



# **COVID CONVO: ENGAGE WITH LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS ON COVID-19**

Every Friday through September 25<sup>th</sup>  
August 28<sup>th</sup> | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.



# Introduction from Jeff

- **Update from each district (East Central, Mora, and Bemidji)**
  - Academic preparation topics (matching teachers/students)
  - Contact tracing
  - Update on anything affecting your reopening plans
- **Jeremy Kovash:** results from regional meetings
- **Todd Rapp:** contact tracing and communications plans
- **Neil Carlson:** contact tracing and the MN saliva test
- **Q&A**





# Work Requests from Home

- When essential functions can be done from home [EO20-74](#)
- When accommodations are requested for "staff whose health is at risk or who have members of their household whose health is at risk" [EO20-82](#)
- Districts are to consider requests on a case-by-case basis
- Further guidance is promised to be out in [MDE 2020-21 Planning Guidance for Minnesota Public Schools](#)
- Also addressed in 8/27 Commissioner call:
  - Tier 1 Critical worker childcare clarified and narrowed
  - District flexibility expanded when choosing a more restrictive model than allowable
- More details in E & F Services Blog at <https://www.ics-builds.com/reopening-schools/>

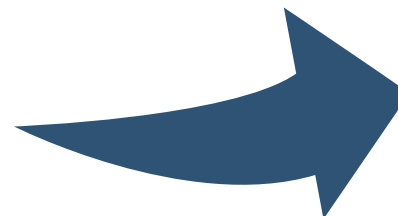
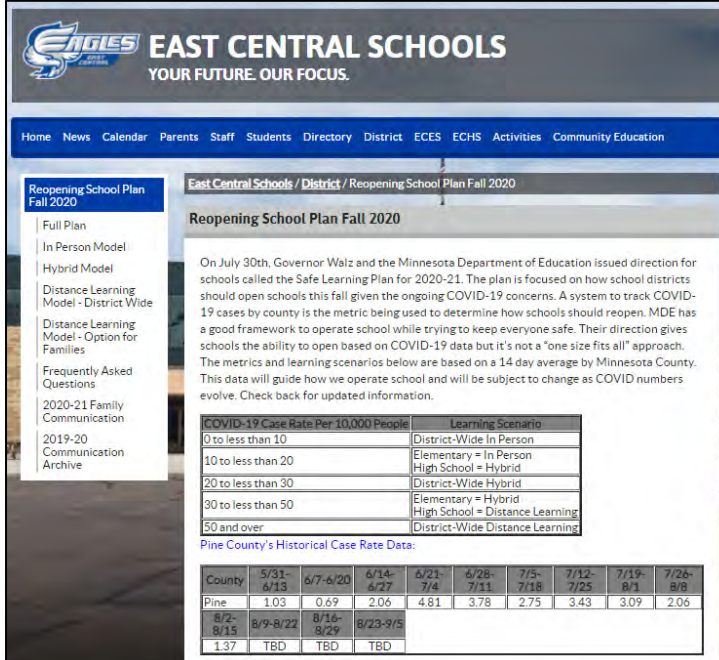
# COVID Convo

East Central Public Schools



# Academic Considerations

- Pine County case rate = 1.37
- In-person learning scenario
- Public Health is more cautious this week given neighboring county data
- Current distance learning numbers = 68 students
  - Secondary: students will Zoom into class, recorded lessons, and "Schoology"
  - Elementary: three dedicated distance learning teachers
- If we need to switch models = [Reopening Plan](#)

**EAST CENTRAL SCHOOLS**  
YOUR FUTURE. OUR FOCUS.

Home News Calendar Parents Staff Students Directory District ECES ECHS Activities Community Education

East Central Schools / District / Reopening School Plan Fall 2020

**Reopening School Plan Fall 2020**

Full Plan  
In Person Model  
Hybrid Model  
Distance Learning Model - District Wide  
Distance Learning Model - Option for Families  
Frequently Asked Questions  
2020-21 Family Communication  
2019-20 Communication Archive

On July 30th, Governor Walz and the Minnesota Department of Education issued direction for schools called the Safe Learning Plan for 2020-21. The plan is focused on how school districts should open schools this fall given the ongoing COVID-19 concerns. A system to track COVID-19 cases by county is the metric being used to determine how schools should reopen. MDE has a good framework to operate school while trying to keep everyone safe. Their direction gives schools the ability to open based on COVID-19 data but it's not a "one size fits all" approach. The metrics and learning scenarios below are based on a 14 day average by Minnesota County. This data will guide how we operate school and will be subject to change as COVID numbers evolve. Check back for updated information.

