

AHEM Friday Blast

Valerie Holthus, President

10/30/2020

Vol.3 No. 9

4 Days To Election Day

Kids want to know what the buzz is all about.

My daughter asked me this week, “What are all these signs around for?” referring to the political yard signs. She named all the different people’s names she saw, and she was pretty spot on.

Turns out, advertising is effective. I got a chance to ask her what she’s been thinking, what she wants to know, and why this is all so important. Recognize the right place, time, and situation to make a difference for our kids. Show them you care about voting on November 3rd. They're watching.

Voter Guide - search by address or legislative district: <https://www.edmnvotes.org/voter-guide/>

Learn more at [EdMNVotes.org](https://www.edmnvotes.org)

Aaron Balzer
AHEM Government Relations Chair



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Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP)

WE HAVE THE POWER!

By going to PEIP, we are taking control of our health insurance coverage and options. As AHEM 7007, we get to decide if we want to make the change!

Please contact Laura.bratland@edmn.org if you would like to participate on the insurance organizing committee.



**THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS**



EXTRA-CURRICULAR RALLY AT THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING PRECEDES BOARD DECISION Legality of Extra-Curricular Activities for School Districts Under the Distance Learning Instructional Model

Minnesota Department of Education Weighs In

If your data indicates that you can be in an in-person or hybrid model, but you choose to move to distance learning, you can continue to have activities and athletics. To determine whether or not activities and athletics should be continued or discontinued, you should review the amount of spread happening with your activities participants and athletes. If your data indicates that substantial, uncontrolled community spread is occurring and/or there is a significant degree of impact on the school community, with multiple confirmed cases or large-scale outbreaks occurring among students and staff, then you **must** move to distance learning and discontinue activities and athletics for a minimum of two weeks. The language in [Executive Order 20-82](#) states that school districts must adhere to the parameters set forth in the Safe Learning Plan for 2020-2021. If the data indicates that you must move to distance learning and you choose not to move, [Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 12.21, subdivision 3\(11\)](#) gives authority to the Commissioner of Education to curtail school activities for the safety, health, and wellness of our students, staff, and community. This includes in-person learning, hybrid learning, activities and athletics.

Heather Mueller, Ed.D. , Deputy Commissioner of Education

A district or charter that is in person, hybrid, or chooses to be in distance learning can continue to host extracurricular activities. It is when a district is required to move to distance learning for health and safety reasons that they must discontinue extracurricular activities per our [Safe Learning Plan](#). This would also include a district that is in distance learning by choice but then has their local COVID-19 situation essentially put them into a required distance learning model. There is no hard line or specific number that would be applied statewide as we approach each district with a localized decision making process in collaboration with regional support teams, MDH, and MDE. For Anoka-Hennepin specifically, we do not believe that their continuation of extracurricular activities is a violation of state guidance as was reported in the news, in fact we believe that they are operating more conservatively than we believe they need to be by proactively moving to distance learning.

Adosh Unni

Director of Government Relations, MN Dept. of Education

Recommended Policy Option Range (14-day case rate per 10,000 people)

