



LAKE OF THE WOODS School

PO Box 310 • 236 15th Ave. SW • Baudette, MN 56623 • 218-634-2510 • Fax: 218-634-2750
Jeff Nelson, Superintendent

A Message from Superintendent Nelson

August 17, 2020

The mission of Lake of the Woods School is to ensure that all learners achieve their highest potential and become contributing citizens in a rapidly changing world. The COVID-19 Pandemic has certainly demonstrated how quickly our world can change. On Thursday, August 20th the School Board will be making a formal determination on what learning model(s) the school will start the year with. To determine the base learning model(s) to begin the school year, the district will be consulting with local public health, MN Department of Health (MDH) and MN Department of Education (MDE). MDH has established a 14-day COVID-19 case rate by county to be used as a starting point in making the decision based on local data. This data will be updated and reviewed on a bi-weekly basis. There are a number of other considerations and factors that will also be taken into account before making a final decision. The district will continue to partner with local public health, MDH, and MDE throughout the school year to make adjustments as our local data changes. Regardless of which model is selected by the district, families will have the option of the Distance Learning Model.

What are the learning models?

The district has been developing three separate learning models that are intended to meet the academic and social, and emotional needs of students, while implementing safety measures to mitigate risk based on local health data. The criteria set for making a determination for each learning model is different for elementary aged students and high school aged students.

- In-person Learning: This is the least restrictive and offers students the opportunity to attend school in-person.
- Distance Learning: This is the most restricted and limits student instruction to remote distancing learning.
- Hybrid Learning: This model offers a transition between the least and most restrictive models. This model requires social distancing of 6 feet at all times in the school buildings. It also limits capacity of school buildings and buses to 50% occupancy.

What learning model will ISD 390 most likely be using to start the school?

At this time, based on the 14-day COVID-19 case rate released on August 13, 2020, Lake of the Woods School is making plans for implementing in-person learning for elementary students (K-6) and hybrid Learning high school students (7-12). In general, we will be operating elementary and high school classrooms to meet the 50% occupancy and 6 foot social distancing. Elementary students will be in-person everyday Monday through Friday. High School students will be attending in-person two days per week and working remotely two days. Fridays will allow flexibility for teachers to work with students individually or in small groups. Regardless of which model is selected by the district, families will have the option of the Distance Learning Model.

How will the school gather information from families?



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We will be conducting a parent/family survey to gather information that will help us in our planning process. The survey will be accessible online and we will be making phone calls to each household. For a copy of the questionnaire, go to <https://lakeofthewoodsschool.org/>. Click on the COVID-19 button and select Return to School Survey.

Next week's update will include more detailed information regarding such topics as busing, face coverings, childcare and food service from our Safe School Plan. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My office number is 218-634-2510, extension 1506. If I don't pick up, please let it ring until prompted to leave a message. I will return your call. My cell number is 218-434-0023. You may email me at jeff_n@lakeofthewoodsschool.org