



School Information and Updates

Friday, October 16, 2020

7th -12 GRADE ANNOUNCEMENT

We are planning a full return to onsite instruction for 7th graders starting Tuesday, October 27.

1. Regardless of announcements related to onsite instruction, students in Temporary Virtual Learning will remain in that program through the end of the semester.
2. Elementary (PK-6) will remain in full onsite learning for all students.

We will continue to monitor current positive trends in Tier 1 and 2 for any changes and consider stakeholder feedback for new surveys. The District remains committed to returning all students onsite. This extension allows for more monitoring and planning.

[Hybrid Learning Plan Update for 8th -12th Graders](#)

[CCSD COVID-19 Learning Model Metrics/Considerations](#)

[Sources in Determining Metrics](#)

[Updated Hybrid Learning Schedule](#)

FREE LUNCH AND BREAKFAST EXTENDED TO END OF SCHOOL YEAR

We are pleased to announce that the USDA extended free meals for all children 18 years old and younger for the rest of the 2020-2021 school year. The State of Iowa announced on October 14 that our state will extend the free breakfast and lunch meals to all children age 18 and under for the 2020-2021 school year. Participation in this program is encouraged. Participation does not take away from someone else. Participation helps our program to stay financially viable and to use up the inventory we have so we have less waste. Participation also helps to extend your budget and saves you time prepping lunches.

CONTACT TRACING

Our district and building teams implement our protocol for contact tracing when notified of a staff or student who has tested positive for COVID-19 and were present at school during their infectious period. We appreciate the cooperation from our families when we find it necessary to quarantine students.

We consistently follow our protocol to make sure that we have a comprehensive approach and can complete contact tracing in a timely way. At the same time, each situation is a little different and needs to be considered individually. In these cases, we rely on the expertise of our nursing staff, administrative team, and Linn County Public Health to address the unique circumstances that arise.

COVID REPORTING & CONTACT TRACING: EXTRA- AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students and staff are expected to immediately report any confirmed or potential COVID-19 cases to the school activities director and building principal. The activities director / principal will then report the case to the school nurse and District Health Supervisor.

If a student or staff member participating in (or sponsoring) a co-curricular or extra-curricular activity tests positive for COVID-19, the following steps will be taken:

- The activity will immediately be suspended and contact tracing will start
- The activity may be suspended until contact tracing is completed
- During the contract tracing period, all students and staff may have to quarantine and may not be allowed to attend school, in addition to other school/district activities or events
- The contact tracing process will begin as soon as possible
- Once contact tracing is completed and the District provides clearance, the Activity may resume. Students and staff not identified as close contacts may resume participation in activities and attendance at school.

Students and staff that are identified as being in close contact with the individual testing positive must follow quarantine guidance. The student return date will be communicated to the students and their families by a district representative.

FACE MASK COVERINGS (GAITERS)

Reminder that gaiters will not be permitted as alternatives to face masks during the school day unless for a medical reason as determined by a medical provider or an educational reason as approved by the principal. Also, face masks with exhalation valves are also not permitted due to the CDC's determination that these types of masks allow virus particles to escape into the air. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation as we strive to improve our efforts in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in our schools.

BEHAVIOR CHANGES AT HOME

At CCSD, we understand that students communicate with their behavior. During the experience of the pandemic, children will communicate their thoughts and feelings in a variety of ways, some of which are not always clear. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) highlights behavioral changes in children that have been observed during the pandemic, as well as [ideas for supporting children](#). Here are some behavioral changes that are seen in children and teens during the pandemic and other times of significant change.

- Excessive crying or irritation in younger children.
- Returning to behaviors they have outgrown (for example, toileting accidents or bedwetting).
- Excessive worry or sadness.
- Unhealthy eating or sleeping habits.
- Irritability and "acting out" behaviors in teens.
- Poor school performance or avoiding school.
- Difficulties with attention and concentration.
- Avoidance of activities enjoyed in the past.
- Unexplained headaches or body pain.
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

If you have questions about your child's behavior at school or would like to talk to someone at school about additional support for your child's social-emotional development or mental health,

please contact your school principal, counselor, nurse, or building facilitator. A list of these staff members can be found [here](#).

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER EVENTS CANCELLED

America Reads 2020 scheduled for Friday, October 23 at College Community Schools and Prairie High School Key Club's annual Trunk or Treat event for all Prairie Elementary students have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

NOW HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

College Community Schools is currently hiring school bus drivers

Class B CDL required - we train

Starting wage \$19.00/hour

20-25 hours/week - part time

If interested, please contact the Transportation Department at 319-848-5204.