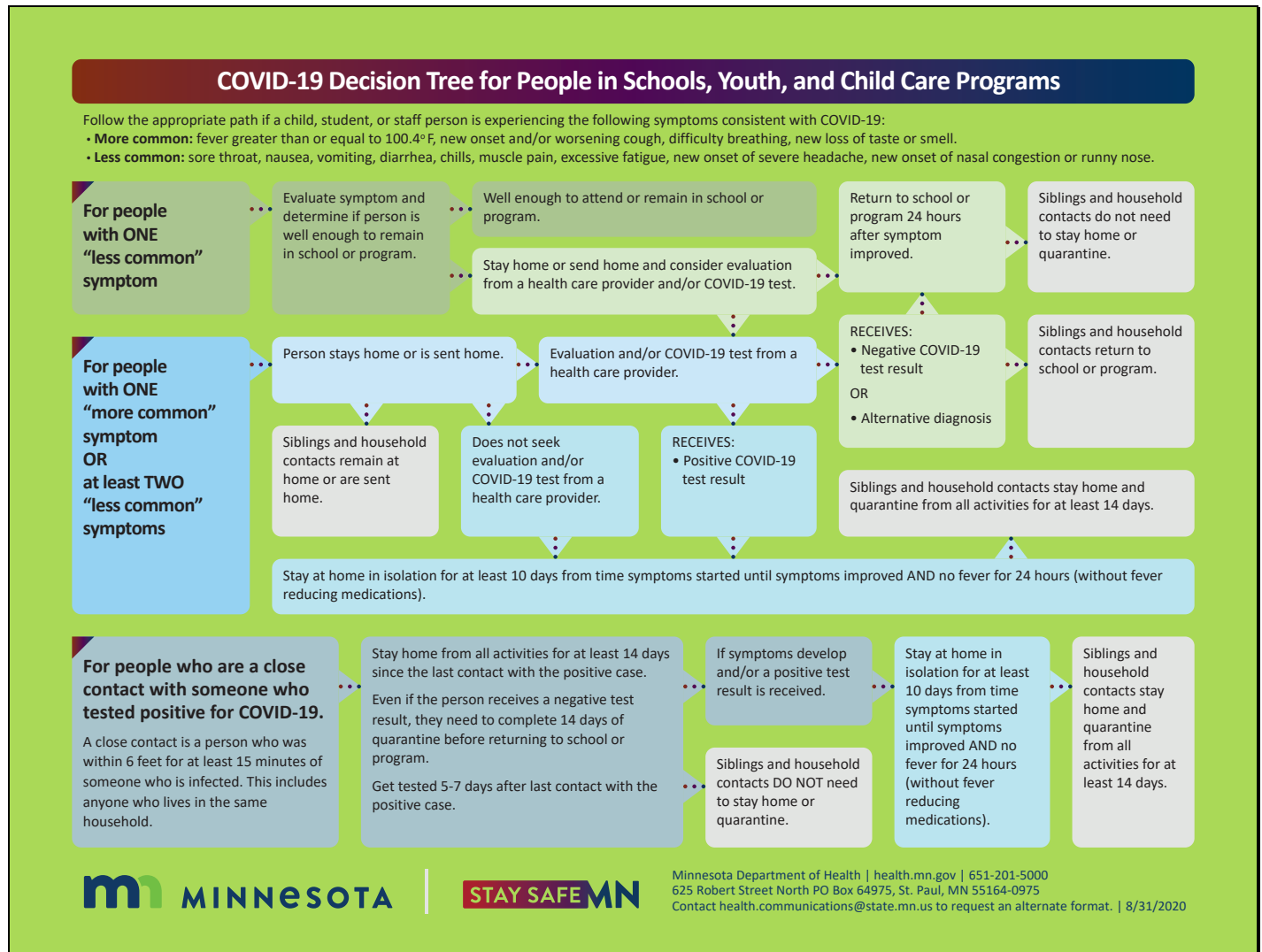
Covid case rates have shown an increase in both counties since the last reporting period.

In-person learning for all students	0 to less than 10
Elementary in-person, Middle/high school hybrid	10 to less than 20
Both hybrid	20 to less than 30
Elementary hybrid, Middle/high school distance	30 to less than 50
Both distance	50 or more

Data for K-12 Schools: 14-day COVID-19 Case Rate by County Updated 10/29/2020

Anoka: 39.23

Hennepin County 28.88





By joining together as educators with the families in our communities, we can elect leaders who reflect the very best of every Minnesotan, who will make public education a top priority, and who will fully fund our schools so they have the resources they need to deliver the education our students deserve, from early childhood through college.



The Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Expires on December 31 establishes two separate and temporary paid leave laws, which run from April 1 – Dec. 31: the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act. These laws provide emergency paid sick leave and some partially paid parental leave protections to eligible employees who need to provide care to their children because of school and child care closures.

Contact Employee Services to access these programs.

Got Your Saliva Test?

Saliva test information has been sent to everyone. If you need your specific email forwarded to you, contact **Kay Villella**, Assistant director of communication and public relations, Anoka-Hennepin School District, 763-506-1140 ahschools.us/commpr

AHEM Hours Worked Beyond the Duty Day Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey which made a powerful impact to the School Board at Meet and Confer Wednesday night.

Here are the results:

700 respondents to the tracking work outside duty day survey · In the span of a 7 day week:

- o 40% of respondents are working outside of their duty day 6-7 days
- o 48% of respondents are working outside of the duty day 3-5 days.
- o That means that almost 90% of respondents are working outside the duty day at LEAST 3-5 days in a given week
- 92% of respondents are working on the weekends
- On average, educators are working an extra 13 hours outside the duty day per week, but there are vast disparities as the range was between 2-44 additional hours per week.

It's time to VOTE!



Hello colleagues,

Thank you for being voters! However, to win the schools our students deserve, we need to do more than vote. That is why our union is encouraging parents and community members to vote with us this year, and we need your help. You will receive a mailing from Education Minnesota with two car window clings that say, "I vote for public education." One cling is for you and one is for you to give to a parent or community member. It's a great way to encourage them to vote. Please join us in this powerful action by sharing the window cling with someone before the election. Thanks!

**I vote for
public education.**



UNITED #EDMNVOTES

SAVE THE DATE

Education Minnesota Collective Bargaining and Organizing Conference

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021

**This year's kickoff to bargaining will be virtual with
an exciting keynote for all conference participants
followed by smaller, instructor-led sessions.**

**Negotiators, organizers, Unity Team members and other local
leaders will come together online and continue to learn critical
organizing skills, build powerful local plans to unify members
around bargaining for the common good, demand what our students
and educators need from the legislature and prepare to bargain
for those resources in our locals as part of our Unity 2021 work!**

Questions?

Contact Maureen Foure at mfourre@edmn.org or
Andrea Cecconi at 651-604-7128 or acecconi@edmn.org.



www.edmnvotes.org

Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers,
the National Education Association and AFL-CIO. 501(c)(3) 1409

FOR 100% VOTING
FOR FULL FUNDING OUR STUDENTS DESERVE
FOR WELCOMING SCHOOLS FOR EVERYONE

#EDMNVOTES



*I've learned that when you harbor bitterness,
happiness will dock elsewhere.*

-Andy Rooney

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

❖ Announcements:

- First Dues Deduction for AHEM Members – Fri., Oct. 23
- School Board Mtg. – Mon., Oct. 26, 6:30 pm, SEC
- No Students in Session – Staff Planning, Mon., Nov. 2
- No Students in Session – Staff Planning, Election Day- Tues., Nov. 3
- Staff Development Day – No K-12 Students – Tues, Nov. 3
- AHEM Executive Board – Mon., Nov. 9, 4:45 pm, Virtual
- School Board Work Session – Nov. 9, 6:30 pm (not 5:30 as usual), ESC
- American Education Week – Nov. 16-20
- AHEM Representative Assembly – Mon., Nov. 16, 4:45 pm, Virtual
- School Board Meeting – Mon., Nov. 23, 6:30 pm, SEC
- Group A Students in Session – Mon., Nov. 23
- Group B Students in Session – Tues., Nov. 24
- No School, Conference Conversion Day – Wed., Nov. 25
- District Closed, Thurs. and Fri., Nov. 26 – 27
- End of Trimester 1, Thurs., Dec. 3
- No Students, Staff Planning and Grading Day, Fri., Dec. 4
- No Students, Staff Development/PLC, Mon. Dec. 7

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