

The Weekly Comet

From Dr. Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

Believe In The Blue. Believe In Bellevue.

Upcoming Events, Early Dismissals, and "No School" Days

- Jan. 15 - No School for students - MLK Jr. Day
- Feb. 14 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Teacher Professional Learning
- February 19 - President's Day - No School
- March 6 & 7 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- March 8 - No School
- March 20 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Teacher Professional Learning
- March 29-April 2 - No School for Students - Spring Break

Perry Community School District - Safety

As many of you are likely aware, there was a school shooting in the Perry Community School District yesterday, which is located near Des Moines. From reports in the media and from law enforcement, before school officially started a student shot several other students and a school administrator with one student being killed. At this time, other official information is seemingly somewhat limited.

This type of action in the Perry Schools is completely unfortunate for everyone. A key message to pass along to students and others in our community as a whole is that **"If you see something, say something."** Students, staff, parents, community members, and others need to let others know in the district if they are concerned about their safety or the safety of others. We must all work together to assist in the safety of everyone in the school (and community) at all times. It is the role of everyone in our community and beyond to assist in maintaining the safety of others in school and beyond.

The district continues to work to maintain a safe environment for students and staff, and this includes the physical entrances to the buildings, rules and regulations within the schools for students and staff, and specific behaviors and expectations for students and staff in our system overall. The district has enhanced safeguards in our schools over the last few years, and will continue training for staff (and students) during this school year.

Weather-Related and Emergency Notifications

Weather-related cancellations, delays, and early dismissals (along with any emergency alerts) are posted in a variety of ways, including the JMC Student Management System via email and text, social media areas, and local TV and radio outlets. A summary of the areas is below:

- Email and Text - All parents (primary contact) who have shared a valid email address and cell number will be notified via email and text of weather-related late starts, early dismissals, and days with no school.
- Social media Facebook - Tom Meyer on Facebook and TomMeyerBHS on Twitter ("X")
- Radio and TV - Dubuque and Maquoketa radio stations and area local TV stations

Start of the 2nd Semester

The 2nd semester of the school year began on Thursday. At the current time, the final day of the semester is scheduled to be on Thursday, May 23. This date could change based on weather-related school cancellations. As some of you may know, the district is required to complete a specific amount of hours (1080) each school year. This is different than several years ago when the requirement was based on "days of school". The Bellevue CSD has more than 1080 hours scheduled each year, which also means that it is possible that we would only make up some of the school days missed and not all of them (as we have done over the last few years).

