

WM Families and Staff,

The most recent COVID data for Carver County was released by the Minnesota Department of Health this morning. The county is at **18.82** COVID-19 cases per 10,000 people for the period of October 4, 2020 through October 17, 2020. This is an increase from the numbers reported last week, **16.33**/10,000 (for the period September 27, 2020 through October 10, 2020).

[Data for K-12 Schools: 14-day COVID-19 Case Rate by County \(PDF\)](#)

This is the third consecutive week that we have seen an increase in our county numbers. Our current numbers justify that we do not need to adjust our learning models at this time. However, as county data continues to trend upwards, and our neighboring counties of Wright (32.77) and Hennepin (28.88) are seeing increased rates, we continue to monitor and consult with our local health officials on the safest learning model moving forward.

Please keep in mind that we continue to look at other data points as we make decisions regarding learning models. We will continue to look for trends rather than short term data points before shifting to a different learning model. Additional data points and scenarios that may influence learning models include:

- Watertown and Mayer community case data
- Data trends in our PreK-12 schools
- Staffing shortages
- Cohorts of students in quarantine
- Further direction by the Minnesota Department of Health

Update on WM School District Cases

Since the start of the school year on August 31st we have had the following school related cases. A school related case is one that involves the potential exposure of other students or staff members to an infected individual.

- 3 positive student COVID-19 cases
- 2 positive staff COVID-19 cases
- 2 cohorts of students that have had to quarantine

We would like to continue to thank you for being vigilant in your social distancing and mask wearing to reduce the threat of transmission. We also appreciate the families that are keeping their child(ren) home when symptoms are occurring. These combined efforts are essential in keeping our students in school and having the most consistent learning experience.

As a final reminder, there is No School on Monday, November 2nd due to Teacher Professional Development.