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COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Comet Highlights from the August 10, 2020 Board Meeting

| August 3-14 | Summer School (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week) |
|--------------|---|
| August 14 | New Teacher Orientation |
| August 17-21 | Professional Learning for Teachers and Staff |
| August 24 | First Day of School |
| September 7 | No School Labor Day |
| October 9 | Homecoming (No school this day due to P/T |
| | Conferences); Parade may be on Thursdayif social |
| | distancing and environmental conditions allow |
| October 23 | End of 1st Quarter |

Bellevue CSD "Return to Learn Plan" and "Key Components of the Plan"

www.bellevue.k12.ia.us

Board Notes for the Board Meeting on August 10, 2020

Consent Agenda

<u>APPROVED - Open Enrollment Requests</u>

- Abel Joshua Kueter K Dubuque to Bellevue
- Owen Jame Brokus K Dubuque to Bellevue
- The following four should be approved from Maquoketa to Bellevue (students at Bellevue in 2019-2020 school year)
 - Kendra Kula 9th
 - Arrianna Kula 12th
 - Matthew Kula 8th
 - Laila Kula 10th

"Comet Curriculum" and "Comet Reading and Reflection"

Registration Update

Registration seemed to flow well, and people maintained social distance overall, and I estimate that 95%+ work face coverings as encouraged to do. We also had a 6th-grade orientation for the students and parents on Tuesday night in the West Gym (families socially distanced from each

other) with about 30-35 families. We also took a tour in groups of three, which allowed for social distancing (with some doing better than others!). We did this as the 6th-grade students did not have an opportunity to visit last school year as we normally do.

The elementary only had 4 parents who did not attend registration that we were not aware of from previous communication. Eight families were on vacation or indicated the desire to come register in-person without a crowd.

Only 14 families from the MS/HS did not attend who did not contact the school to share they were not going to be able to attend due to other circumstances of being gone, etc.

We have 4 new 9th grade students from Andrew, plus 7 other students in the MS/HS building (11 total). At the same time, we also have 9 students not returning to Bellevue MS/HS this year. Three of these are going to be homeschooled (not through our program), two are open-enrolled to Maquoketa, while two also moved from Bellevue to the Maquoketa CSD, one to Hempstead, and one to the Chicago area.

Symptoms and Positive Test State Guidance

Below is information from the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Public Health in regard to online learning and positive tests and symptoms from a July 30 meeting. Some key aspects from my perspective are the following:

Times were specified when an online/remote learning format (hybrid learning) can be utilized, which is based on Community Transmission - Positivity Rates in the County. Jackson County is at 8% as of Thursday, August 6 (this is based on a 14-day measurement, which is also utilized by the state). FYI - The website just release for this is the following:

coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/percent-school-district-positive-analysis.

- Symptoms Evaluation High-Risk and Low-Risk Symptoms, and the evaluation of students and staff
 - This is a change from the past, as in the past we were told to identify each symptom as equal with one symptom meaning someone should not attend school or school events.
- Returning to School by Students
 - Students, staff, etc. will still need to be quarantined for 14 days if they are a close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (this is 14 days since the last contact with the individual with the positive test).
 - Students, staff, etc. will need to be gone from school for 24 hours if they have symptoms of COVID-19, plus they will need to have a negative COVID-19 test

- Staff and students may return to school after a positive test after 24 hours with no symptoms, no fever, and 10 days after symptoms started.
- Staff may be considered "critical personnel" if they have been exposed but are asymptomatic.
- Identification of "Close Contacts" in school when someone has tested positive for COVID-19 and working with the local department of health.
 - The district will work with the department of health to identify who were around the student in classrooms as a close contact (6 feet for 15 minutes or more total, not necessarily continuous). This is a reason why we will need to know where students are sitting in rooms on a regular basis (not a different seat every day) and keeping the same students working with each other in classes as a whole to narrow down student contact.





IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE

July 30, 2020

Return-to-Learn: Reopening Iowa's Schools Safely and Responsibly

Purpose

This guidance was written by the Iowa Department of Education (Department) in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and is intended to help districts (1) determine when to use each of the Return-to-Learn models they have planned for during the 2020-2021 school year, and (2) handle potential and/or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in schools. This guidance should be read in conjunction with prior guidance on <u>Return-to-Learn supports</u>, <u>Senate File 2310</u>, and <u>Reopening Guidance</u>. Please consult the Department's <u>Return-to-Learn Google site</u> for the latest supports for schools. In addition, always refer to the latest information from IDPH on their <u>COVID-19 site</u>.

Which of my approved Return-to-Learn models should I use?

The health, safety, and well-being of students, teachers, staff and their families is the most important consideration in determining whether temporary transitions to alternate learning models or school closures are necessary. The Iowa Departments of Education and Public Health, and local public health officials, will assist schools and districts with transitions based on the following criteria and conditions in their respective communities. The following table summarizes the levels of community transmission schools may observe and, for each, suggested mitigation strategies that align with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and IDPH guidance, and appropriate Return-to-Learn models.

| Community Transmission | Suggested Strategies | Return-to-Learn Model(s) |
|--|--|--|
| None to Minimal 0-5% positivity in county on average over the past 14 days * Healthcare resources remain stable | Stay home if you are sick or exposed to someone confirmed to have COVID-19 Practice frequent hand-washing Stay 6 feet from others as much as possible Use face coverings when able to do so safely and correctly Maintain frequent cleaning schedule using EPA-approved cleaning products Monitor absenteeism among teachers, staff, and students | On-Site Learning following DOE, IDPH and CDC guidance. Hybrid Learning as necessary based on Parent or guardian preference Student quarantine |

lowa Department of Education guidance should be viewed as advisory unless it's specifically authorized by state statute, according to lowa Code section 256.9A. This does not apply to administrative rules, declaratory orders, or materials required by federal law or courts.

| Community Transmission | Suggested Strategies | Return-to-Learn Model(s) |
|--|---|---|
| Minimal to Moderate 6-14% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days * Healthcare resources remain stable | Continue above strategies Reduce group events/gatherings Limit inter-school interactions Ensure student and staff groupings/cohorts are as static as possible and that interactions among groups of students and staff are limited | On-Site Learning following DOE, IDPH and CDC guidance. Hybrid Learning as necessary based on Parent or guardian preference Student quarantine |
| Substantial Controlled 15-20% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days AND 10% absenteeism among students expected for in-person learning * Healthcare resources remain stable | Continue above strategies Consider regular health checks for any on-site students/staff if feasible Cancel school events/gatherings Close communal spaces (e.g., cafeterias, media centers) | Hybrid Learning as necessary based on Parent or guardian preference Student quarantine Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning for an entire school building or district for up to 14 days may be requested: Please contact the Department of Education by submitting your information via the CASA system. Only the Departments of Education and Public Health can make the determination and provide temporary authorization to move to 100% online or remote learning. |
| Substantial Uncontrolled >20% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days with healthcare resource capacity concerns | State and local education and public health officials should work closely together to make decisions on school operations. | Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning for an entire school building or district for up to 14 days may be requested: Please contact the Department of Education by submitting your information via the CASA system. Only the Departments of Education and Public Health can make this determination and provide temporary authorization to move to 100% online or remote learning. |

*Your local public health department uses data to determine the level of community transmission. Most districts in lowa are in 2-4 counties, so it is important to know which public health departments you work with and how to contact them. The highest positivity rate in any county that a district is a part of should be considered.