COVID-19 Case Rate Per 10,000 People	Learning Scenario
0 to less than 10	District-Wide In Person
10 to less than 20	Elementary = In Person High School = Hybrid
20 to less than 30	District-Wide Hybrid
30 to less than 50	Elementary = Hybrid High School = Distance Learning
50 and over	District-Wide Distance Learning

Pine County's Historical Case Rate Data:

County	5/31-6/13	6/7-6/20	6/14-6/27	6/21-7/4	6/28-7/11	7/5-7/18	7/12-7/25	7/19-8/1	7/26-8/8
Pine	1.03	0.69	2.06	4.81	3.78	2.75	3.43	3.09	2.06
	8/2-8/15	8/9-8/22	8/16-8/29	8/23-9/5					
	1.37	TBD	TBD	TBD					

# Contact Tracing

- **Pine County Public Health – support and leadership**

- Four (4) thermal imaging cameras – 30 students scanned at a time
- Contact your public health designee – buddy system
- Rumor vs. reality – treat as positive cases until results are confirmed
- Empathy with students, parents, and staff members
- The answer will always be **“It Depends!”**
  - Amount of time exposed – 15-minute rule
  - Masking requirements – strictly followed?
  - Proximity to each other – how well did we follow social distancing?



# Contact Tracing Continued...

- **Isolation spaces:**
  - Health office screening
  - Locker rooms – probably unused in most school districts
  - Open classrooms/office spaces
  - Supervision of students
  - Back-up plans!
- **Form letters prepared – Pine County Public Health**
  - Without name of students/staff members
  - What to look for...
  - What to do if...





# Other Updates

- **Virtual staff meetings – limit gatherings even for in-person**
- **Continue to discuss concerns with bargaining units**
- **Focus on what we can control – community events**
- **Tabletop – transition between models**
- **Answering the question of “how is opening of school going?”** *(Edited from MASA Executive Director, Dr. Deb Henton)*
  - We are ready.
  - We are prepared.
  - A personalized quality education will happen in our district during the 2020-2021 school year no matter which learning model is in place.
  - We have pivoted before and will do it again.
  - Staff have been included in plan development.
  - Cleaning and Sanitizing has and will continue to take place daily.
  - Kids are resilient and ready to be back in school.
  - Families rely on the school system and we are excited to serve them!



# COVID Convo

Mora Public Schools



# COVID Case Rates – Real Time

- **Kanabec County Public Health – weekly meetings with schools on Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.**
  - 14-day case counts (8/12 - 8/26) - rolling count = 26, 16.24 per 10,000
  - Transition to Hybrid at the High School
  - Board Meeting, MDE/MDH Regional Support, notify MDE of changing model
  - Communication - both internal and external

County	6/21-7/4	6/28-7/11	7/5-7/18	7/12-7/25	7/19-8/1	7/26-8/8	8/2-8/15
Kanabec	0.62	2.50	5.00	3.12	3.75	8.75	10.62

# Contact Tracing

- **Kanabec County Public Health**

- Scenario of students, staff, and visitor
- Quarantine – class, students, staff, etc.
- Close contacts and contact of contacts
- Communication to parents and staff
- Sample letters

- **MDE and MDH Regional Support Team**

- Support in completing contact tracing
- Facilitate connections with public health, MDE, and MDH
- We are waiting for more guidance from the MDE and MDH

- **Practice with administration team**

- What if...student(s)
- What if...staff
- What if...class
- What if...athletics



# Academic Preparation Considerations



- **Mora Elementary (Pre-K - 6) in-person**

- Mora Elementary will reduce removal
- School day will be shortened
- Shortened specialist rotation
- Band and choir will be small group and band lessons will be individual
- Each grade level will have a dedicated interventionist and enrichment teacher to support students
- Restrooms and regular hand washing will be scheduled

- **Mora High School (7-12) hybrid model**

- Students will only physically attend on their assigned group day (Group A or Group B)
- Attend in-person two (2) days and distance learning three (3) days
- Block schedule of 70 minutes and eight (8) periods attend half-day
- Students will attend virtually on their distance learning days
- **ALL** students will physically and digitally follow their daily schedule during the hybrid plan
- Working through shortened weeks

