

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Public Schools

Independent School District No. 2168



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Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed

Elementary Principal's Board Report March 2021

NRHEG Elementary School

Doug Anderson, Elementary Principal

2020-2021 School Year

Section	Enrollment	# of Sections	Students/Sect.
ECSE	9	2	
Bridges	12	1	12
K	59	3	19.67
1	54	3	18
2	56	3	1
3	53	3	17.66
4	57	3	19
5	63	3	21
Total	363	19	

1. MCA Assessments

The MCAs will be given at the elementary following the schedule below:

Grades 3-5 Reading	March 23-31
Grades 3-5 Math	April 20-29
Grade 5 Science	May 4-6

We use the MCA to find out how well schools have aligned curriculum to and instructed students in the Minnesota Academic Standards in reading, mathematics, and science. The reading and mathematics assessments are also used in federal and state accountability measurements. Schools use the information to improve classroom teaching and learning. Teachers and principals look for areas where students do well so they can reinforce the ways they teach these skills. They also look for areas that need improvement so they can increase the instructional time or modify their instruction.

2. MN Elementary School Principal's Convention (Principal Professional Development)

On March 1-2 I had the opportunity to attend the Minnesota Elementary School Principal's Virtual Conference. The sessions I attended, and a brief summary of each one, are listed below:

~**Welcome and Keynote Address-Hamish Brewer**-known as the relentless, tattooed, skateboarding principal from Northern Virginia—isn't your normal principal. Hamish is high octane, constantly calling on his students to Be Relentless. Mr. Brewer has become known as an educational disrupter who transcends the status quo and typical educational norms.

~**Developing A Positive School Culture**-Effective administrators create a learning culture that develops the potential of students and colleagues. This one-of-a-kind, can't miss session, presented four components of a Top 20 culture: (1) help others succeed, (2) communicate 'you matter,' (3) honor the absent, and (4) see the problem, own the problem. It also presents a tool for assessing the degree to which these components exist in a culture. Students cannot learn in a negative culture! Let's help our staff help them learn.

~**Keynote by Dr. Muhammad Khalifa: Culturally Responsive School Leadership:** Dr. Muhammad Khalifa is a professor of educational administration and Executive Director for Urban Education Initiatives at the Ohio State University. Before coming to OSU, Dr. Khalifa held the Robert Beck Endowed Professorship in the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Having worked as a public school teacher and administrator in Detroit, Dr. Khalifa's research examines how urban school leaders enact culturally responsive leadership practices.

~**Partnering With Families**-Tonya Allen works as the Director of Mental Health and Family Engagement for Intermediate District 287. Tonya previously was a Principal at North Education Center in District 287. Tonya has a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of MN-Twin Cities and an Education Specialist degree from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. Tonya has worked in the field of education for over twenty years in a variety of roles including a Teacher, Social Worker, and Cultural Liaison.

~**Keynote by Paul Gorski: Leading with Equity Literacy: Avoiding Common Equity Detours, Embracing Critical Equity Principles**-Paul Gorski is the founder of the Equity Literacy Institute and EdChange. He has more than 20 years of experience helping educators, nonprofit workers, and others strengthen their equity efforts. He has worked with educators in 48 states and a dozen countries.

~**Providing Effective Feedback**-Providing effective feedback to teachers and staff is one of the most impactful aspects of a school leader's job. In this session, we will look at the conditions necessary for meaningful feedback, and begin to explore how to make our interactions culturally responsive and effective within a virtual environment. You will be introduced to a reflective rubric and process that any leader can use to grow in their feedback practice.

~Closing Keynote by Jessica Cabeen: Dream Big, Live Colorfully, Lead Boldly: Developing Your Best Self at School and Home. Today's educators have pressures that can become barriers to maintaining wellness in all aspects of life. In this session, we will explore ways in work and life to set your own goals and priorities in the different quadrants of balance (positional, personal, professional, and passion). We will learn ways to manage processes more effectively so you can be present at the moment, diffuse difficult situations with families, staff and parents so you can leave school, and rekindle your own passions so your students and staff can see the real you

3. Elementary Distance Learning Information Update

There are currently **19** Distance Learning Students at the elementary school (as of 02-08-21). Last month there were **23** Distance Learning Students. The grade level breakdown is listed below.

Bridges	0
Kindergarten	3
Grade 1	3
Grade 2	2
Grade 3	3
Grade 4	6
Grade 5	2
Total	19

4. Bridges/Kindergarten Orientation Video

The Kindergarten Staff will be sending a welcome video to all prospective families on Monday, March 15. This replaces our in-person orientation that has been scheduled with families in the past. Registration materials have been sent to our prospective Bridges/Kindergarten families.

5. Music Students of the Month

- Grade 1-Grace Dougherty and Colby Harrison
- Grade 2-Annie Buffington and Bradley Dougherty
- Grade 3-Adelynn Grams and Eli Studier
- Grade 4-Alexia Schmidt and Riley Kahnke
- Grade 5-Brooklyn Summer and David Deen