St. Cloud Area School Board Approves Hybrid Learning to begin 20-21 School Year

The Board of Education approved Wednesday night the district’s recommendation to begin the 20-21 school year in a hybrid learning model. The plan follows the Governor’s Stay Safe Minnesota matrix based on local county health data.

Details of the plan by level:

Pre-School
**Ages 3 & 4:** Learn in school two days a week, attending either on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday.

**Elementary**
**Grades K-2:** Learn in school four days a week, Monday-Thursday, while following social distancing and 50% capacity guidelines, and distance learning on Fridays.
**Grades 3-5:** Learn in school two days a week, either on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and three days in distance learning.

**Secondary**
**Grades 6-12:** Learn in school two days a week, either on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday and three days in distance learning.

Some students who receive special education or early multilingual learners, along with homeless and migrant students, may attend school Monday-Thursday and distance learn on Fridays.

Each Friday, the State releases local county health data, and we will share that data with families and staff weekly.
We know that COVID-19 case rates fluctuate, and local health data may at times require us to transition to either a more or less restrictive learning model. If the case rates rise to a point that requires us to be more restrictive (such as moving to K-12 distance learning), we will transition on the Monday following the data release.

If case rates decrease, we will monitor the health data to ensure rates either remain stable or decrease over the span of three weeks. We would then transition to a less restrictive model the following week.

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About St. Cloud Area School District 742

The mission of the St. Cloud Area School District is to create a safe and caring climate and culture in which we prepare, engage, educate, empower and inspire all learners in partnership with their community to be successful in today’s and tomorrow’s society. Our caring and committed staff members deliver learning for a lifetime to a diverse population of students in nine St. Cloud area communities. District 742 is the largest school district in Central Minnesota, proudly sharing the gift of education with over 10,000 students each school day.

Located 70 miles northwest of Minneapolis-St. Paul, we bring the world’s ideas into every schoolroom. Our licensed staff, nearly 70 percent of whom have advanced degrees, teach challenging classes that use the latest technology as well as tried-and-true instructional methods. District 742 has eight elementary schools, three middle level schools (6-8), two high schools (9-12), three alternative learning schools, an early childhood center and a community education center. The high schools offer an array of AP courses and other opportunities to prepare students for post-secondary education. Students are encouraged to participate in their choice of athletic, scholarly and fine arts activities.