



MESABI EAST SCHOOLS

Independent School District No. 2711

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August 21, 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

Mesabi East Public School District will be returning to school using a Hybrid Learning Model. This model was chosen to reduce exposure to COVID-19 for students and staff. The calendar for the first couple weeks of school is as follows:

- September 8-11 - Parent/student/teacher conferences and an introduction to the Hybrid Learning Model. School staff will be calling each family to go over the Mesabi East COVID-19 Plan and answer any questions that families may have regarding the start of school.
- September 14 – First day of classes for the elementary and high school. The school day is the same as last year with school starting at 8:12 and ending at 3:10.

Mesabi East Elementary School will function as an In-Person Learning Model with most of the classrooms being limited to 50% of the occupant capacity in the room. Most specialists (Music, Art, Industrial Tech, STEAM, Spanish and FACS) will teach in the students' classroom therefore minimizing movement in the building. Students will still have opportunities to go to the gym and outside for physical education.

The high school Hybrid Learning Model will look as follows:

- Class roster is split in two groups, A and B.
- Group A will meet on Monday and Tuesday with Distance Learning on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
- Group B will meet on Thursday and Friday with Distance Learning on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Wednesday's will be cleaning and sanitizing day between groups.
- Students will be scheduled into a 3 block day with each block being about 120 minutes including a couple of breaks for restroom use and fresh air. (Block schedule limits student and teacher exposure to other classrooms and students.)
- At mid-quarter, students will switch to periods 4, 5, 6 and 7 for the remainder of the quarter. (This allows students to receive all 7 periods of their schedule.)

Other reasons for using the Hybrid Model at the start of school includes having less students in the restrooms, lunch areas and busses. If all goes well after 9 weeks, full time In-Person Learning may be an option.

Students who have chosen to use Distance Learning will be provided learning opportunities by the use of live streaming and recorded lessons. Distance Learning families will have an opportunity to pick up their iPads and other supplies during the week of September 8.

The Mesabi East Safety Committee has developed the District COVID-19 Plan. The plan is available on the school website and is attached with this letter.

We are looking forward to starting the 2020-2021 school year with our students and families. GO GIANTS!

Sincerely,

The Mesabi East Administrative Team
Gregg Allen, Rick Halley, and Amy Maki