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Evaluating Sick Students and Staff

Students or 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.

| High Risk Symptoms | Low Risk Symptoms |
|--------------------|--|
| | Fever, headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea |

| Evaluation by Health Care Provider | | |
|---|------------------------|---|
| Negative COVID-19 Test | Positive COVID-19 Test | |
| Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving | | 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 | Public Health 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 | Recommend quarantine for all household contacts of COVID-19 case Work with school to determine which students and staff should be quarantined |

| Students | Staff | Individuals Previously Positive |
|--|--|--|
| If no symptoms develop, students can return to school 14 days from their last contact with the COVID-19 case | Staff may be considered critical personnel and can be allowed to return to work is there are staffing shortages as long as they remain asymptomatic. | Those who have been previously diagnosed positive for COVID-19 within the past 12 weeks, and were exposed to a COVID-19 |

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Note the part directly above about "critical personnel"...I will talk about this on Monday.

| 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 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. | case, do not need to quarantine. |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
|--|---|----------------------------------|

What information do I need to submit in my application for Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning?

The Department will ask you to provide the following information:

- 1. Evidence of consultation with local/county public health determining that the area meets the requirements established by IDPH.
- 2. If the application for temporary permission is approved:
 - a. How will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that all students with IEPs are provided with FAPE during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?
 - b. How will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students who require mental health or health services still have access to these services during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?
 - c. How will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students with 504 plans continue to receive services?
 - d. How will the district continue to provide meals to students?
 - e. How will the district provide access to instructional materials and services for students who do not have access to the internet?
 - f. What process will you use to communicate with parents/families on educational services and changes in delivery models?

How quickly will the Departments of Education and Public Health respond to my application for Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning?

You will receive a response within 48 hours, not including weekends.

This plan is fluid and subject to change as more information becomes available. The Department will release an FAQ to supplement this information. If you have questions, please contact your <u>school improvement</u> <u>consultant</u>.

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

HIGH RISK SYMPTOMS

LOW RISK SYMPTOMS

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

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 <u>any</u> high-risk symptom or <u>two or more</u> 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

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

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

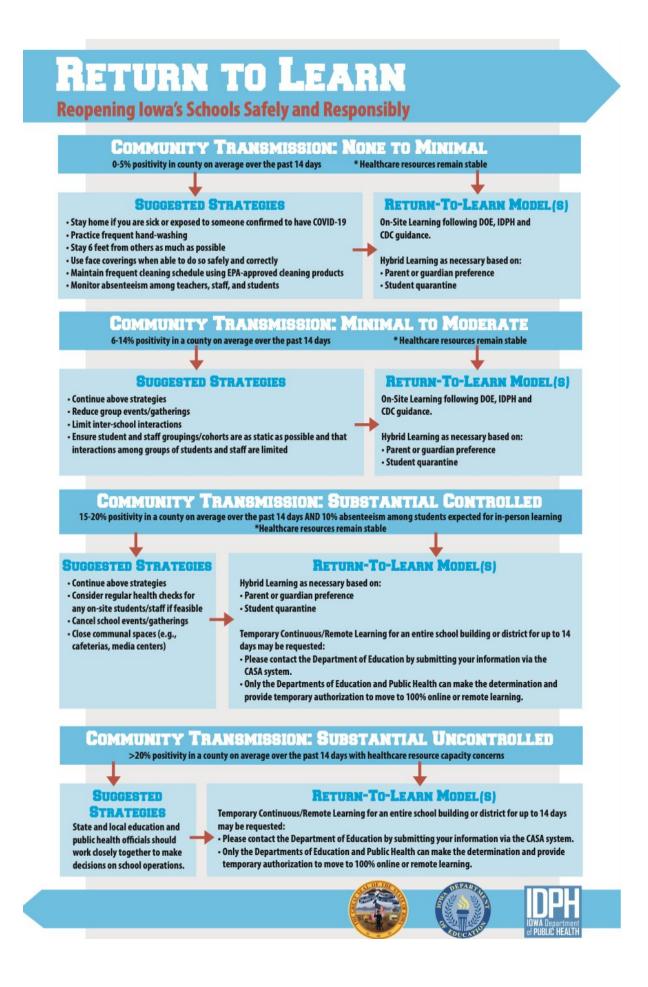
INDIVIDUALS PREVIOUSLY POSITIVE

 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





This plan is fluid and subject to change as more information becomes available.



