



Mode of Learning Decision Matrix
School District of West Salem (9-11-2020)

In lieu of State or County guidance, the School District of West Salem is adapting a model from the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGHI) [guidance for schools](#) and the [Minnesota Safe Learning Plan](#) along with the [MN DOH School Guidance](#) to determine how instruction is provided this school year. The HGHI [indicates](#) the guide to risk levels is based on the case rate and that other factors should also be considered.

Decision Matrix

Below is the decision matrix of the School District of West Salem is using to determine the mode of learning after September 14, 2020.

HGHI COVID Risk Level	RED	ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN
CDC Community Spread Designation	Substantial	Moderate	Minimal	No Community Spread
Primary Metrics*				
7 Day Case Rate Per 100K*	> 35	19 - 34.9	10-18.9	< 10
7 Day Positive Test Ratio	> 10%	5-10%	3-5%	< 3%
Secondary Metrics				
7 Day Origin - Close Contact %	< 60%	60-80%	> 80%	> 90%
Case Rate Trend	Increasing	Increasing to Neutral	Neutral to Declining	Neutral
Mode of Learning				
4k-5	Virtual	In-person	In-person	In-person
6-12	Virtual	Blended	In-person/ Blended	In-person

- In monitoring the status of our community weekly, we will be paying particular attention to Metric 1 (New Case Rate), Metric 9 (Positive Test Ratio), and Case Demographics Origin to monitor close contact v. community spread.

Either primary metric could trigger a move to a more or less restrictive learning environment. Regardless, our buildings will try to remain as stable as possible for our families when moving to a more or less restrictive learning environment unless directives are given by the State or County Health Department. Secondary metrics will assist in determining the mode of learning as well as aid in anticipating the future risk level.

Intermittent Closures

Classrooms and schools will move to virtual learning for a period of time if a significant percentage of students are absent from COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms. The percentage will be determined in coordination with the La Crosse County Health Department. Classrooms and schools may also be closed as a result of staffing shortages that prevent safe operations or the inability to conduct contact tracing by the following day.