# Communications

 <b>Mora Public Schools Return to School 2020-21</b>  <b>Quick Reference Guide</b>								
Elementary	COVID Rate	Learning Model	Arrival / Dismissal	Transportation	Meals	Child Care for Tier 1 Workers	Masks	Specials
PHASE 1	0-9	In-Person	8:00AM-2:00PM	K-6 Rides Bus Together M-F	Breakfast & Lunch Served at School	Provided 2:00-3:15 M-F	Required	Power Lessons
PHASE 2	10-19	In-Person	8:00AM-2:00PM	K-6 Rides Bus Together M-F	Breakfast & Lunch Served at School	Provided 2:00-3:15 M-F	Required	Power Lessons
PHASE 3	20-29	Hybrid	8:00AM-2:00PM	K-6 Rides Bus Together A & B Days	Served at School In-Person, Sent Home for DL	Provided 2:00-3:15 In-Person Days, 7:45-3:15 DL Days	Required	Power Lessons
PHASE 4	30-49	Hybrid	8:00AM-2:00PM	K-6 Rides Bus Together A & B Days	Served at School In-Person, Sent Home for DL	Provided 2:00-3:15 In-Person Days, 7:45-3:15 DL Days	Required	Power Lessons
PHASE 5	50+	Distance Learning	At Home	K-12 No Transportation	Meals Delivered Home if Requested	Provided 7:45-3:15 DL Days	N/A	Remote Classes
High School	COVID Rate	Learning Model	Arrival / Dismissal	Transportation	Meals	Periods Per Every 2 Days	Masks	Grading
PHASE 1	0-9	In-Person	9:00AM-3:00PM	7-12 Rides Bus Together	Breakfast & Lunch Served at School	8 (odd periods day 1, even day 2 with 8th period advisory)	Required	A-D no credit for F
PHASE 2	10-19	Hybrid	9:00AM-3:00PM	7-12 Rides Bus Together A & B Days	Served at School In-person, Sent Home for DL	8 (odd periods day 1, even day 2, on AB schedule)	Required	A-D no credit for F
PHASE 3	20-29	Hybrid	9:00AM-3:00PM	7-12 Rides Bus Together A & B Days	Served at School In-person, Sent Home for DL	8 (odd periods day 1, even day 2, on AB schedule)	Required	A-D no credit for F
PHASE 4	30-49	Distance Learning			Meals Delivered Home	8 (remote learning, 8th period advisory)	N/A	A-D no credit for F
PHASE 5	50+	Distance Learning				8 (remote learning, 8th period advisory)	N/A	A-D no credit for F

[Mora Public Schools Return to School Plan, 2020-2021 \(link\)](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(link\)](#)

[Mr. Voce's Return to School Video \(link\)](#)  
Posted 08.26.2020

[Return to School Message for Parents \(link\)](#)  
Updated 08.26.2020

[Family Flex Information \(link\)](#)

[Kanabec County Public Health Letter \(link\)](#)

Mora Public Schools ISD 332 / Return to School Plan

**Return to School Plan**

Frequently Asked Questions

Kanabec County Public Health Letter 8/26/2020

State Guidance Safe Learning Plan

Return to School Quick Reference

**Mora Return to School Gateway**  
Find Links to All of Our Plans Below



**MORA MUSTANGS**  
Exploring. Engaging. Empowering.

**Mora Return to School Plan 2020-21**

Please Access the Complete MASTER PLAN [HERE](#)

Links to:

- [Pre-school Academics/Schedules](#)
- [Elementary Academics/Schedules](#)
- [High School Academics/Schedules](#)
- [A/LC Academics/Schedules](#)
- [Special Education](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Nutrition / Meals](#)
- [Child Care](#)
- [Technology, Devices & Internet](#)
- [Health & Wellness](#)
- [Mental Health & SEL Support](#)
- [Building Cleaning & Sanitation](#)
- [Athletics & Activities](#)

**Mr. Voce's Return to School Video [Link](#)**

**Return to School 2020-21 Quick Reference Guide [HERE](#)**

**Family Flex Option**  
This option will be offered for enrolled students who may be medically vulnerable or otherwise unable or unwilling to return to in-person or hybrid learning. Families can choose to continue distance learning due to health concerns or by choice. This fall regardless of the model used by the district.  
[Learn more about this option HERE.](#)

**Parent Survey Results**  
We appreciate that so many families were able to complete the survey. Information gathered has been very helpful in planning!  
[You can find results HERE.](#)

