



JOSEPH ZYDOWSKY &lt;joe\_zydowsky@msd.k12.wi.us&gt;

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**FW: MHS Moves to Virtual Learning- Wednesday, Nov. 11**

1 message

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**Jesse Singerhouse** <housej@dunnenergy.com>  
To: JOSEPH ZYDOWSKY <joe\_zydowsky@msd.k12.wi.us>

Sun, Nov 8, 2020 at 9:00 PM

Thanks for the email update, probably the right call given how many cases there are locally and inside MHS.

I'm concerned about the swim season, both relay teams qualified for State (same 4 girls on each team) and Melody Greenwood qualified in the 50 free and diving (she's on the relay). So really just 4 girls, Kinsey, Melody, Shannon Mason and Kate Westphal. They usually take one alternate too just in case someone goes out. State finals are Friday afternoon and night. I'm concerned about no practice tomorrow night as they prepare for State. I saw the part about the school board talking about it to approve if teams can finish their season when MHS goes virtual. Swim will be done before MHS goes virtual on the 16<sup>th</sup>, but not on the 11<sup>th</sup> if that is considered the start of virtual. Swim season will end on the 13<sup>th</sup>. I think football and swim are the only 2 fall sports left. With swim ending this week and football next week at the max I hope they can safely continue. I know it is hard to let one do something and not the other. But comparing 4 girls in a pool to other sports is a tough comparison.

I hopeful the girls would be allowed to practice tomorrow night just in case they can still keep going since there are only 4-5 of them in the pool. Keeping their bodies working right before state is important.

I think the other thing to think about would be MMS sports, I know they have started MMS swim and they are coming to the pool practicing. So I think it would be hard for our girls to understand why MMS gets to practice and they couldn't. I don't know if MMS practices everyday so maybe they are not there tomorrow.



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**From:** Joseph Zydowsky [<mailto:DoNotReply@msd.k12.wi.us>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 8:14 PM  
**To:** [housej@dunnenergy.com](mailto:housej@dunnenergy.com)  
**Subject:** MHS Moves to Virtual Learning- Wednesday, Nov. 11

Dear SDMA Families and Staff,

Throughout the weekend, school administration has been monitoring COVID-19 data for our schools and our community. Unfortunately, the number of cases has continued to increase over the weekend.

While student cases and exclusions across the school district are well below the thresholds set by public health, there has been a disproportionate number of staff cases and exclusions at Menomonie High School. While the SDMA Reopening Plan was built upon the premise of prioritizing in-person instruction, the health, safety, and overall well-being of our students and staff still needs to be our top priority.

Menomonie High School is at a point with staff absences that cannot continue. The district has made tremendous investments this year in hiring additional staff, providing cloth face coverings and PPE, and changing schedules to reduce the possibility of transmission, but the number of high school staff members out on isolation or quarantine requires a pause to in-person instruction.

So, here is the plan for the next few weeks for Menomonie High School.....

**Monday, November 9-** School will be held as scheduled at MHS. Students will have their last day of classes for the first quarter and receive schedules for the second quarter. There will be no in-person sports (practices, games, etc.) or other activities in the SDMA on Monday, and the school board will decide on Monday night whether fall sports and activities will be allowed to complete their seasons once MHS moves instruction to the virtual environment.

**Tuesday, November 10-** First quarter finals will be held at Menomonie High School. Please see previous communications from Principal Drake for more information about the schedule for finals.

**Wed., Nov. 11 through Friday, Nov. 13-** There will be no school for high school students who have completed all of their work for first quarter. MHS staff members will be working to support students virtually who have work to make up as staff also prepare for beginning the second quarter in the virtual instruction environment.

**Monday, November 16-** The second quarter at MHS will begin in the virtual instruction environment. Principal Drake will be communicating with MHS students and staff about the expectations for virtual learning. Staff members will still be reporting to work, buses will continue to run, and MHS will remain open with supervised physically distanced areas for students with special needs and students wanting to use the school district's network to gain access to virtual classes. Some staffing will be reallocated to support continued instruction at the middle and elementary school levels. Student meals will also be made available for all students with more information to be shared this week by SDMA School Nutrition Director Michelle Kloser.

This move to the virtual instruction environment will last until at least Monday, November 30. School administration will continue to monitor circumstances and communicate with the Dunn County Health Department about COVID-19 in our schools and community. Weekly updates will continue, and it can be expected that a decision about possibly returning to in-person learning at MHS will be made by Wednesday, November 25. It is very possible that virtual learning at MHS will continue beyond November 30.

**At this time, other schools in the SDMA will continue with in-person instruction.** Please understand, however, that a continued escalation of cases may lead to additional school closures in the near future. With deer hunting and the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, it will be very important that people avoid gatherings, wash up, mask up, and back up if we want our schools to stay open.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of our schools.

Joe Zydowsky

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