



April 30, 2020

College Community Families,

Thank you for your support and encouragement of your children at home as we continue to provide educational experiences remotely. We will continue to monitor and refine our efforts with continuous learning while we work to serve our students in this unprecedented situation.

I continue to be so very grateful for our nutritional services staff, daycare staff, and several other employees that have worked daily on campus to tend to essential tasks during the school closure. Additional employees will be returning to work beginning next week as our custodial and maintenance crews begin summer routines to prepare for the return to school in the fall. Throughout the school closure period, construction on campus and facilities planning has continued with the appropriate safety precautions in place and, consequently, I am pleased to report that we are on or ahead of schedule for all construction projects at this time.

We are staying in communication with one another and with local and state agencies during the closure period. Members of our administrative team regularly attend virtual meetings with the Iowa Department of Education, Grant Wood AEA, the Department of Human Services, and many others. Our administrative cabinet and our full administrative staff meet weekly and the teachers and principals of each school schedule virtual weekly meetings to support one another in their implementation of continuous learning plans. Various other work teams meet weekly to continue to connect with one another and tend to essential business. We have also found ways to adapt our interview processes so that the important work of hiring the best teachers, administrators, and support staff can continue on schedule and in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year.

Here are a few updates on closure-related topics of interest to our families and community for this week:

- Leaders within our school district and across our larger community are aware of the mental health challenges that this health crisis has created. If your family is experiencing difficulty, you are not alone and help is available. Please contact your school counselor or principal or access one of the community resources below:
  - Foundation 2 Crisis Line: 319.362.2174
  - Your Life Iowa (Iowa's statewide crisis line): 855.581.8111
  - Your Life Iowa Crisis Text: 855.895.8398
- In alignment with the guidance to continue practicing social distancing, we do not anticipate opening schools for parents and students to pick up personal property until sometime after May 15. More information will be shared from your child's school at a later date.
- Grab N Go meals will be served through the last official day of the school year, June 4. **Please note: Meals will not be served on Monday, May 4th, or on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th.**
- Thank you to our community partners who are helping us distribute copies of learning materials for PK-8 students. Print materials selected by our CCSD teachers are available at the following locations:
  - **All CCSD-sponsored meal sites**
  - **Cedar Rapids:** Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park Office, 615 Miller Avenue Drive Southwest
  - **Cedar Rapids:** Cedar Valley Townhomes Office, 3000 J Street Southwest
  - **Cedar Rapids:** ASAC Heart of Iowa Office, 4050 Bowling Street Southwest
  - **Cedar Rapids:** Prairie Reserve Apartments Office, 6610 College Park Court Southwest
  - **Fairfax:** Casey's General Store, 65 Williams Boulevard
  - **Walford:** BP Gas Station, 200 Highway 151 East
  - **Swisher and Shueyville:** BP Gas Station, 2722 120th Street / Interstate 380 Exit 10
- There are multiple activities in the spring and summer months that will be affected by the school closure. As decisions are made, school administrators and teachers will communicate plans for these activities to the students and families who are impacted.

- We are thankful for the warm and sunny weather! Please remember that our campus facilities, both inside and outdoors, are closed. This includes the playgrounds, fields, and tennis courts, at all schools. This closure will remain in effect until further notice.

Please see our archive of previous communications and current information related this school closure available on our website in a section titled "COVID-19 (Coronavirus) UPDATES" <http://www.prairiepride.org/COVID19/>

In Service,

Doug Wheeler, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools