

The Weekly Comet Update

From Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

Believe in the Blue! Believe in Learning! Believe in Bellevue!

NO School/Early Dismissal

Scheduled Dates with No School

Reminder: No school for students on Monday, January 18 in honor of MLK Day.

Also, some upcoming dates to be aware of include the following:

- February 10 & 11 - 3-Hour Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Information will be coming from the school buildings in regard to the schedule for conferences. We will be utilizing the same schedule of conferences as last semester, with the option for "Zoom" meetings as an option for families who do not wish to or cannot attend in person.
- February 12-15 - No School
- April 2-6 - No School (Spring Break)

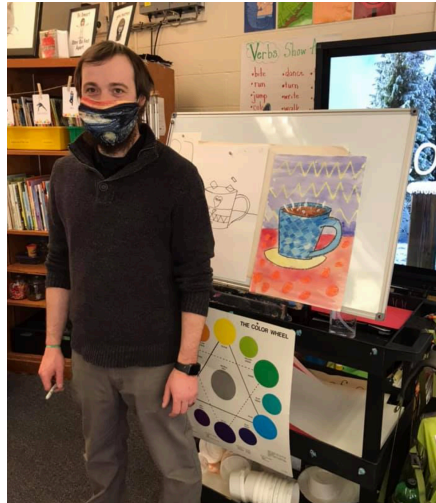
Weather-Related Closures

If weather conditions dictate an unplanned late-start, early-dismissal, or a day with no school this will be e-mailed to parents, placed on social media (Facebook and Twitter), along with on media outlets KCRG, KWWL, KWQC. Additionally, it will be on the Maquoketa radio station and Dubuque radio stations. On days with no-school this decision is typically made before 6:00 AM (6:15 at the latest).

District-Wide COVID-19 Information - January 15, 2021

The positivity rate for COVID-19 in Jackson County has increased in the last couple of weeks again, and is at about 16% overall for the county. While the district has not seen a significant impact in school, it has still impacted the attendance at school of some of our students and staff members who have tested positive or are in quarantine as a result of being a "close-contact" of someone who has tested positive. None of these situations appear to be a result of "spread" within our school facilities or activities.

Staff Member Highlight



During the semester I will be highlighting several staff members in the upcoming weeks.

This week's staff member is Jesse Bakey. Jesse serves as a K-12 Art Teacher, with the largest majority of his time at the middle/high school level, with some parts of his afternoon at the elementary.

Some information about Mr. Bakey and his entry into teaching includes that he decided to go into teaching as a result of his high school art teachers when he was in high school, and how he wants to inspire students to create like his teachers encouraged him to when he was a student.

Additionally, his favorite moments teaching are when he sees the excitement of students when they create something they are proud of.

Mitigation of COVID-19

The district is not lessening any of our mitigation strategies, and are maintaining our standards. Some of these include the following:

1. Wear a mask in the building when 6-feet social distancing cannot be maintained. Rooms are still spaced out by 6-foot in most cases.
2. Washing hands and using hand sanitizer in school regularly.
3. Masks are required at ALL events for spectators, and participants on the bench.

Event Attendance.

Attendance at Basketball Games and Wrestling Meets at Bellevue will continue with attendance being limited to household members of the participants in the game or at the game in order to attempt to follow the proclamation orders from Governor Reynolds in regard to social distancing. This will continue to include cheerleaders, pep band, dance team, and other student participants. These spectators will be able to stay for the duration of the entire event that evening, and will not need to leave after their participant's event is completed.

- a. Example: If a spectator has a ticket to only the JV girls game, they will be allowed to stay for all of the games that evening.

Help us keep our students healthy, and continue our seasons/performances!

