

# New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Public Schools

Independent School District No. 2168



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Douglas Anderson, Principal

*Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed*

## Elementary Principal's Board Report, July 2020 NRHEG Elementary School Doug Anderson, Elementary Principal

### 1. Elementary School Enrollment Report

#### For The 2020-2021 School Year (Projected)

Section	Enrollment	# of Sections	Students/Sect.
ECSE	6	2	
Bridges	11	1	11
K	63	3	21.0
1	55	3	18.33
2	63	3	21.0
3	53	3	17.66
4	60	3	20.0
5	66	3	22.0
<b>Total</b>	376	19	21.52

### 2. Extended School Year Programming

Dena Summer, Ryan Evans and Erin Krenik have been and will continue to provide Extended School Year (ESY) programming for a few students at the elementary school. Instruction is taking place via Distance Learning and the staff is meeting virtually with their students. The ESY program takes place Tuesday-Thursday, in the morning, for three weeks during the month of July.

### 3. Fifth Grade Band

Miles Otstot will be the instrumental teacher for our fifth-grade band students at the elementary. Miles will be in our building Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for the first hour. The message sent to fifth-grade families is below.

Dear Parents of Fifth Grade Students,

Greetings! My hope is that you have been enjoying the warm summer days of June. I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know the plans that we have in place for the upcoming school year.

As many of you are likely aware, Mr. Frank Whitcomb has retired as a teacher from the NRHEG School District. Mr. Whitcomb was responsible for working with our fifth-grade band students here at NRHEG Elementary. Due to his retirement, we have had to make some changes to our programming. We are excited to be able to bring in NRHEG Secondary School Band Instructor Mr. Miles Otstot as the fifth-grade band instructor for the elementary. Doing this will provide the opportunity for our students to begin the band program with the same instructor that they will have when moving to the secondary building.

As we get closer to the start of school in August Mr. Otstot or I will be communicating with you information about the fifth-grade band program, its introduction, and schedules. We realize that due to the pandemic we were unable to work with your child last spring on learning about the band program and selecting instruments. Mr. Otstot already has ideas about how he will handle that.

**I would encourage you and your child to consider the fifth-grade band program as an opportunity for the upcoming school year.** Students who have participated in band in the past have thoroughly enjoyed what this music program has to offer. At this time, Mr. Otstot will be in the elementary building, right away the first hour, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Please contact Mr. Otstot or me if you have any questions at this time. If not, stay tuned for more information on the band program that will be distributed before the start of school. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mr. Anderson, Elementary Principal

[danderson@nrheg.k12.mn.us](mailto:danderson@nrheg.k12.mn.us)

Mr. Otstot, Elementary Band Instructor

[motstot@nrheg.k12.mn.us](mailto:motstot@nrheg.k12.mn.us)

#### **4. Instructional Delivery Model Committee**

A group of four teachers has been meeting regularly to focus on the instructional plans if we return to school under the hybrid model. The objectives for the committee have been:

- Identify issues and barriers to consider in developing a hybrid instructional model
- Serve as an advisory committee to administration in the development implementation
- Assist administration with staff communication regarding the delivery model including seeking staff input

#### **Hybrid Model Definition:**

Hybrid learning defined – Hybrid is commonly used to describe classes in which some traditional face-to-face instruction has been replaced by distance learning activities. A hybrid class is designed to integrate face-to-face and distance learning activities so that they reinforce, complement, and elaborate on one another, instead of treating the online component as an add-on or duplicate of what is taught in the classroom. During classroom instruction time, students can be engaged in authentic, collaborative learning experiences. The distance learning components can include multimedia-enhanced content, learning practice, and channels for ongoing discussion. In some hybrid approaches, direct instruction that normally takes place in the classroom is “flipped” with intentional online learning tasks. Another method involves facilitating flipped, short mini-lessons for students to access online (asynchronously or synchronously).

To date, the Committee has held discussions and made plans for the areas listed below:

- Day One Meetings With Families
- Student Training Needs: Use of masks, water bottle use, entering/exiting the building, social distancing, cafeteria needs, distance learning, device transport, communication with the teacher during distance learning, screening, use of Seesaw application
- Paraprofessional support for students with in-person classes and distance learning
- Student Attendance and the creation of an “A” and “B” list
- Student Screening and PPE
- Parents/Visitors/School Volunteers
- Teacher Preparation Time
- Playground-Recess Plans
- Teacher Workshop Recommendations

Committee Members Include: Wendy Schultz, Sara Ihrke, Dena Summer, Kathy Meyer and Donna Olson

## 5. The Gratitude Campaign



Through a generous donation by the *Finly's Wings at Work* organization, NRHEG Elementary School was able to purchase the *Gratitude Campaign* program for our school. With an unknown road map for what the start of school will look like, and having had an uncertain, disconnected ending to last year, this program will be a perfect fit to help us provide calm, understanding, comfort, and support for our students and staff as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. It comes highly recommended to schools during the time of a pandemic.

~The *SEL Committee* is/has been working hard to streamline what we do for programming as related to bullying, PBIS, and SEL. The *Gratitude Campaign* will be a great two-week kick-off (possibly 4 weeks if we go with an every other day model) that will set the tone and help create the foundation for the upcoming school year.

~Brooke and Bre have graciously donated their time to help lead and facilitate the kick-off for this program. More information will follow.

Check out the website below for more information. Be sure to watch the videos as they share a great deal about the program.

<https://www.lookforthegoodproject.org/about>

### Our Two-Week, School-Wide Gratitude Campaign Program

The program is easy to implement, scalable, empowering and builds positive relationships between children and adults throughout the school. So far, 150,000 kids in 35 states have used the program to generate two million messages of gratitude to uplift their communities. Feedback from school staff has

**been 100% positive and 92% of students reported that they would recommend the program to other schools. Most importantly, it prepares an entire school community to handle stress, conflict, and disappointment in a positive, constructive way**