

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMO #11 – 2020-21

July 30, 2020

RE:                               FPS Smart Restart Plan for 2020-21 School Year

FROM:                         Dr. Rupak Gandhi, Superintendent  
                                  Dr. Robert Grosz, Associate Superintendent  
                                  Missy Eidsness, Associate Superintendent

BOARD FOCUS:       Action required

Per the guidance and requirements from the state of North Dakota, as communicated by Governor Burgum and State Superintendent Baesler on July 14, all North Dakota school districts must develop a plan for the 2020-21 school year due to the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19. Plans must include a health and safety plan and a distance learning plan. The plans must be approved by the local School Board prior to the beginning of the classes with students.

The draft FPS Smart Restart Plan is attached to this memo. Fargo Public Schools administrators and staff members have been working diligently to create the plan. Countless hours of work have been put into the plan, in collaboration with our teachers and staff, local health officials, and through staff and parent input.

The FPS Smart Restart Plan has been built utilizing recommendations and guidelines from city, county, state, and national health organizations, public education agencies, and government officials. Further input and feedback were gathered from Fargo Public Schools staff and parents through online surveys and a series of virtual work sessions.

At the meeting on July 30, Cabinet members will present the plan to Board members. Feedback will be taken on the plan from Board members. If needed, the plan will be updated during the meeting. After any needed updates, administration seeks Board approval of the plan in order for planning to continue for the 2020-21 school year and so communication can occur with FPS families.

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the Board approve the FPS Smart Restart Plan for the 2020-21 school year with consideration to the discussion of items at this meeting and allow administration to modify the plan as needed based on updated information from federal, state and county health departments as well as state officials.