**Return to School Learning Models**  
Click on the model to learn more.

- [In-Person Learning Model](#)
- [Hybrid Learning Model](#)
- [Distance Learning Model](#)

Transitioning between models may happen during 2020-21 depending on COVID-19 rates decreasing or increasing.  
[You can find the transitioning plan HERE.](#)

For more return to school information, please visit our website at [moraschools.org](https://moraschools.org).  
Please contact the COVID-19 Coordinators with any questions or concerns:  
Randy Quail, Elem Principal [rquail@moraschools.org](mailto:rquail@moraschools.org),  
Brent Nelson, HS Principal [bnelson@moraschools.org](mailto:bnelson@moraschools.org)

# COVID Convo

Bemidji Area Schools ISD 31



# Academic Preparation

- **Elementary all in-person schooling and secondary is hybrid**

County	6/21-7/4	6/28-7/11	7/5-7/18	7/12-7/25	7/19-8/1	7/26-8/8	8/2-8/15
Beltrami	3.47	14.31	21.47	18.43	19.08	18.43	11.06

County	Population	# of Cases	Current 14-Day Rate
Beltrami	46,117	45	9.76

- **Opt-in distance learning: total of 676 students**
- **Working on pulling classroom teachers to be assigned to distance learning**



# Academic Preparation Considerations

- **Elementary (Pre-K - 5) in-person**

- Elementary students in cohorts
- Shortened specialist rotation
- K-3 music will be virtual
- 4-5 band/choir will use masks/bell covers and virtual theory
- Media Center – materials will be delivered to classrooms

- **Secondary (6-12) hybrid model**

- Students will rotate on weekly basis (Week A or Week B)
- Students will attend virtually on their “off-week” learning days
- BHS Block schedule: four (4) 90-minute classes with one skinny for some students
- DL team will teach full-time distance learning and in-class teachers will provide lessons for both in-class and virtual hybrid students
- Working to equalize the A/B weekly schedule

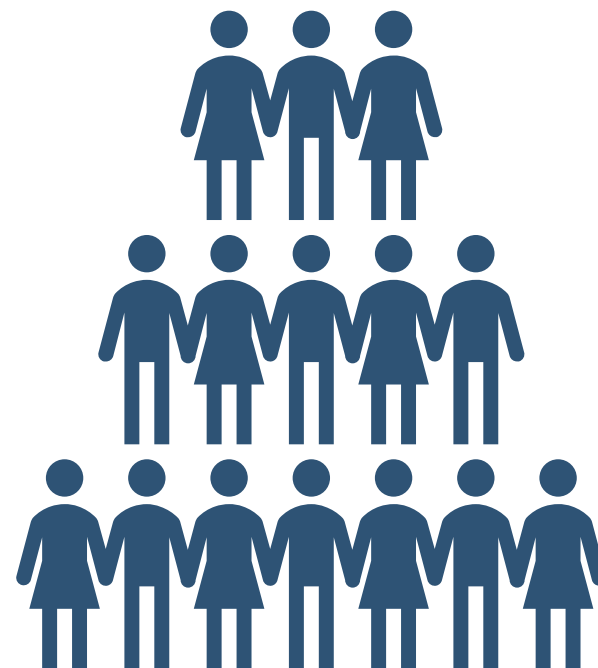
# DISTANCE LEARNING TOTALS BY SCHOOL AND GRADE



DISTANCE LEARNING TOTALS BY SCHOOL AND GRADE (1) - Excel												
File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Tell me what you want to do... Sign in Share												
Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing												
G22												
School	Grade	Student Count	Totals	Totals by Grade								
AEC	11	1	1	PK	8							
LAKESIDE	9	1	1	K	45							
BHS	9	54		1	44							
	10	48		2	50							
	11	45		3	52							
	12	45	192	4	52							
BMS	6	51		5	54							
	7	65		6	51							
	8	61	177	7	65							
GDE	4	52		8	61							
	5	54	106	9	55							
CENTRAL	K	6		10	48							
	1	2		11	46							
	2	5		12	45							
	3	6	19		676							
HORACE MAY	K	8										
	1	8										
	2	9										
	3	8	33									
JW SMITH	K	10										
	1	9										
SUMMARY	All Registrants Unduplicated											
AEC	LAKESIDE	BHS	BMS	GDE	CENTRAL	HM	JWS	LINCOLN	NORTHERN	PBE	SOLWAY	...