Parent Notifications & Changes for the Start of the 2020-2021 Year

Below are three documents that I shared with parents in a letter, but also had available at Registration in one- to two-page summary.

Additionally, I have been doing about 2-minute videos on a variety of topics daily this week (and will continue next week) on social distancing, parental assistance on monitoring the health of their students, handwashing, hand sanitizing, face coverings, transportation, and some other topics. Ultimately, some people will read, some will watch, some need a face-to-face conversation with an informed friend, some only read the newspaper, some gain all of their "facts" from social media, and/or some need to hear it in some different way. My purpose is to offer information in a variety of ways.

Online Learning

See the information in the letters for online learning in regard to this form of instruction and option for families, but some basic information on choosing this path is the following:

- While I recognize the increase of cost of Edgenuity for our district, I also believe this is the most effective learning manner to do this for a family who decides to stay home for an extended period of time. We are allowing up to 6 courses for MS/HS students, and will adjust graduation requirements accordingly if necessary for graduation credits.
 - \circ At this time we have 13 students in the following buildings:
 - Elementary 11 students
 - MS/HS 17 students
 - Home School 5 students (all elementary)

The deadline I established for enrollment is August 12. I need to let the AEA know for our consortium agreement by that date (I have given them a tentative number currently that the district will not be held accountable for if we are less or more than this number). Some districts in our AEA have approximately 15-25% of students enrolling in the program. Our number is less than 5%.

- I believe the commitment to this program would need to be for a semester based on a smooth "transition" back to our school buildings and courses in the future with an Iowa-Standards based curriculum. This is a good program, while it also does not match (in my opinion) on-campus face-to-face learning.
- This type of program also takes a <u>dedication for both the student</u> <u>AND parent for success</u>, which may be difficult for both depending on the circumstances.

- Parents are still required to register for school (as mentioned above) and would be our full-time student, which is different if a family is home-schooled on their own. This gives parents and students some specific guidance and an established curriculum. The district counts an "Edgenuity student" as a full-student, while "home-school" students are only counted as about 0.1 of a student. This also allows for an easier transition back to school. We also provide a device to the registered student.
- A small number of districts are discussing having early dismissals and then having district teachers teach online for those families at home on those days or reserving 1-2 days a week for online teaching for staff. This, in my opinion, interrupts the majority of families and their successful learning environments. It can be done, but a parent could also ask "....if I am sending my student to school (like the majority), why should my student miss out on education for a smaller minority?" I do not have a very good answer for this from my vantage point.
- In addition, in my opinion this is not an appropriate teaching or learning situation for students or staff. "Zooming" students in daily for class with those in a face-to-face situation is not a long-term solution beyond a few days, and doing it after hours or in the afternoon after an early dismissal is also troubling as it is a separate lesson plan and teaching experience for the students. I do not see this being overly productive or successful.
- At the same time, IF we would have a school closure or go to a rotating day schedule or some students not in school certain days OUR district teachers WOULD provide the learning through online formats. The difference is that this would be for ALL students who normally attend school.
- I attached a recent letter to those interested in online learning, along with information specifically from Edgenuity.
- The key to remember for the present and the future, as I have mentioned in different contexts in the past....What are we offering that students cannot get from an online program, like Edgenuity? We have to offer students (and their families) more than they can get from an online program or from a homeschooling situation.



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Penny Medinger

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Changes to the "Norm" and Parent Assistance

The Bellevue Community School District is striving to make the 2020-2021 school year successful for each and every student in our district. While we are continually monitoring the environmental conditions for our community and beyond, we are planning on having students in school full-time on August 24. The "Return to Learn Plan" and "Key Components of the Return to Learn Plan" can be found at the district website at www.bellevue.k12.ia.us and are getting closer to final completion with an emphasis on the safety of our students and staff as the number one priority in our decision-making as a district. Changes to our plans will be guided by recommendations from the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Public Health (and local health departments), and similar professional entities.

