

March 12, 2021

Dear Paladin Community,

I hope this message finds you healthy and safe as we enter the week of Spring Break (March 15-19th). Today's update focuses on a transition to a 2-day-per-week in-person hybrid learning plan.

The 14-day rolling average of COVID-19 cases per 10,000 residents in counties we serve continues to trend in the right direction, supporting our move to allow additional students in the building each day. See our [2020 –2021 / COVID-19 INFORMATION](#) webpage for more information and details.

COVID-19 Safety Measures / GPS Ionization Generator

As students return to school facilities they'll have visible reminders of social distancing, face coverings, hand hygiene, and systems in place to protect their health and maximize safety. Paladin has installed a GPS Ionization Generator. Should COVID-19 be present in our school facility, the system will eliminate 99.4% of the virus within 30 minutes, 92.6% within 15 minutes, and 84.2% within 10 minutes.

To this date, we have had *NO* known community spread of COVID-19 within Paladin.

Hybrid Learning Scenario Change - Week of March 29th

Resuming a 1-day-per-week Hybrid Learning plan has been a success these last two weeks, and we now believe we can accommodate a larger number of students on site while maintaining safety protocols and other guidance from the CDC and Minnesota Department of Education. In-person school days will continue to release at 2:20 to allow time for teacher prep and outreach to our distance learning students.

2-day-per-week Hybrid Learning we begin on **Monday, March 29th** for all students. **If you are choosing Distance Learning Only for your student**, we ask you to connect with your student's Success Coordinator right away.

2-Day-Per-Week Hybrid Learning Model Details:

Cohort A meets in-person on Mondays and Tuesdays and will be Distance Learning on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Cohort B meets in-person on Wednesdays and Thursdays and will be Distance Learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.

See our full detailed Plan here: [Paladin Strong 2020-21 COVID Planning School Scenario Guide](#)

Spring Conferences - Monday, April 5th from 8am - 7pm

In order to best accommodate your family's needs, this year conferences can be scheduled to take place either in-person at Paladin or remotely over Google Meet. To schedule your conference time on April 5th, please connect with your Student Success Coordinator by Friday, March 26th. If the scheduled date does not work for you or your student, we may be able to offer flexibility in rescheduling between April 6th - 9th.

You and your student will meet with your Student Success Coordinator to discuss your student's learning, look through their projects, and review progress reports. This is their chance to show you all the work they



have done this year. Your input will be important for setting their individual learning goals for the remainder of the year.

NOTE: Did you know that [in accordance with Minnesota law](#), parents and guardians may request time off to attend conferences or school related events? As a parent or guardian, you should never be told by an employer that you cannot attend your child's school conference. Attending your child's school conferences or school related events can lead to positive changes in your child's academics. We are here to help eliminate barriers to participating in your child's schooling. Please reach out to the Paladin Care Team for further resources.

MCA Testing - Friday, April 9th - (For 10th and 11th grade students only)

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) are standards-based assessments used to meet federal and state legislative requirements. MCAs are administered for reading to students in grade 10; MCAs for mathematics in grade 11; and MCAs for science in grade 10, or whenever life science coursework has been completed. ***This year, the MCA must be taken at school, even if your student has opted in to distance learning.***

Participating in the MCAs is at the discretion of the parent. Paladin takes no position on whether your child should participate in statewide testing or not. There are no consequences for your student or your family if they do not participate. If you want to opt-out of MCA testing this year, we ask that you [complete and return this form](#) or call / text / email your student's Success Coordinator confirming your choice as soon as possible.

Be Prepared for Changes

We all understand that this year is about flexibility. Data shows that our safety protocols successfully prevented the transmission of COVID-19 during the school day so far. We will prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff by emphasizing these measures. Despite these efforts, we know the coronavirus is relentless and additional changes may be necessary throughout the year. We are grateful for your cooperation, understanding, and grace as we navigate this unusual school year.

Thank You

Your continued cooperation and partnership with us is valued. By working together, we can overcome the challenges ahead of us. I continue to be proud of the passion, commitment, and dedication of this community!

We've got your back; thanks for having ours!

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