



BELLEVUE COMETS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Changes to the "Norm" and Parent Assistance

The Bellevue Community School District is striving to make the 2020-2021 school year successful for each and every student in our district. While we are continually monitoring the environmental conditions for our community and beyond, we are planning on having students in school full-time on August 24. The "Return to Learn Plan" and "Key Components of the Return to Learn Plan" can be found at the district website at www.bellevue.k12.ia.us and are getting closer to final completion with an emphasis on the safety of our students and staff as the number one priority in our decision-making as a district. Changes to our plans will be guided by recommendations from the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Public Health (and local health departments), and similar professional entities.

As the Superintendent, I struggle with many of these guidelines and procedures as they are a dramatic change to the "norm" of our schools and society. Yet, I also recognize and believe they are 100% necessary for the successful entry of students into school and keeping the school environment safe as we continue through the school year.

Parental Involvement and Assistance

Your involvement as a parent is always valued and needed. Your dedication to assisting students with their learning and being a support for them is vital. Education is a community effort, and another area where the district and its fellow families and students need parental support is assisting in the monitoring of the health of students. As a result, each day parents need to complete a short health check of their children before school and report any of the following symptoms below to the appropriate school office, as the symptoms indicate a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and also puts them at risk of spreading COVID-19 and other illnesses to their peers and staff at school.

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- Body Aches
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- New loss of taste or smell
- New, undiagnosed rash

If students have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher or any of the other symptoms students should remain at home and be fever-free (without fever-reducing medicine) for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school. Students who are absent from their classes at school due to illness, appointments, etc. will access their assignments through the district-level applications of Seesaw (K-5) and Google Classroom (6-12).

We understand the uncertainty that remains about COVID-19 and its future impact on your families and community, but we are working diligently to enhance the safety in our buildings and beyond for our students and staff. I am in regular communication with the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Public Health representatives in our area and will continue to respect their professional opinions in all of our decisions as we enter the school year. This may be a challenging year, but working together with the common goal of success for our students we cannot fail. When we keep our students in mind, we can provide the best learning opportunities possible to thrive despite the circumstances. Thank you for your willingness to adapt and support the Bellevue Community School District!

Tom Meyer, Bellevue CSD, Superintendent - tommeyer@bellevue.k12.ia.us

BELIEVE IN THE BLUE

It is the policy of the Bellevue Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender identity, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability or socioeconomic status in its educational programs, services, or employment practices.