaced out or removed furniture in common areas, and clear barriers in reception areas to promote social distancing.
- ❑ **Classroom Seating:** Classroom seating arrangements will be created according to state guidelines.
- ❑ **Healthy Hygiene Reminders:**
  - Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at school entry points and high-traffic locations (e.g., lunch lines).
  - Teachers will encourage students to frequently wash their hands during the school day.
  - Signs will be placed around the school to remind students to practice healthy habits that prevent the spread of germs.

# Safety Precautions



- ❑ **Face Coverings:** Per the governor's executive order 20-81, all K-12 students, staff, and other people present in school buildings and district offices or riding on school transportation vehicles are required to wear a face covering, unless they have a disability, or medical or mental health condition, following public health guidance. Early Childhood students will be encouraged, but not required, to wear face coverings.
  - Types of allowable face coverings include: paper/disposable mask, cloth face mask, scarf, bandanna, religious face covering.
  - Every K-12 student will receive one cloth face mask.
  - Every school staff member will receive one cloth face mask.
  - Schools and buses will have extra masks for students who forget them.
- ❑ **Mask Removal:** Being mindful of social distancing, face coverings or face shields may be removed only when eating or drinking, engaging in physical activity and in other situations, as outlined by MDH.

# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Face Shields:** A face shield may be used as an alternative to a face covering in the following situations:
  - ❑ Among students in grades K-8 when wearing a face covering is problematic, (completed Face Covering Exemption form required).
  - ❑ By teachers (all grades), when wearing a face covering may impede the educational process. All teachers will be provided a face shield.
  - ❑ For students and staff who cannot tolerate a face covering due to a developmental, medical or behavioral health condition.
  - ❑ For staff providing direct support student services, when a face covering impedes the service being provided.
- ❑ **Face Covering Policy:** The district will implement a policy for face coverings. Students who are unwilling to wear a face covering or face shield with no documented health reason (e.g. health conditions, disability, etc.) will be asked to participate in Distance Learning.

# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Passing Times:** At the middle school and high school, passing times may be staggered and traffic patterns revised in order to reduce the number of students in hallways at the same time.
- ❑ **School Materials:** Students will be discouraged from sharing items that are difficult to clean or disinfect and classroom practices will be modified to minimize sharing.
- ❑ **Shared Supplies, Equipment and Furniture:** Some furniture, equipment and commonly shared items will be removed from use.
- ❑ **Water Fountains:** Schools will encourage students to bring their own water bottles as opposed to using drinking fountains. Bottle refill stations will be available.
- ❑ **Ventilation:** Facilities staff have reviewed and will continue to inspect school ventilation systems to ensure they operate properly and will increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.

# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Recess:** Outdoor areas such as playgrounds will be open. Students will be encouraged to spread out. Student cohorts will be used to limit mixing.
- ❑ **Alternative Learning Spaces:** Alternate indoor spaces will be used to the extent possible in order to enhance physical distancing. Outdoor classrooms, fields, courts and open areas will be used as additional learning spaces when appropriate.
- ❑ **CARES Act Funding for Additional Safety Measures:**
  - A portion of federal dollars is available for additional health and safety-related purchases related to COVID-19.
  - Input on purchases that will be most helpful in their schools and classrooms will continue to be provided by staff.

# Teaching and Learning; Student Support

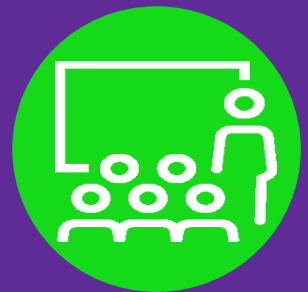
- ❑ **Daily Attendance:** Attendance will be taken every day in each model
- ❑ **Special Ed. and EL Services:** Special education and English Learner (EL) services will be provided to all identified students. The delivery may look different, depending on the model. Careful attention will be paid to special education students in general education classes.
- ❑ **Mental Health Support:** All staff will be mindful of students' social-emotional learning needs and will work to rebuild relationships between and among students and staff. Our Social Emotional Behavioral Specialist, Social Workers and Counselors will play an important role to support all students; those In-Person and those in Distance Learning.
- ❑ **Technology:** All K-12 students will have access to a district-issued device to support their In-Person or At Home Learning if needed. Technology support will continue; assistance in obtaining internet access will be provided to families in need.



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## **In-Person Model**



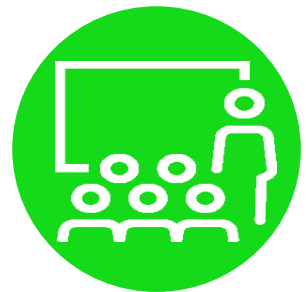
# In-Person Learning Model

## All Students in School:

- Students attend school In-Person 5 days a week, Monday-Friday.
- Schools create as much space between students and teachers as is feasible during the day, but not held to strictly enforcing 6 feet of physical distancing.
- Schools will follow all MDH requirements.

## Teaching & Learning:

- Students will have high-quality, research-based and engaging teacher-led instruction every day.
- The first few weeks will have a strong focus on building relationships, identifying learning gaps, and helping students feel engaged and connected to their school.



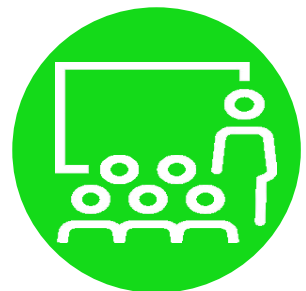


# In-Person Model - Distance Learning Option

## Distance Learning Registration:

- A distance only option will be available to enrolled students who may be medically vulnerable or who choose the Distance Learning Model.
- Families choosing 100% Distance Learning through BHM Schools will be asked to commit to this model for the first semester of 2020-21 (through January 28, 2021).

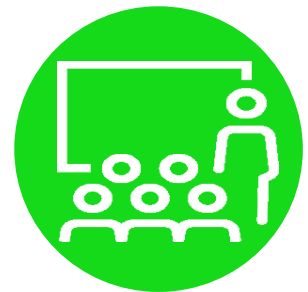
**Quarantined Students:** Students who cannot be physically present in the classroom due to illness or exposure to COVID-19 will be provided with instructions on how to continue with learning if able.



# In-Person Model - Distance Only Option

## Things to Know:

- **Elementary School Distance Learning Cohorts:** Depending on registration numbers, students at the elementary school level may be placed in a Distance Learning cohort with instruction delivered by a Distance Learning teacher from one of BHM's elementary schools. Grade-level Distance Learning will align with In-Person learning, curriculum and pacing.
- **Secondary Distance Only Option:** Middle and high school students choosing Distance Learning will experience teacher-facilitated remote learning 5 days a week. Schedules will be modeled on the In-Person schedule.
- **Electives:** Certain elective courses may be significantly modified in the distance only option.





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## Hybrid Learning Model



# Hybrid Learning Model

- **50% Capacity** - Schools must limit the overall number of people in school facilities and on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy.
- **Strict Social Distancing** - Schools must ensure sufficient physical distancing in the school building with at least 6 feet between people at all times.
- **MDH Safety Precautions** - All MDH requirements apply from the In-Person model.
- **Blended Learning** - BHM's Hybrid Learning model incorporates best practices of blended learning instruction.
  - In-Person teacher instruction blended with the use of technology tools to provide opportunities for deeper student engagement and learning.



# BHM's Hybrid Learning Model Determination

In determining our Hybrid Learning model, BHM carefully reviewed:

- Access to In-Person learning by all students
- Expectations to meet all MDH requirements for the Hybrid Learning model, including maintaining 6 feet of physical distancing at all times
- Bus ridership counts
- Available learning spaces and classroom capacity with social distancing parameters
- Interest in Distance Learning Only Option
- Available staffing to support Hybrid Learning instruction



# Hybrid Learning Schedule

## A/B Alternating Schedule

- In general, students will be split alphabetically:
  - **Group A: Last names A-K**
  - **Group B: Last names L-Z**
- All students living in the same household, regardless of last name, will follow the same Hybrid schedule.
- **Group A** students attend school for In-Person Learning on Mondays and Wednesdays with At-Home Learning on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- **Group B** students will attend school for In-Person Learning on Tuesdays and Thursdays with At-Home Learning on Mondays and Wednesdays.

## Friday Schedule

- At the elementary level, Group A and Group B will alternate between In-Person and At-Home Learning.
- At the secondary level, all students will participate in At-Home Learning.



# Hybrid Learning Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A: In-Person	Group B: In-Person	Group A: In-Person	Group B: In-Person	Group A and B Alternate In-Person and At-Home Learning
Group B: At-Home Learning	Group A: At-Home Learning	Group B: At-Home Learning	Group A: At-Home Learning	

The sample week above is a Hybrid Learning schedule for elementary schools. The middle school and high school will follow the same model, except on Fridays; Group A and Group B will participate in At-Home Learning, with the ability for some students to receive additional In-Person support from a teacher. Some students receiving English Learner (EL) services or Special Education services may qualify for additional days on-site.

Schools will follow the same Hybrid Learning schedule throughout the year, including during shortened weeks.



# Hybrid-Specific Safety Precautions

- ❑ **50% Capacity:** Schools will limit the overall number of people in school facilities and on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy.
- ❑ **Classroom Set-Up:** Classrooms will be arranged to maintain 6 feet of physical distancing at all times.
- ❑ **Ensure Sufficient Social Distancing:** 6 feet of physical distancing at all times in school buildings.
- ❑ **Lockers:** Grades 6-12 students will not use school lockers in the Hybrid model.
- ❑ **Alternative Spaces:** Alternative spaces will be used if 6 feet of physical distancing is not possible in a particular classroom.





# Hybrid Learning: Teaching and Learning

- **Relationship Focus:** The first few weeks will have a strong focus on building relationships, identifying learning gaps, and helping students feel engaged and connected to school.
- **Live Interactions:** Students will have opportunities to experience live instruction, support and collaboration with peers during At-Home Learning.
- **Technology Tools:** Classrooms have been analyzed and reviewed to ensure they are equipped with proper technologies to effectively support instruction and student learning.
- **In-Person Days:** In-Person schedules will be revised to best meet the needs of students; Classes will minimize movement through the building.
- **At-Home Learning Days:** Students receive instruction during regular class times and will have opportunities for independent work, synchronys (live) classes with the teacher or prerecorded video instruction.
- **BHS Advisory Time :** Opportunity for additional student support.



# Hybrid Learning Model - Distance Learning Option

## Distance Only Registration:

- A Distance Learning option will be available to enrolled students who may be medically vulnerable or who choose the Distance Learning Model.
- Families choosing 100% Distance Learning through BHM Schools will be asked to commit to this model for the first semester of 2020-21 (through January 28, 2021).

**Quarantined Students:** Students who cannot be physically present in the classroom due to illness or exposure to COVID-19 will be provided with instructions on how to continue with learning if able.



# Hybrid Learning Model - Distance Learning Option

## Things to Know:

- **Elementary School Distance Learning Cohorts:** Depending on registration numbers, students at the elementary school level may be placed in a Distance Learning cohort with instruction delivered by a Distance Learning teacher from one of BHM's elementary schools. Grade-level Distance Learning will align with In-Person learning, curriculum and pacing.
- **Secondary Distance Learning Option:** Middle and high school students choosing Distance Learning will experience teacher-facilitated remote learning 5 days a week. Schedules will be modeled on the In-Person schedule.
- **Electives:** Certain elective courses may be significantly modified in the distance only option.





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## **Distance Learning Model**



# Distance Learning 2.0

## Key Lessons Learned from Spring 2020

1. Staff rose to the challenge last spring, and the district needs to provide them with support and professional development to continue to improve.
2. Relationships are key in motivating students in Distance Learning.
3. Schools need to be sensitive to the needs of working families.
4. Families are looking for increased structure with daily schedules at all levels and streamlined communication between school and home.
5. Curriculum and instruction should focus on essential material for students to learn, creating a core foundation of instruction to allow for smooth transitions between models.
6. Addressing student mental health needs is critical in all learning models.



# Distance Learning 2.0

## **BHM's Commitment to All Families**

- School will be held 5 days a week, with clearly articulated student schedules and teacher-directed remote learning every day.
- Students will have access to a district-issued device to support their learning. We will work with families to troubleshoot technology issues and ensure reliable Internet access.
- There will be consistent use of technology tools across school sites.
- Students will have full access to grade-level and subject content delivered through remote instruction.
- Staff schedules and regular office hours will be provided to families.
- Students will have more opportunities to experience live instruction, support and collaboration with peers.
- The district will work to ensure that every student has the supports and resources they need to be successful, regardless of circumstance or special needs.



# Distance Learning 2.0

**Student Day:** Students can expect some or all of the following:

- Live online instruction by their teacher
- Independent work, online check-ins
- Pre-recorded instruction and tutorials

**Hands-on Electives:** Electives will be significantly modified in order to run in a Distance Learning model.

**Accountability:** Families will see more accountability for class engagement and completion of learning assignments and projects.





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## **Health Services**



# Prevention Practices

- Staff and students must stay home if:
  - They have tested positive for COVID-19 until they meet criteria for return
  - They are showing COVID-19 symptoms, until they meet criteria for return
  - They have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, until they meet criteria for return
- Students and staff will be educated on and reminded of proper prevention techniques, including:
  - handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff. (If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used.)
  - covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, throwing used tissues in the trash and washing hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

# MDH Decision Tree

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

STAY SAFE MN

## Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs

For people (e.g., children, care providers, or staff) who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, send home or deny entry and reference the exclusion criteria in this document to determine when they may return.

**Symptoms of COVID-19 include:** new onset cough or shortness of breath by themselves OR at least 2 of the following: fever (100.4°F or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, fatigue, congestion, loss of sense of smell or taste, or gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea.

If a person has a new symptom (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing.

For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19

[What to do if you're waiting for COVID-19 test results \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf)  
([www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf))

**Positive test result:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.

**Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.

For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis *without* a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 *without* a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)

Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.



For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition

Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider or follow the [Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual](https://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual) ([www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual](https://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual)).

If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider to determine next steps.

Siblings and household members **do not** need to stay home.



Minnesota Department of Health | [health.mn.gov](https://health.mn.gov) | 651-201-5414 | 1-877-676-5414 | 625 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
Contact [health.communications@state.mn.us](mailto:health.communications@state.mn.us) to request an alternate format.

08/06/2020

# Daily Symptom Self-Screening

- All students and staff who will be learning/working in person will conduct a required daily self-screen (series of questions). Students and staff must stay home if they reply YES to any of the following:
  - Do you have a **new onset cough or shortness of breath** (by themselves) **OR at least two of the following?**
    - A **Fever** (temperature 100.4°F or higher) without having taken any fever reducing medications
    - A **Loss of Smell or Taste**
    - **Muscle Aches**
    - A **Sore Throat**
    - **Chills**
    - Gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., **nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite**)
  - Do you have a new **onset of any symptom listed above** (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it?
  - Have you, or anyone you have been in **close contact** with been diagnosed with COVID-19, or been placed on quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19?
  - Have you been asked to **self-isolate or quarantine** by a medical professional or a local public health official?

