



May 28, 2020

College Community Families,

As we continue to receive new information via the Governor's Office during daily press briefings, as well as new guidance from local health officials and the Iowa Department of Education, we are committed to processing the effects on our system and communicating with you in a timely manner. We appreciate the patience our families have displayed while we work to respond to changing guidance and proclamations.

Since the situation related to COVID-19 changes frequently, we will continue to communicate throughout the summer as we plan for our safe return to learning in the fall. Please check email and CCSD communication platforms often for relevant updates. Communication in the form of weekly letters will discontinue after June 5.

Here are updates regarding our plan for continued closure and some reopening of school facilities:

- In last week's update, we shared our priority to focus on the reopening of the baseball and softball season for 9th - 12th grades. There are countless details for us to consider in this process. We are currently partnering with other local districts, our athletic conferences (MVC, CRANDIC), and the state's athletic unions in developing our next steps to ensure the safety of students and staff in return to interscholastic activities.
- Practices and games will be conducted in a highly modified form and those details will be shared with the athletes, families, and coaches who are affected.
 - The Mississippi Valley Conference (MVC) will be playing Sophomore and Varsity Baseball and Varsity Softball. The schedules are available on the conference website.
 - CRANDIC League (Iowa City and Cedar Rapids Metro area schools) will be playing Freshman and JV Baseball and Sophomore and JV Softball.
 - There are strict limitations on the number of fans that will be allowed at games. Only 2 family members for lower level and 3 family members for varsity are allowed admittance per athlete per game. Players will let coaches know the names of family members for each game. The passlist will be submitted for each game; home and away. **You must be on the list to attend the game.**
- Until such time that we arrive at a fully developed and informed plan for school-sponsored activities, and have an opportunity to implement and modify our plans, we will not proceed with planning for the reopening of our facilities to outside groups. **For the continued safety of our community and in accordance with guidance from public health, all College Community facilities continue to be closed. This includes ALL of our fields, playgrounds, fitness facilities, and courts, for groups of any size.** Use of trails and sidewalks for the purpose of walking and running continues to be allowed for individual or family use allowing for social distancing. We again thank you for your patience in the process and your shared commitment to our prevention efforts.
- As shared in last week's communication, the reopening of our facilities will only occur with close and careful interpretation and enforcement of the guidance from the Governor's Office, the Iowa Department of Public Health, and Linn County Public Health. It is in our district's and community's best interest to be a part of the ongoing mitigation efforts.
- We are closely monitoring the Governor's proclamations and further guidance will be forthcoming regarding other out-of-season sports and activities. The use of CCSD facilities is not approved for these purposes through at least after July 1.

Here are additional updates for this week:

- **A reminder about our Grab N Go Meals program: The final day for meals is our last official day of school, Thursday, June 4.** Come by the meal sites on June 3rd and 4th for a free box of crayons, compliments of Fairfax State Savings Bank for students in sixth grade and younger.

- Learning packets will be distributed during this week and the final week of school. Information about learning resources for the summer will be shared by teachers and district-wide in Prairie Pride E-News before the school year is complete. Please touch base with your child's teacher or principal with any questions.
- College Community is hosting a free book giveaway on June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. You are welcome to drive by Prairie High School's main entrance between 3:00 - 6:00 PM on these days for free books for current kindergarten through sixth grade students. Thank you to our Prairie Foundation, United Way, Toys for Tots, and the PTOs of Creek, Crest, Heights, Hill, Ridge, and View for your generous donations!
- The Governor has now ended the moratorium on evictions and we understand that this may affect some of our families. If you are concerned about your housing situation and how that may impact your child, please contact our Homeless Liaison, Javier Rivera, at 848.5227 or your school counselor.
- Our building secretaries, administrators, and district office staff will be returning to normal working hours on campus on June 1 and will be available to take your phone calls. **We will announce when families can come on-site for purposes of registration and other school-related items. Until that announcement, we will continue to serve our public virtually or by appointment only.**
- If your child has an existing health condition for which they may need additional care when we return to school in the fall, please email your school nurse. It is never too early to start communicating about your son or daughter's anticipated medical needs for the year ahead, especially during these uncertain times.. As our nurses prepare for returning to school with various new procedures and protocols in place related to COVID-19 for all students and staff, their advanced knowledge of your child's specific health needs will allow us to be more fully prepared. Email addresses for all school nurses are available on the district website. You may also call your school office to leave a message or call the District Office at 319.848.5200 to speak with someone directly.
- For our incoming Kindergarten and Alternative Kindergarten families: There are no kindergarten or AK round up events this year. There is still, however, important health-related paperwork that must be completed for children to start school. Please be on the lookout for these health forms in the mail with directions for returning them to us.
- We continue to receive additional guidance from the Iowa Department of Education regarding the requirements for our Return to Learn plan. We are developing plans for the fall for all possible scenarios as we continue to learn new information day-to-day.
- Our archive of previous communications is on our website in a section titled "COVID-19 (Coronavirus) UPDATES" <http://www.prairiepride.org/COVID19/>

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the students and staff of College Community Schools!

In Service,

Doug Wheeler, PhD
Superintendent of Schools