# Distance Learning Team

- **Bemidji Schools has created a Distance Learning Team comprised of 15-20 teachers**
  - Hired a lead teacher for this new "school" within a school
    - Addressing behaviors
    - Addressing attendance
    - Supporting and observing teachers

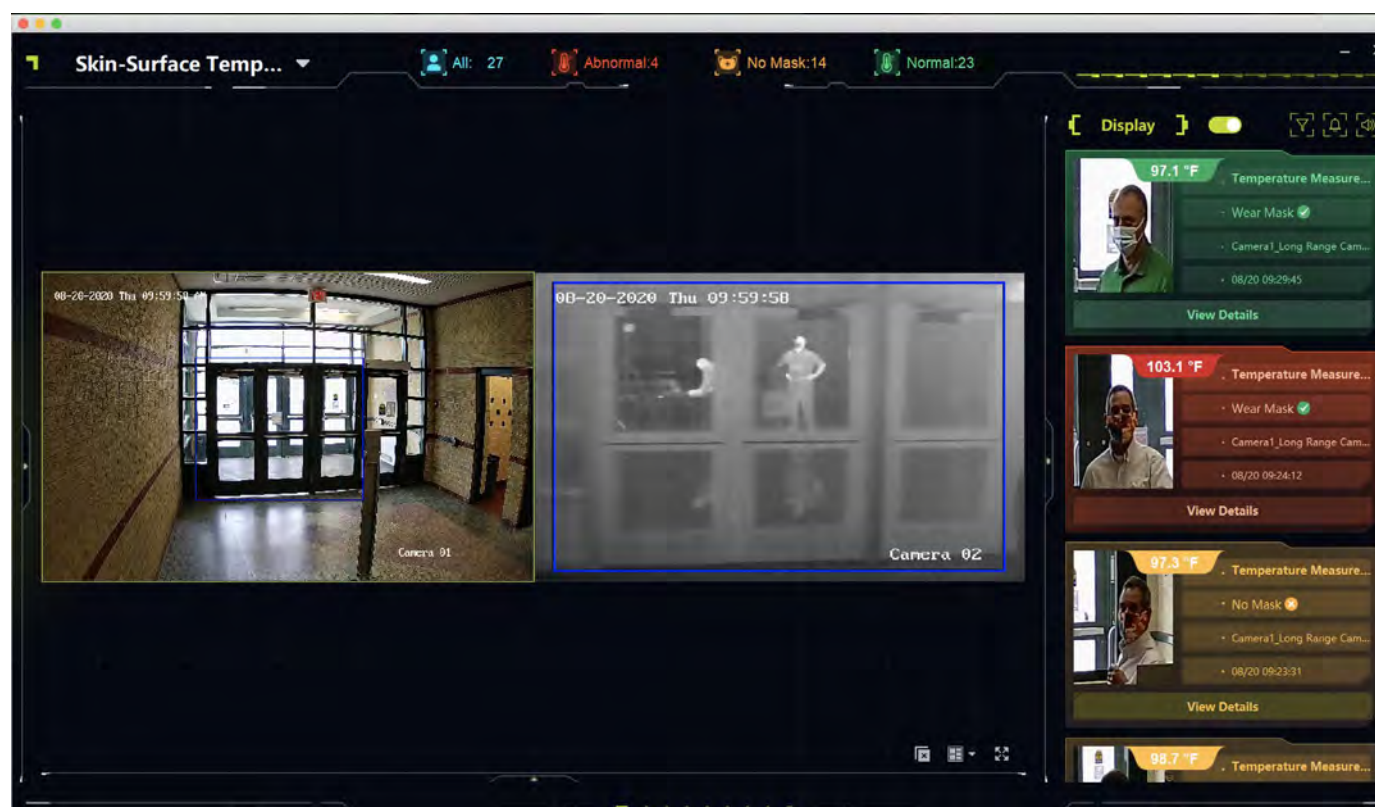


# Contact Tracing

- Bemidji Schools will work with Beltrami County health and rapid response teams
- Thermal imaging cameras to help track issues
- Using MDE guidance on language to be used for notification purposes
- District nurse and school building nurses will assist
  - Administrators will help
  - District staff will assist



