



May 7, 2020

College Community Families,

To start this weekly update, I would like to call our families' attention to National Teacher Appreciation Week. This week we celebrate our teachers, counselors, school nurses, and other educational staff. It is fitting to include my thanks for their work in this update as our staff has taken on an unprecedented challenge in these difficult times with the goal of serving our families and students in this time of need. Please join me in thanking our teachers during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

Here are a few updates for this week related to our school closure:

- If you have a preschool through eighth grade student, you can expect to receive your son or daughter's report card in the week ahead. They will be mailed the week of May 11. Report cards will reflect student progress during the start of the second semester (January 21, 2020) and through March 13, 2020. In the subsequent weeks since March 13, all participation in school work has been voluntary. In this model of Continuous Learning, no additional assessment or grading can take place.
- In their weekly communication to individual families during the week of May 18th, PK-8th grade teachers will be checking in with parents about any report card questions.
- Report cards for 9th - 12th grade students will be mailed at the end of the school year.
- We will not be holding formal conferences during the school closure but teachers and administrators are available via email and phone for any questions.
- For our incoming Kindergarten and Alternative Kindergarten families: We have decided to cancel our traditional Kindergarten Round-Up and AK Round-Up events. Each school will find alternate ways to greet you and your family as well as share and gather important information about your child's transition to kindergarten. You can expect to hear from your child's elementary principal by the end of May. You will then receive periodic information from your school throughout the summer. Currently, our first day of school is scheduled for Monday, August 24. We look forward to meeting each of our newest Prairie Hawks and partnering with your family in the years to come.
- We are working in various teams to begin our Return to Learn plan for the fall. We will share additional information as our plans become more definite. You may have read the proclamation from Governor Reynolds in which she gave schools the authority to start school before August 23, 2020. While we will review this option carefully as a district, operational logistics and resources may make extending the school year by starting earlier cost prohibitive.

May is School Board Recognition Month. This group of elected volunteers spends countless hours in support of our staff and students. Many thanks to Directors Randy Bauer, Greg Kelsey, Jed Petersen, Angie Ehle, Todd Hahlen, Jim Hodina, and Dawn Kousheh! Please join me in thanking these seven individuals for their support and guidance as we work to serve students every day, and especially in this unique COVID-19 crisis.

Thank you all for your ongoing contributions to College Community Schools. Even though we can't be together right now, we are finding ways to stay connected and supportive of one another!

In Service,

Doug Wheeler, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools