



# Council Bluffs Community SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## COVID 19 Pandemic School Closure FAQ for Students and Parents

(Updated April 6, 2020)

### General

#### **How long will we be out of school?**

- The closure was recommended by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds through April 30th. The first scheduled day back will be Monday, May 4, 2020, unless there is another extension to the school closure for health and safety reasons.

#### **Will we have to make up the missed school days later?**

- The governor has waived the requirement to make up the days closed due to the pandemic.

#### **Will I be able to pass to the next grade level?**

- Yes, district curriculum specialists will adjust the curriculum so that students have every opportunity when we return to school to learn the standards required for their grade level and for each subject.

#### **When will school activities resume?**

- Activities will resume when schools reopen.

#### **Will there be a graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020?**

- The timing of a graduation ceremony will depend on the length of time schools remain closed. All efforts will be made to ensure students graduate with the necessary credits.

#### **What are the plans for the 5th Grade Promise to Succeed Ceremonies**

- The 5th Grade Promise to Succeed Ceremonies, as with other May events, will be rescheduled if it is possible to do so safely.

### Voluntary At Home Learning/Continuous Learning

#### **Do I have to do the work? Is it graded?**

- The work is not required or graded, but highly recommended to allow students to continue to be engaged in learning during closure.
- Teachers will be able to provide feedback to students on the work completed.

**Can I do make up work - will it count?**

- Students may use the closure to make up outstanding work as long as they have access to it prior to closure.

**Will the district provide voluntary Continuous Learning/Educational Enrichment opportunities or required educational services?**

- Based on the guidance from the Iowa Department of Education, like most Iowa districts, we will implement voluntary learning opportunities rather than required educational services.

**Will credit be awarded for the second semester?**

- Administrators are working on a plan to ensure students receive credit for coursework completed during semester two.

**What should students expect when the teacher(s) check in with them?**

- Teachers will ask students/parents of younger students about their academic work, answer any questions they might have, and support them with feedback.

**What materials and activities were sent home with students during closure?**

- All materials sent home with elementary students and instructions for secondary students can be found at <https://www.cb-schools.org/at-home-learning>

**How will teachers interact with students and families?**

- Contact may be initiated via Google Hangout Meet, District Gmail, Google Hangout Phone, or Google Chat. Some teachers are continuing to connect with parents on social media platforms.

**What will happen during a virtual class gathering set up by a teacher?**

- A virtual class gathering allows the students and the teacher to interact informally with each other and maintain a collective relationship. It provides an opportunity for students to reconnect and check-in with each other. The virtual class gathering is not designed to provide students with instruction.

**What should students do if they did not receive materials or Chromebooks?**

- Pick-up of educational resources is available for students and families at the Technology Support Center at 801 S 16th Street between the hours of 9am-4pm. Students in grades 2-12 may pick up a Chromebook if one was not taken home.

**What can families do if they do not have access to the internet at home?**

- We are finding that about 20% of district families do not have internet access and home. Multiple strategies for connecting the families have been employed, including providing information for the family to access internet through the Cox Connect2Compete

program, and directing students to locations within the community that have free BLink or school Wifi, such as school parking lots and parks in the northwest part of our community.

- Families in need of an internet solution are encouraged to contact the school district's technology department at 712-396-2633.

### **Preparation to Return to School**

#### **Do I have to bring back the materials provided before the closure?**

- Students must return their Chromebooks, chargers, and library books when school reopens. Any work completed during closure may be shared with teachers when school reopens.

#### **How will I know when school starts up again?**

- We will communicate using all of our media outlets, local news, Facebook, Twitter, and our website.

### **Helpful Contact Information**

All General Questions can be directed to the appropriate department on the District Main Phone Number: **712-328-6446**

Technology questions, including connection issues or access to the internet: **712-396-2633 or email [helpdesk@cbcsd.org](mailto:helpdesk@cbcsd.org)**