As the Superintendent, I struggle with many of these guidelines and procedures as they are a dramatic change to the "norm" of our schools and society. Yet, I also recognize and believe they are 100% necessary for the successful entry of students into school and keeping the school environment safe as we continue through the school year.

Parental Involvement and Assistance

Your involvement as a parent is always valued and needed. Your dedication to assisting students with their learning and being a support for them is vital. Education is a community effort, and another area where the district and its fellow families and students need parental support is assisting in the monitoring of the health of students. As a result, each day parents need to complete a short health check of their children before school and report any of the following categorical symptoms below to the appropriate school office. These symptoms indicate a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and also puts them at risk of spreading COVID-19 and other illnesses to their peers and staff at school. Students and 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.

| High Risk Symptoms | Low Risk Symptoms |
|--|--|
| New cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell | Fever, headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea |

*Fever indicates a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, and students should stay home with a fever.

If students have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher or any of the other symptoms students should remain at home and be fever-free (without fever-reducing medicine) for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school. Students who are absent from their classes at school due to illness, appointments, etc. will access their assignments through the districtlevel applications of Seesaw (K-5) and Google Classroom (6-12).

We understand the uncertainty that remains about COVID-19 and its future impact on your families and community, but we are working diligently to enhance the safety in our buildings and beyond for our students and staff. I am in regular communication with the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Public Health representatives in our area and will continue to respect their professional opinions in all of our decisions as we enter the school year. This may be a challenging year, but working together with the common goal of success for our students we cannot fail. When we keep our students in mind, we can provide the best learning opportunities possible to thrive despite the circumstances. Thank you for your willingness to adapt and support the Bellevue Community School District!

Tom Meyer, Bellevue CSD, Superintendent - tommeyer@bellevue.k12.ia.us



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Online Learning Overview for Students Registered for the 2020-2021 School Year

Online Learning during the School Year Based on a Closure

The Bellevue Community School District is starting school on August 24 with all students, yet we recognize that online learning is a possibility for the future due to a school building closure, classroom quarantine, and similar situations. If students are sent home based upon COVID-19 circumstances for a length of time over one day, the Bellevue CSD staff will provide online instruction for learning to all students through Seesaw (PK-5) and Google Classroom (6-12). This would include video teaching through Zoom with students in small/large groups, required assignments and classwork on-line to be completed, and would follow the curricular standards for the grade level and curricular areas.

Online Learning Alternative for the Semester/Year

The district also recognizes that some families may be forced to make a difficult decision about whether or not to have their students return to school during the 2020-2021 school year. Families may make the difficult decision to keep their students at home due to potential complications and serious illnesses from COVID-19, based upon significant health risks of the student or the caretaker and others who live in the household. If families have health concerns/reasons to not send their students to school, the district will make quality learning options available.

Families who are not able to send their children back to school will have the option to make a semester-long commitment (or full-year if needed) to an online educational program. After working with several other district leaders in the area and across the state in evaluating online educational programming, the Bellevue CSD and many districts are going to utilize the online learning platform "Edgenuity" as an educational option for families. The district believes this program is a quality program and can meet student learning needs for a smooth transition back to school district classrooms at a future date. This program is of no extra cost to the families who are registered with the Bellevue CSD in the 2020-2021 school year and are not attending school in a face-to-face format. At the end of the first semester, the families would have the option to return to school or stay in the online learning format.

While this is an opportunity for families, it is not without concern for our district. We take great pride in the staff and programming we have in place in our school district and it takes funding to support what we have in place. For every student that utilizes *Edgenuity*, up to half of the funding we receive for those students, will go directly to *Edgenuity* rather than supporting the programming and staff we have in our local school district. The district would never choose financial concerns over the safety of students or staff, but I believe in sharing this information in hopes you will continue supporting the Bellevue Community School District in the best way possible. For those who would like more information on *Edgenuity*, please contact the school/district offices, along with viewing some of their information at the following two links: https://www.edgenuity.com/video-library/.