# Contact Tracing

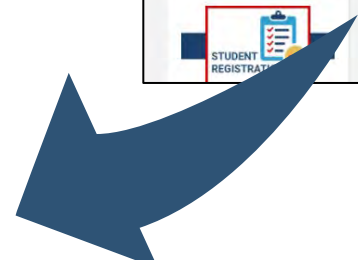
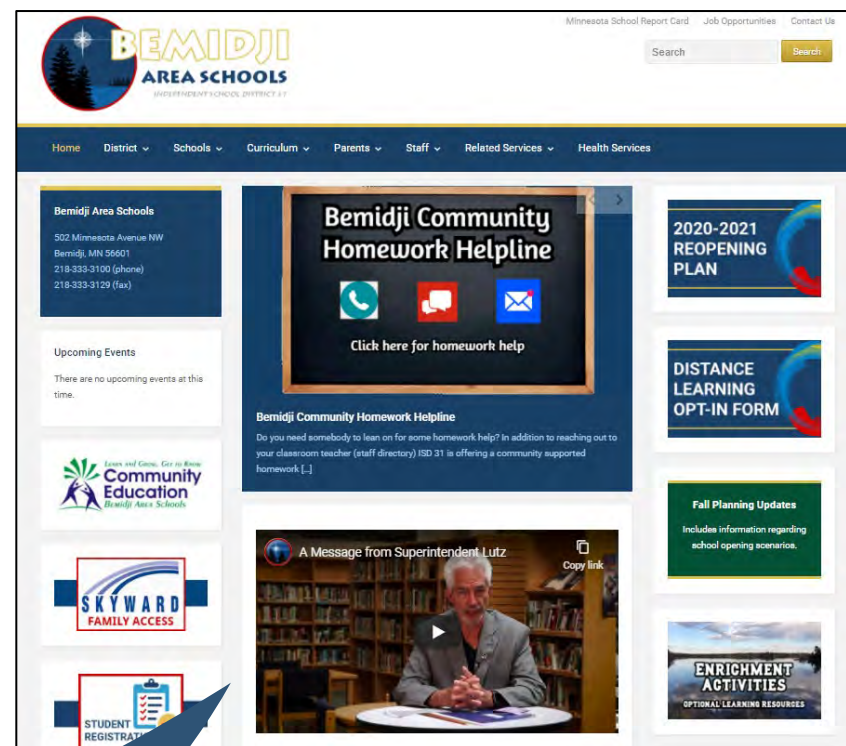
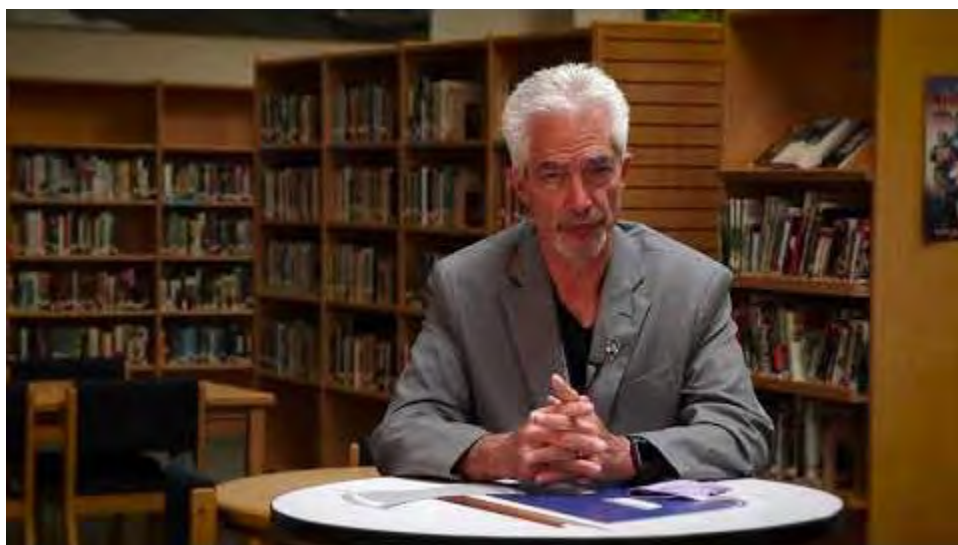


Thermal imaging cameras to  
help track issues



# New Developments

- Community/parent conversations
- Challenging questions
- Weekly superintendent video



