



School Information and Updates

Friday, March 12, 2021

Last Day of School for Students is June 4, 2021

At the March 8, 2021 Board meeting, the Board approved the plan for calendar modifications for this school year due to Derecho and inclement weather. The last day for students, originally scheduled for June 1 is now June 4. June 4 includes a 4- Hour early release.

Check out the Video of the New 5-6 Building

Superintendent Dr. Doug Wheeler and OPN Architects Project Manager Toby Olsen provide a project overview of the new Prairie Creek 5/6 building. They discuss design elements and talk about decisions that went into each phase of the building. The video provides a great indoor and outdoor fly through of the new school.

[Click here](#) to check out the video.

Quarantine Adjustments

We have continued to track data related to student illness and the rate of potential transmission within the schools as we balance quarantine requirements with the importance of consistency in school attendance for students. Our local data aligns with nationwide data which indicates that our schools are not environments where the virus spreads significantly.

We are proceeding with the following modifications to the quarantine guidance for school-based exposures which will support increased student attendance in a safe manner.

Starting April 1, students in quarantine for school-based exposures may return to school after 10 days of quarantine with a negative COVID test given after day 5.

A 14-day quarantine will continue to remain in place for household exposures and may apply to some school exposures due to the nature of the exposure.

Outdoor Facilities Open April 1

College Community Schools will begin opening up outdoor facilities and fields for youth sports and rentals beginning April 1st, 2021. COVID Mitigation strategies will remain in place: Masks and social distancing will still be required by all. Important Notice: Each youth Group will be required to submit your sport specific COVID mitigation strategies for coaches, athletes, and spectators to the Activities Office. In the event of a spike in COVID cases, it may result in additional restrictions including temporary postponement and/or cancellation of events/activities.

Spring Break - Free Breakfast and Lunch Meal Pick Up

A week worth of assorted meals will be available for curbside pick-up on Monday, March 15th from 10:30 AM-1:00 PM from Prairie Hill Elementary. All meals for children 18 years and younger are **free** through the rest of this school year. Sign up is not required. Please contact Nutritional Services at 319-848-5337 or vscott@crprairie.org or mmiddleton@crprairie.org if you have any questions.

USDA Extends Free Meals to Children through Summer 2021 Due to Pandemic

Free breakfast and lunch meals for children 18 years old and under have been extended through September 30, 2021. More information to come.

Mask Use on the School Bus

Please remind your children that it is essential for them to wear their masks on the school bus for the duration of the ride to and from school. We have recently noticed that students are less consistent with mask use on the school bus than they were previously.

Mask use on the bus IS EFFECTIVE in preventing the spread of the virus. We monitor the health of other riders when there is a positive student on the bus and see little to no potential transmission of COVID-19 on the school bus.

When reviewing video for mask use, if we identify a student repeatedly disregarding the expectation of wearing a mask on the bus, they may lose riding privileges. We hope to avoid taking this step but must do what we can to ensure that we are keeping students and drivers safe.

School Volunteer Update

Great strides have been made in the Covid-19 vaccine process making it possible for us to open up volunteering at Prairie Schools a bit more. At the return from Spring Break on March 22nd, all adults may volunteer once the following steps are completed:

1. Watch the online presentation [here](#) outlining Covid-19 mitigation strategies.
2. Complete the acknowledgement form [here](#) stating that you agree to abide by these strategies.
3. Complete the online volunteer registration form [here](#).

When these three steps are completed, you will receive an email that you are approved to volunteer at Prairie Schools again. You do not need to volunteer a minimum number of hours or provide proof of receiving a Covid-19 vaccination. You may contact your children's teacher to see if they need your volunteer help or contact District Volunteer Coordinator Kathy Waychoff at kwaychoff@crprairie.org or by phone at 319-848-5224 for a volunteer placement.

This policy will be reviewed at the end of March. We are moving slowly and carefully when welcoming volunteers back into our schools. Our primary responsibility is the safety of our students, staff and volunteers. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we take small steps to ensure everyone's safety.