



UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

CHRISTOPHER BACHMEIER, SUPERINTENDENT

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September 23, 2020

Good Afternoon,

After listening to Governor Burgum's press conference, I believe I should explain the decisions that are taking place in relation to how it is our school district will be moving forward in our learning model for our students. As the superintendent of schools, I do not take the decision lightly in how it is we proceed as a school district. After visiting with our local health department and listening to Governor Burgum's remarks, I feel it is appropriate that our school district stay in Phase I of our plan. When making this decision I feel it is imperative for our students to be given the opportunity to have as much face to face instruction with our staff while we continue our safety protocols in trying to minimize the spread of COVID – 19. I learned last spring that the mental health and safety of our students are even more paramount in times of a pandemic. Therefore, I believe by staying in Phase I is vital in not only our students' mental well-being, but also their physical well-being.

When looking at our Return to Play Plan that was also adopted this past summer, we will be moving to the yellow portion of the plan. This means that starting on Friday September 25, 2020 at noon, indoor games hosted at Des Lacs – Burlington Schools will be limited to the parents of the participants playing that day and the Des Lacs – Burlington student body. All outdoor events will continue as they have, and away games will continue to be carried out as the host school deems appropriate.

I also want to remind all parents that if they feel any of these decisions put their students or family at too high of a risk, that they please contact the office to tell us of your decision to move to a distance learning platform. We will continue to work with these families on this decision and support you to the best of our abilities.

Sincerely,

Christopher Bachmeier
Superintendent of Schools