# COVID Convo

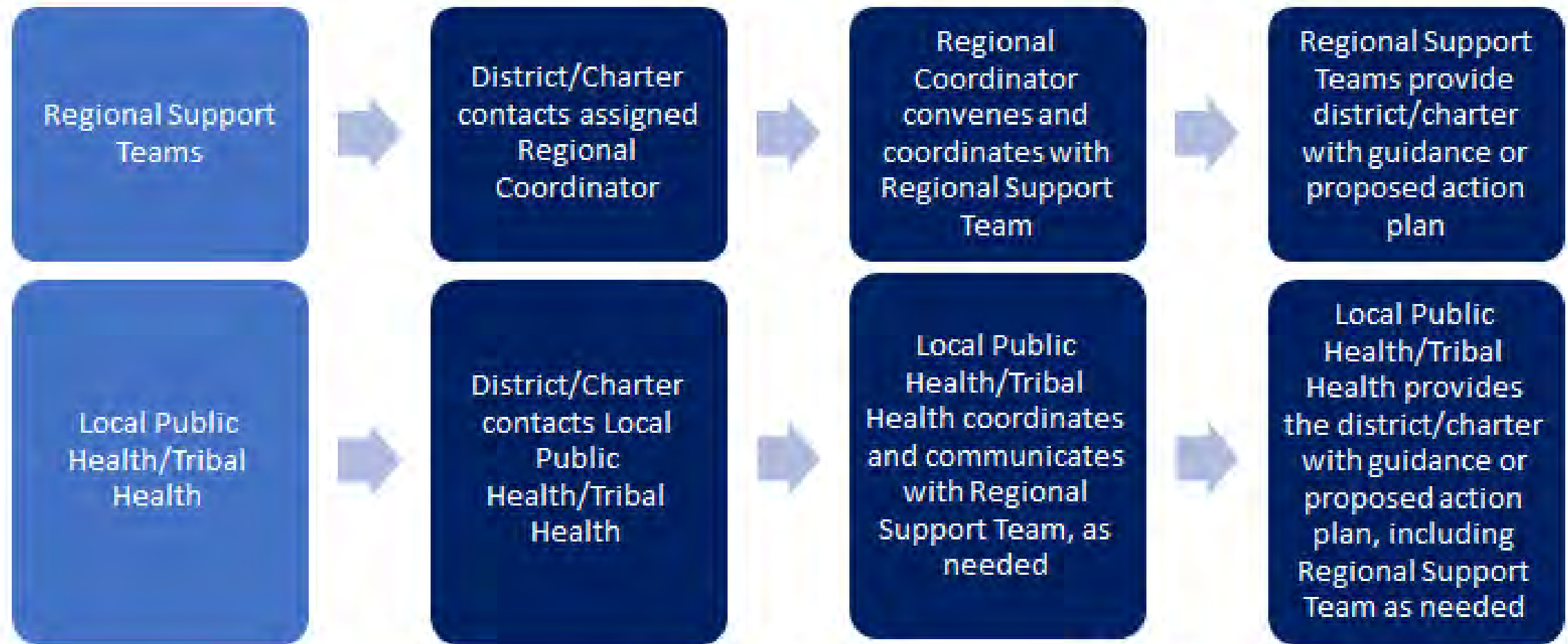
## Service Cooperative Update





# Two Paths to Support

STAY SAFE MN



# What are Regional Support Teams?

STAY SAFE MN

- In partnership with MDE, MDH and local public health, the Regional Support Teams provide regional support to districts/charters in navigating the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the 2020-21 school year.
- The Regional Support Teams provide:
  - Guidance and action steps to districts/charters when there are COVID cases, close contacts or exposures within school communities.
  - Collaboration and consultative support from MDH as districts/charters make decisions related to shifting learning models.
  - Assistance related to individual testing, including the saliva test, or mass/universal testing events.

# COVID Convo

Public Health with Neil Carlson



# COVID Convo

Communications with Todd Rapp





# Q&A



# Thank You for Your Time!

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# Contact Information

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- Todd Rapp: [toddrapp@rappstrategies.com](mailto:toddrapp@rappstrategies.com)





# Presentation Resources

- [East Central Public Schools Reopening Schools Plan](#)
- [Mora Public Schools Reopening Schools Plan](#)
- [Bemidji Area Schools Reopening Schools Information](#)
- [Saliva Testing for State of Minnesota](#)
- [ICS Reopening Schools Website](#)
- [How to Deal with Employee Work Requests from Home](#)
  - When essential functions can be done from home [EO20-74](#)
  - When accommodations are requested for "staff whose health is at risk or who have members of their household whose health is at risk" [EO20-82](#)
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- [State of MN Contact Tracing](#)