

“As the Crow Flies”, Vol. I, #13

-Blogposts by Patrick Walsh, BBE Superintendent



Good Afternoon, BBE! We are completing our 7th week of school; we still feel very good about the way things are going. Like always, we have some COVID infection, but not enough that it spreads too rapidly. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing with our method of Pandemic education.

We spend many hours each week reviewing procedures, as well as local and regional COVID data. There are some areas of concern, but we are monitoring each situation as it comes in. At this point, we have just registered our fourth case between students and staff. This week, my major point of emphasis is: it is important for EVERYONE in the school district to consider their actions and who they are doing them with. The more we can avoid any breakouts, the better chance of us remaining with daily attendance. In my opinion, we are no safer from a COVID spread perspective in Distance Learning or an every other day hybrid than we are going to school each day. But, people at the state level are not that interested in opinions; they have fairly rigid benchmarks that they will not hesitate to use.

Based on the data, we are planning for a brief shift after the MEA Break. Both school buildings will be in the “Hy/Choice” model. Being in this model still means that both our high school and elementary students are attending school each day with masks, keeping 6’ apart and spacing guidelines to follow. There will be certain times and places that our kids will need to move to alternate areas to maintain these spacing guidelines. **We will be in this model from October 20-30.** I would also mention that our numbers are very close to the level in which we would HAVE to go to Distance Learning.



We want to thank you for your pre-screening that you are doing at home. “If you are sick, stay home.” is our message. When people develop symptoms, eventually they are screened for COVID. Household members can be affected, so practicing safe mixing of your “pods” that are there for you and your family is equally important. Always consider the potential for contraction. If you do go to new areas and new people, use social distancing with these people, as well as masking when and where it is recommended.



Our volleyball team registered a win in their first game last night. Our football team goes to ACGC tonight. For any of these events, there may be tickets available, but always pretty limited. Volleyball can now have some inside spectators, but again, it is limited. We will make the rest of the limited tickets available to others. We are streaming all of these events on YouTube. Please consult our website for details.

We have our Ground-Breaking ceremony for our remodeling project next Monday. There will be a brief ceremony in Brooten at 3:30pm and Belgrade at 4:00pm. Look for the recap of those details in the Bonanza Valley Voice. This next month will get very interesting around here. You will see more fences, big vehicles and eventually, start seeing some new walls going up. If not for COVID, we would be flying high. Because of it, we are just flying differently. I will leave you with a quote below that reminds us that our imagination and creativity always have great potential. We need to keep this reminder in place as we move forward this year.

Go Jaguars! ~Mr. Patrick Walsh, BBE Superintendent

**“It is a bird’s imagination, not its wings, that determines how high it can fly.”
— Matshona Dhliwayo**