Students and families who wish to enroll in *Edgenuity* must be registered with the Bellevue CSD, and commit to this option by no later than **August 11, 2020**.

Tom Meyer Bellevue CSD Superintendent of Schools tommeyer@bellevue.k12.ia.us

BELIEVE IN THE BLUE

It is the policy of the Bellevue Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender identity, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability or socioeconomic status in its educational programs, services, or employment practices.



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BELLEVUE COMETS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Changes for the 2020-2021 School Year (subject to change)

Multiple changes are being made at this time within the Bellevue Community School District building and overall facilities. Some specific areas of change in procedures within our buildings are the following:

- <u>Handwashing</u> While hand washing has always been promoted, this practice will be emphasized more in the district for the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, the proper techniques for handwashing, using hand sanitizer, covering a cough/sneeze, etc. will also be covered extensively for all students.
- <u>Hand Sanitizer</u> When school begins hand sanitizer will be available at all entrances, in all classrooms, in food service areas, in hallways, locker rooms, and similar areas.
 - Mobile Hand Sanitizer stations will also be located at entrances for activities and events (gym area, football field, concession stands, etc.)
- <u>Protective Shields</u> "Glass Protective Guards" will be placed in school offices and serving lines for breakfast and lunch.
- <u>Cleaning</u> Cleaning procedures will be enhanced during the school year, and an Electrostatic Cleaning machine has been purchased to increase the cleaning effectiveness in classrooms, buses, hallways, playground equipment, and other areas.
- <u>Water Fountains</u> It is possible that water fountains where students drink from the same source will be turned off. This would mean that students would need to bring their own water bottle (water only), and this could be filled at specific water sources at school that easily allow for bottles to be filled with water.
- Face Coverings (Face Mask, Face Shields, Neck Gaiters, etc.) At this time there is not a requirement to wear face coverings or face shields by students, although they are strongly encouraged by the district. Staff members at the Bellevue CSD are required to wear face coverings when they are within 6-foot of students and other people. This approach could change in the future, but at this time, we are following the most recent guidance of the Iowa Department of Education. Specific areas where guidance may change include times and areas where more people are present at a certain time making social distancing difficult to achieve, specifically in hallways, lines for lunch and other activities, and on school buses. Additionally, anyone will be allowed to wear face coverings at any time in classrooms and other areas.
- <u>Social Distancing</u> The district will be adjusting several routines and classrooms in accordance with specific social distancing requirements to meet recommendations from the Iowa Department of Public Health and other organizations. The Bellevue CSD cannot guarantee that social distancing can be met in all school settings throughout the school day, during school activities, or with transportation. This is similar to when children congregate in their communities on a regular basis, but we are working to provide the safest routines and environments for our students at all times. Signs will be posted in our buildings and grounds to stop the spread of illness, encourage social distancing, proper personal care (washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc.), and similar steps advocated for by the CDC and the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Additionally, the following steps are being taken in regard to district procedures and regulations, with these being evaluated every two weeks or more often:

- <u>Transportation</u> The district will be adjusting busing routines and procedures as much as possible based on recommendations from the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Department of Education, and similar organizations. This may mean more bus routes, students not sitting with each other (or having siblings sitting with each other), masks worn by bus drivers or students, and similar steps recommended or required by governing bodies.
- <u>Visitors</u> The buildings will not be allowing visitors, guest speakers, or volunteers in the schools at the start of the school year. Parents will meet their students in front of the buildings, and parents will need to contact the office prior to entering the school via a phone call or email in most cases. We feel we need to do as much as we can to limit who has access to our buildings.
- <u>Field Trips</u> The district will not be going on field trips outside of our buildings at this time. This is part of the district attempting to control the environment our students and staff are in as much as possible.

