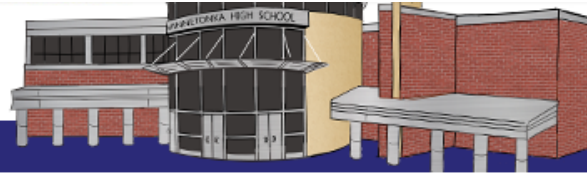




Innovate. Inspire. Excel.



Dear Minnetonka High School Community,

I'd like to share an update regarding our current staffing challenges at MHS. This week we have been averaging significant numbers of staff absences related to COVID. Today, for example, we had 18 teaching positions unfilled, resulting in other teachers and licensed staff covering those classes. We have also combined a few classes today due to staff shortages. The High School has been hit hard this week. We are at a point where the absences are significant enough that we have to hit pause and shift to a synchronous e-learning day for Friday, January 7th. (Many of the teachers who have been out will be returning Monday, January 10th.)

Therefore, students will still follow the same six-period day, virtually, and will begin each class with their teachers in a Google Meet. Instruction will continue to take place. Teachers will share the Google Meet codes with students later today. As we have a number of teachers ill, who will be unable to provide instruction during their class, those teachers will notify students that they will not have a live Google Meet and will post work in Schoology.

For students who wish to work in the High School on Friday, the building will be open, and we will have paraprofessionals supervising the PORT and cafeteria locations for students. If students wish to use this option, [they should complete this google form](#) to help us plan for space and food service needs. Transportation will run normally.

I know that sudden schedule changes can be challenging for families, and I want to thank all of you in advance for your understanding and flexibility. I'd also like to thank our staff who continue to give their all to making things run as smoothly as possible throughout everything COVID has thrown at us.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Erickson  
MHS Principal