

The Weekly Comet Update

From Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

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

EVALUATING SICK STUDENTS AND STAFF Reopening Iowa's Schools Safely and Responsibly

HIGH RISK SYMPTOMS

New cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell

LOW RISK SYMPTOMS

Fever, headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Students and staff members should remain home when sick. Students or staff members with any high-risk symptom or two or more low risk symptoms should stay home and are advised to seek an evaluation by a health care provider.

EVALUATION BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving

ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS

POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving and 10 days since symptoms started

IDENTIFYING CLOSE CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 CASES

Close Contact: Individuals who've been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes with a positive COVID-19 case during the infectious period. Contact may occur in a classroom, lunchroom, free period, during transportation to or from school, at practices or games, and during extracurricular activities.

SCHOOL WILL:

- Notify local public health department
- Identify close contacts and quarantine exposed students and staff
- Notify appropriate school administration, families and staff (without identifying the COVID-19 case)
- Provide Public Health with list of close contacts

PUBLIC HEALTH WILL:

- Recommend quarantine for all household contacts of COVID-19 case
- Work with school to determine which students and staff should be quarantined

STUDENTS

- If no symptoms develop, students can return to school 14 days from their last contact with the COVID-19 case
- If symptoms develop, students should be evaluated by a health care provider
- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for 10 days
- If a student tests negative for COVID-19, they must still complete their 14-day quarantine before returning to school

STAFF

- Staff may be considered critical personnel and can be allowed to return to work if there are staffing shortages as long as they remain asymptomatic
- Staff should take their temperature and screen for symptoms at the start and end of each day, and wear a mask at work
- If symptoms develop, they must isolate immediately

INDIVIDUALS PREVIOUSLY POSITIVE

- Those who have been previously diagnosed positive for COVID-19 within the past 12 weeks, and were exposed to a COVID-19 case, do not need to quarantine

The graphic on the opposite side is a general graphic in regard to student and staff illness, and what the requirements are from the district based on input from the Iowa Department of Health.

Please note that someone with "One" High-Risk Symptom or "Two" Low-Risk symptoms indicates the need to stay home and consult a medical professional. Students are not allowed to return to school with these symptoms until they have a negative COVID-19 Test or a doctor's note allowing them to come back to school. If these options are not met, a student is out of school for 10 days.



The Bellevue High School Volleyball team were champions at the Anamosa Volleyball Tournament on Saturday, September 5.

Bellevue Boys Cross Country is ranked #6 in the state, and Brady Griebel is ranked #1 in the state. Brady recently broke the school record at Tipton on Tuesday night and was the winner in a strong field.



The Bellevue High School Football Team is playing again this Friday at North Linn, and has a strong team again.



Students are actively learning and are continuously engaged in a variety of learning opportunities. To the bottom right is Mr. Davies teaching music in the gym while Mr. Huntley is teaching in the classroom due to a lack of space and the rearrangement of learning spaces based on COVID-19. A reminder is that our rooms are set up as much as possible to attain the 6-foot social distancing for students and staff.



