



## **School Information and Updates**

### **Friday, January 29, 2021**

#### **QUARANTINING GUIDANCE**

As shared in last week's communication, the CCSD School Board recently approved returning to the Iowa Department of Public Health guidance on contact tracing and quarantining as it relates to the use of facemasks. This will help us reduce the number of students who need to quarantine when we have a positive individual at school.

We are still examining the feasibility of reducing the quarantine to 10 days which the CDC states is an acceptable alternative provided additional conditions are met. The difficulty with taking this step is that students are not able to wear facemasks and maintain six feet of physical distance from others for 100% of the school day as recommended by the CDC.

To manage the impact that the pandemic is having on our schools and district, we are maintaining comprehensive records of contact tracing. This makes it possible for us to analyze any transmission of COVID-19 that may have occurred at school. We will continue to monitor this data and make changes to our required quarantine length if possible, while still prioritizing the safety of our students and staff.

#### **BULLYING PREVENTION**

Even though we are in the midst of a global pandemic, as a school district we balance many other priorities that are also very important to the health and safety of our students. One of these priorities is our ongoing work with bullying prevention and response. Please check out the information available to our parents and community members at [this link](#). It contains information on Iowa's Bullying Prevention Law, our Board Policy related to bullying prevention, and the bullying investigation process.

In times of uncertainty, it is normal for children of all ages to experience behavioral changes and to be less emotionally regulated. Students' stress responses may be on higher alert. This can cause some students to be more sensitive to what others say and do. It could also make it more likely that some students engage in bullying behavior when they would not if life was more predictable. If you suspect that a child in your life is experiencing or exhibiting bullying behavior at school, please complete [this form](#) or call the school directly.

#### **FOOD AND NUTRITION**

**Free breakfast and lunch meals are available daily for all children 18 years old and under for the rest of the school year.** If students bring cold lunch from home, they are able to purchase a carton of milk for \$0.50.

**Curbside Meals:** Available Monday-Friday 10:30AM-11:30AM from the west staff parking lot drive through at Prairie Hill Elementary. Meals will be available for daily or weekly pick up for virtual students and all children 18 years old and under who are not enrolled in school.

For weekly meal pick up, please schedule ahead by calling or emailing Food and Nutrition at 319-848-5337 or [vscott@crprairie.org](mailto:vscott@crprairie.org) or [mmiddleton@crprairie.org](mailto:mmiddleton@crprairie.org). If you are not able to pick

up at the scheduled time, we may be able to make arrangements to accommodate your needs. If you do not have access to the necessary equipment to cook frozen meals, we can make accommodations to the meals we provide to your children.

All meals for children 18 years and younger are **free** through the rest of this school year. We appreciate your participation in the breakfast and lunch programs as this helps the Food and Nutrition Department to stay financially stable.

**Classroom Treats for Grades K-4:** Parents/guardians may charge classroom treats/ birthday treats to their student's meal account as long as there are sufficient funds in the account. Payment must be received before the event. Cash and check payments are also accepted by the Clerk of the building. Please order at least 1 week in advance. Orders are delivered directly to the classroom. Questions? Call 319-848-5337. This service is to be used to order snacks/treats for an entire classroom and is not intended to be used to order for an individual student. Order treats [Here](#).

\*\*If parents are ordering birthday/snack treats they may inquire with the teacher to see if there are any food allergies in the class. If there is/are a student/students with an allergy, parents/guardians may add an allergen free item to their order.

### **INCOMING AK/KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES**

We look forward to meeting our newest Prairie Hawks when they begin Kindergarten or Alternate Kindergarten in August. **For the health and safety of all involved, our traditional AK/Kindergarten Round-Up events will not be held this spring.** Each school will find alternative ways to greet incoming AK/Kindergarten students and families as well as share and gather important information about your child's transition to AK/Kindergarten. You can expect to hear from your child's Elementary Principal by the end of May. You will then receive periodic information from your school throughout the summer. Currently, our first day of school is scheduled for **Monday, August 23**. We look forward to partnering with your family in the years to come.

### **AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE POST CARD YOU RECEIVED IN THE MAIL LAST WEEK, A REMINDER THAT PRELIMINARY ENROLLMENT FOR PRESCHOOL, AK AND KINDERGARTEN IS NOW OPEN.**

- If your child will be 4 years old by September 15, 2021, they are eligible to enroll in preschool for the 2021-2022 school year. Click [here](#) to complete the Preschool Preliminary Enrollment Form. If you have questions about Prairie Hawks Preschool or wrap-around care, please contact the ECC Office at (319) 848.5296.
- If your child will be 5 years old by September 15, 2021, they are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten or AK for the 2021-2022 school year. Click [here](#) to complete the AK/Kindergarten Preliminary Enrollment Form. If you have questions about AK or Kindergarten, please contact the District Enrollment Specialist at (319) 848.5202.