

Pleasantville Community School District

415 Jones Street
Pleasantville, IA 50225
www.pvillecsd.org
(515) 848-0555
@PvilleCSD



March 18, 2020 Pleasantville Families,

Below is an FAQ document that was developed to openly share information and proactively answer questions regarding the unprecedented events surrounding COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We know our community has many questions, and we will do our best to answer all in a timely manner. We also ask for your patience as our team continues to work through the many issues that must be addressed. We will continue to communicate with you often as information becomes available and as we seek additional guidance from health authorities and the Iowa Department of Education.

Thank you, again, for your flexibility and patience during this school closure. Even though the times are difficult and uncertain, we look forward to continuing to serve our students and school community. Thank you for your continued support and trust of the Pleasantville Community School District. We will continue to provide updates through direct e-mail messages, on our social media platforms (Facebook & Twitter) and district website.

Sincerely,

Tony Aylsworth, Superintendent
Pleasantville Community Schools
(515) 848-0555
Taylsworth@pvillecsd.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the dates of school closure? Our school district is following the Governor's recommendation to close all Iowa schools from March 23rd through April 13th.

Will the required number of student contact hours be modified? The Iowa Legislature and Governor have already announced that the requirement for students to make up school days missed during the COVID-19 school closure period will be waived. The school board will be examining potential calendar changes for the current school year and may add back in some student contact hours where possible.

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What does the school facility closure entail for our school district? As previously announced, the Pleasantville Community School District is closed starting March 16 through April 13. Only essential staff will be allowed in the buildings during the time of the closure. The only facilities that will be open are the track and stadium for community walkers. No school practices, events, or open gyms of any kind will be conducted during the period of school closure. Students, staff and patrons are directed to stay out of the school buildings for the duration of the closure.

Will the school do anything to help students with meals during this time? Yes! Following an emergency meeting of the school board on 3.17.20, I am happy to announce our food service department is making preparations to provide a combination breakfast and lunch option for Pleasantville Students while school is closed due to COVID-19. Starting Monday, March 23rd, “grab-and-go” meal services will be provided by the school and will continue through the school shutdown.

Meals will be available for pick up from 8:30 am -10:30 am at the high school commons entrance. These meals are prioritized for Pleasantville students and are available at 1 per person. Students will not stay on site to eat; meals are intended to be taken off campus.

The school district will also attempt a meal delivery service for those in need. To request meals be delivered, please complete the following online form at: <https://forms.gle/x9n6WaH4BBbeStcW6>. If you are unable to access the meal delivery request form or have trouble with the form for any reason, please contact Amy Fallis in the district office at (515) 848-0555 to request meal delivery.

Will we have graduation this year? What about prom, or other school/district events? All school and district events are cancelled / postponed until April 13th. We understand that our community greatly values these events and that our employees have invested a great amount of time and effort in preparing for these activities. Please know that every decision made is taken carefully and in the best interest of our students, staff, and community. We ask for your patience as our team continues to work through the many critical issues that must be addressed in the coming days. Rest assured that we will communicate with you often as information becomes available and as we seek additional guidance from national, state, and local authorities.

How will the district know if they have a confirmed case of COVID-19? How will the district respond? Schools will be contacted by public health officials if a student, student family member or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 and actions are required by the school. The Iowa Department of Public Health and/or Marion County Department of Public Health will recommend the best course of action based on the situation and the most up-to-date

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information about COVID-19 in the community. Local health officials will work with the school to communicate the possible COVID-19 exposure as needed. In such a circumstance, it is critical to maintain confidentiality. If a child or staff member has been identified with COVID-19, local health officials will determine when students and staff should return to schools and what additional steps are needed for the school community. In addition, students and staff who are well but are taking care of or share a home with someone with a case of COVID-19 should follow instructions from local health officials to determine when to return to school.

I need to get personal items from the school. Is there a way someone can help me retrieve my belongings? Yes. Please send an email to the appropriate building principal and they will make preparations to have any essential items retrieved and ready for pickup on Tuesday, March 24th from 9:00 - 10:00 am OR from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. Please be sure to include a description of the item and where it can be found. Elementary requests should be sent to Principal Tom Roff (troff@pvillecsd.org) and will be available in the front entryway of the elementary school. Secondary requests should be sent to Principal Gary Friday (gfriday@pvillecsd.org) and will be available in the entryway of the PHS commons. Please do not take it upon yourself to come into the school buildings during the extended shutdown.

If a student or staff has any required medication in the designated locked locations at school, please contact the building principal and school nurse (jray@pvillecsd.org) to arrange retrieval as necessary. You may be required to bring photo identification with you to pick up your medications.

What supports are available for students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

The federal Department of Education (DE) issued new resources around protecting student privacy and addressing questions regarding serving students with disabilities during the COVID-19 outbreak. If a school is closed for an extended period of time (generally, more than 10 consecutive school days) and educational services are not provided to other students, then services are not required for students with disabilities during the closure. Once school resumes, local educational agencies must make every effort to implement individualized education plans, and should consider, on an individualized basis, whether and to what extent compensatory services are required due to the closure.

Is online, virtual, or correspondence-based learning an option? At this time virtual / online / correspondence-based learning is not an option for the district. In addition to questions about the legality (in Iowa) regarding these types of learning, we do not currently have the resources to adequately and equitably provide virtual learning to all Pleasantville students. Our teacher leadership will be invited for an online conference call to discuss strategies for possible enrichment and extension opportunities for students during the COVID-19 shutdown. More

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information will be shared with parents and community as it becomes available. Our hope will be to try and provide age-appropriate and vetted resources for parents and students who want to provide enrichment and engagement opportunities to their children during this unprecedented time.

What deep cleaning measures are happening in the district? -

School busses and vehicles are being cleaned thoroughly with disinfectant spray during the COVID-19 shutdown. When our schools reopen, busses and vehicles will continue to be cleaned and disinfected.

Our Custodians have prioritized disinfecting common, high use areas in school buildings multiple times a day. Supplies were allocated several weeks ago in preparation for the flu/virus season. Each building has the necessary cleaning resources to ensure that all areas can be cleaned thoroughly.

What are the best ways to prevent the spread of this virus? The suggested best practices remain unchanged to prevent the spread of this virus and others. Good hygiene habits are the most effective way to reduce the spread of COVID-19 according to Public Health and the CDC. Hard surfaces and frequently touched areas such as stair rails and doorknobs are wiped down with a disinfectant solution multiple times a day. Cafeteria surfaces are disinfected before and after each lunch. There are also hand sanitizer stations located throughout the district. Our school custodians and school staff clean daily: All doorknobs/bars/handles All stair handrails All light switches All pencil sharpeners All floors All drinking fountains/water refilling stations All sink faucets All urinal/toilet handles All dispensers.

What specifically is prohibited for coaches/sponsors and their students during the district closure? In-person contact between coaches/sponsors and students for the duration of the period is prohibited. This means no practices, no competitions, no scrimmages, no strength and conditioning activities, no training sessions or participation with other school programs. Visit the IGHS AU/IHSAA website for more information:
<https://ighsau.org/news/frequently-asked-questions/>

What conversations should parents have with their children at home about all of this?

The district recommends the following resources: [Talking to Children about COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) - A Parent Resource](#) and the [Iowa Department of Public Health's Advice for Talking to Children about COVID-19 document](#).