

Under the Minnesota Safe Learning Plan issued by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), schools are guided to shift to a hybrid plan for secondary students when county rates of COVID increase above 10 cases per 10,000 county residents. Our most recent data update from the MDH shows Carlton County case rates at 11.25 cases per 10,000. As a result, the Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program will shift from in-person learning to a hybrid model beginning on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. This change applies to grades 9-12 at CAAEP.

**October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**, there will be **no school** for **6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders** to allow teachers to plan for the transition to the hybrid model. It is critical that our students attend school on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, to allow teachers to provide instructions and materials for hybrid learning. The first day of student attendance in the hybrid model for all students will be Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. All students will be expected to be online via distance learning. Sr. High students will stay in the hybrid model until we receive two consecutive weeks of data that fall below the 10 case per 10,000 resident thresholds. The district will always notify families of any changes to the model and the date which they will begin with as much advanced notice as is reasonably possible. Our goal is to provide families as much time as we can to plan for changes.

The hybrid model puts a rotation in place where students attend school on a rotation. Students grades 9-12 will attend in-person 2 days and attend school through distance learning the other 3 days. Students are assigned to a group by their home school district and only attend school on the days which match their group.

For the first week of the hybrid model, the days of attendance will be as follows:

- Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and -Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – No School for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> – **ALL STUDENTS ONLINE (this includes Jr. High)**
- Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and -Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – Cloquet Home District
- Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and -Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – Home District of Hermantown, Proctor, Esko, Cromwell, Moose Lake, Barnum, Carlton, Duluth

After next week, the students will continue the hybrid model, with districts other than Cloquet, coming Monday and Tuesday, all students online on Wednesdays (including jr. High), and Cloquet district students on Thursday's and Friday's. The Jr. High students will continue in person learning Monday's, Tuesday's, Thursday's and Friday's.

We thank you for your understanding and patience as we make this adjustment.