

SUPERINTENDENT

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BELLEVUE COMETS

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: Students and Parents of the Bellevue Community School District

From: Tom Meyer, Bellevue CSD Superintendent of Schools

Re: School Closure Extension

Date: April 2, 2020

This afternoon Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds released an order for schools to remain closed until Thursday, April 30 due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), which has been impacting the state and nation. As a result, the learning of students will continue to be impacted.

The district recognizes that education offered through online resources and "packets" of work sent home is not equivalent to face-to-face education for all students in grades PK-12 based on their various learning needs. As a result, the district is working to develop a cohesive plan to deliver strong opportunities for the learning needs of our students in the upcoming weeks and meet the "Continuous Learning" goals of the state and district.

The expectation is to have students engaged in the learning process through a variety of activities that teachers and building principals will be communicating in the upcoming days. While we have had a vast amount of learning opportunities offered to students up to this point in the closure, we will be reorganizing our process in the upcoming days for students. We believe it is crucial for students to continue to be engaged in learning opportunities, and some of the reasons for this are below:

- Engagement forces students to continue to "use their brains" and "think" beyond normal activities. This also includes real-world learning opportunities that you can provide your student at home.
- The involvement in learning opportunities is important to allow students to continue to move forward and grow academically.
- Offering opportunities for learning assists in confronting the boredom that some students experience during these extended times away from school.
- New challenges are important for students to have at this time, and ideally provides students an opportunity to gain a sense of self-worth academically.

At this time, the Bellevue CSD expects students to return to school on Friday, May 1. More information will be coming out in the "Weekly Comet" newsletter on Friday, along with other regular communication from principals and teachers.

BELIEVE IN THE BLUE