# Why Self-Screen?

## **Why is BHM choosing to have students/families and staff self-screen, rather than screen at the door?**

- Based on the best available evidence at this time:
  - CDC does not currently recommend universal symptom screenings (i.e., screening all K-12 students) be conducted by schools.
  - Parents or caregivers should be strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day.
  - Students who are sick should not attend school In-Person.
- Screening temperatures at the door may not be accurate depending on weather, activity or faulty equipment.
- Staff will monitor students' symptoms. Children who appear to be symptomatic will be referred to the school nurse or health assistant.

# Symptomatic Individuals

- **Reporting Symptoms to the School:** Families are asked to indicate reasons for student absence via the school attendance line. Parents will be asked to indicate symptoms of illness.
- **Reporting a Positive COVID-19 Test or COVID-19 Close Contact:** Families and staff are asked to directly contact their school Health Office if a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 or if they recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19.
- **Health Isolation Rooms:** During the school day, symptomatic students and staff will be referred to the school nurse or health assistant. School health office protocols will create a separate, dedicated space for the care of students who are ill, while having another space to serve the general health and medication needs of students. Students will be isolated until they can be picked up.

# Reports of Positive Tests

- **Scenario 1: MDH contacts BHM with report of positive case(s) in the school community**
  - BHM works directly with Regional Support Team comprised of MDE and MDH staff on contact tracing.
  - Regional Support Team directs communication to families, quarantine process and testing activities.
  - Clusters of positive cases could warrant learning model change. The decision would be made with consultation with the Regional Support Team.
  - Staff will have access to a saliva test that can be conducted at home and utilizes a courier for transport.

# Reports of Positive Tests

- **Scenario 2: BHM learns of positive case(s) in the school community prior to being contacted by MDH**
  - BHM reports positive case to MDH.
  - BHM immediately begins contact tracing.
  - Regional Support Team (MDE/MDH) will support district in contract tracing and directs communication to families, quarantine process and testing activities.
  - If clusters of positive cases exist, it could warrant a learning model change. The decision would be made with consultation by the Regional Support Team.
- **Data Privacy:** Due to data privacy laws, we are not allowed to share any names or personally identifiable information of individuals identified to have the virus. We recognize this can be frustrating. If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in our school community, anyone who is affected will be contacted by MDH.



# **BHM SCHOOLS**

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

## **Facility Cleaning**



# Facility Cleaning & Disinfecting

- **Routine Cleaning:** Custodians, along with other staff, will perform routine cleaning along with disinfection of high-touch surfaces throughout the day.
- **Supplies Checks:** Schools will ensure the availability of appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors. Custodians will frequently check and refill supplies (e.g., hand sanitizer, soap, etc.).
- **Ventilation:** Facilities staff, have reviewed school ventilation systems to ensure they operate properly and will increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.
- **Staff Cleaning Responsibilities:**
  - Teachers and all support staff will be trained on the proper use of cleaning materials in their classrooms.
  - Nurses and health assistants will implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures for equipment and school health isolation rooms.



**BHM SCHOOLS**

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

# Nutrition Services

# Flexible Food Service Planning

- Hot and cold school meals will be provided.
- A variety of fruits and vegetables will continue to be served.
- Under the Hybrid model, students will have the opportunity to receive meals for the days that they are not at school.
- In a Distance Learning scenario, students will have the opportunity to receive meals when learning from home.
- Meals will be individually packaged.
- Processes are being implemented to move students through lunch lines with minimal congregating.
- Staff have been trained and will continue to be trained on necessary operating procedures related to COVID-19 and typical food service requirements related to health and safety.



# **BHM** SCHOOLS

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

**Childcare**

# KidKare Childcare

- KidKare will be providing school day, before- and after-school childcare at all elementary schools under all three scenarios.
- We will also be offering school-age childcare for Tier 1 families.
  - This school-age care must be provided for district or school-enrolled school-age children age 12 and under who are children of critical workers in Tier I of the state critical worker list. Children of Tier I workers will only be cared for at no cost during the typical school hours.
- Social distancing will reduce the normal capacity.
- Students are required to wear a face covering, unless they have a disability, or medical or mental health condition, following public health guidance.
- Under all scenarios, we will continue to follow the guidance of MDH and MDE.



**BHM SCHOOLS**

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

**Transportation**

# Transportation

## **In-Person - Normal Bus Schedule**

- All students will be given an assigned seat with family members seated together.
- Students will fill the bus from back to front, and they will exit the bus from front to back.

## **Hybrid - Normal Bus Schedule**

- We will ensure 50% maximum occupancy.
- All students will be given an assigned seat with family members seated together.
- Students will fill the bus from back to front, and they will exit the bus from front to back.

**Drive Your Student(s) if Possible:** Parents are encouraged to drive their child(ren) to and from school if they have the ability to do so. Fewer riders will help limit potential exposures to COVID-19 and allow more room for those who are in need of transportation.

# Transportation Health & Safety Precautions

- **Face Coverings:** Students must wear a face covering through the duration of their bus ride (Executive Order 20-81). Failure to abide by this rule will result in transportation privileges being revoked. Buses will have an extra supply of face masks for riders who forget one.
- **Food or Drink:** No eating or drinking is allowed on the bus.
- **Cleaning & Disinfecting:**
  - Transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, focusing on frequent cleaning of touched surfaces (e.g., railings, hard seats, etc.) between routes.
  - Doors and windows will be kept open when cleaning the vehicles and between trips to let the vehicles thoroughly air out.





# **BHM** SCHOOLS

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

## Staffing

# Staffing

- **Subs Needed:**

- We anticipate that we will be in need of a larger pool of substitutes in all areas this school year in order to keep school operational. The District has increased the substitute pay rates for 2020-21 to encourage people to sub in our district.

- **Substitute Teachers:**

- We have increased the Short Call Substitute Teacher rate of pay. The daily rate begins at \$140 with a maximum of \$170.00/day during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Staff Leaves of Absence:**

- Requests for medical leaves will be reviewed.
- District is working with staff who are on medical leave to potentially work remotely where possible.



# **BHM** SCHOOLS

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

## **Activities**

# Minnesota State High School League Decision

- MSHSL is moving forward with fall activities and athletics
- BCMS and BHS Activities Departments are working to adjust game schedules and create protocols for practices, games, transportation and crowds
- Seasons are reduced 30% from a schedule perspective at the C, JV and Varsity levels
- Postseason for all sports is TBD
- Football and volleyball seasons at Buffalo High School have been moved to March-May schedule
- Boys and girls soccer, girls swim and dive, girls tennis, boys and girls cross country will remain in the fall
- There will be limited Middle school Fall activity opportunities as determined by the MSHSL
- Bowling and trap shooting will have the opportunity to run as school recognized activities



# **BHM** SCHOOLS

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Buffalo Hanover Montrose

## **Moving Forward**

# Key Dates

**August 20**

14-Day State Data Release

**August 24 - 28**

New Teacher Orientation

**August 31-September 4**

Teacher Workshop Week

**September 8 and 9**

All Staff Training and Planning Days

# September 10 and 11

## First Days of School

### **Thursday, September 10 - Group B** (last names begin with L-Z)

- Pre-K-5 students attend school
- BCMS 6th graders attend school
- BHS 9th graders attend school
- Distance Learning begins for elementary students and 6th and 9th graders

### **Friday, September 11 - Group A** (last names begin with A-K)

- Pre-K-5 students attend school
- BCMS 6th graders attend school
- BHS 9th graders attend school

### **Monday, September 14**

- **All Pre-K-5** students start In-Person Learning at school Monday through Friday
- **BCMS** students start Hybrid Learning model with **Group A** students attending school and **Group B** students doing At-Home Learning. (Information will be communicated with students for At-Home Learning.)
- **BHS** students start Hybrid Learning model with **Group A** students attending school and **Group B** students doing At-Home Learning. (Information will be communicated with students for At-Home learning.)
- Distance Learning begins for students in grades 7-8 and 10-12.