Tom Meyer Bellevue CSD Superintendent of Schools tommeyer@bellevue.kl2.ia.us

Summary of Employee Leave Information

COVID-19 Scenarios 7.28.20

Clarification of the time period of two weeks that is referred to in this document: Two weeks of leave is "usually" only 10 days of pay. Employees do not get paid for 14 days, only whatever the employee would normally work in the 2-week period, usually 10 days.

- Employee sick with COVID-19
 - 0 100% pay for 2 weeks; Does not use sick leave
 - Beyond 2 weeks = Utilize sick leave and/or file FMLA.
- Care of family member with COVID-19
 - ⅔ pay for 2 weeks (10 work days)
 - If an employee wants full pay, they can take $\frac{1}{3}$ sick leave day if allowed by contract for son, daughter, etc. (14 days is not extended)
- If an employee is home in quarantine and ill
 2 weeks pay at 100% (10 work days)
- Regardless of tenure, and scheduled to work

 Pay for the days scheduled prior for the 2 weeks (substitute teachers)
- Care of employee son/daughter when child care/school is closed
 - $\frac{2}{3}$ pay for two weeks (potentially extended to 12 weeks total)
 - *Not for extended family member
- An employee is not comfortable coming to work

- No leave is granted without physician statement of necessity, or at a minimum the physician who is recommending they be quarantined or stay at home.
- 2 weeks is the total for an individual; Example: A child is being taken care of due to COVID-19 and a school/daycare closed for 10 days, then the employee would only have 4 more days of COVID-19 pay available to utilize. This could be extended through FMLA if the child is sick and not due to the school/daycare closure.
- Serious Illness in the Contract = Hospital
- Quarantined at home and teaching Full Day of "teaching" and learning for the staff member

Extracurricular Updates

Questions have been arising from some parents in our district recently, along with others across the state (along with some general community members in the Bellevue CSD). The question has been:

- How can the school offer football and volleyball (Cross Country has not been as much of a topic) where students are not social-distanced, coming in contact regularly in a physical manner in football especially, and are all touching equipment regularly that is used by others?
- The districts are not allowing students to go to Maquoketa for welding, or allowing visitors in on a normal basis, but we are still having extracurricular activities?

My response to these questions, and similar questions, have been the following (and this was from an email I sent responding to a parent):

The Maquoketa, Easton Valley, and Bellevue school districts have met a few times about this over the last few months. We were all hoping that the guidance from the Jackson County Department of Health, environmental health conditions, and the requirements for school would change as the summer went on (and school being ready to start), but the situations have not improved overall in our county and area as a whole. In fact, they have likely been worse over the last month or so as a whole.

This decision also goes for Easton Valley students going to Maquoketa, along with Maquoketa to Easton Valley, for various programs. We had also planned to potentially have some electricity students the second semester from Maquoketa (it was still in the planning stages based on enrollments, but...)

The overriding concern from our districts is the possibility of having our students spread this to their students, along with their students impacting our students and eventually our student population in Bellevue. In connection to this are the entire social distancing concerns in some areas and the number of students already enrolled in the program in Maquoketa (which would not be a problem most years without the social distancing guidelines).

I do know that one other student (possibly more) worked with Mr. Recker on still doing some other industrial technology courses, possibly an advanced welding and similar courses, to attempt to still give valuable training, learning, and skills for the future. I will tell Mr. Recker about this and he or Mr. Jess can likely sit down with _____ to work on some schedule changes if you have not already.

In regard to the relationship to athletics. I am not going to totally disagree, but I believe the association and union for the male and female student-athletes believe the amount of contact of 6-feet is limited (I was told by the association that the contact for football is 12-minutes in a game...that is their words and not mine), we can social distance before and after the game, and they are taking some other precautions as well listed on their websites if you would like to explore these at <u>www.iahsaa.org</u> and <u>www.ighsau.org</u>

Regardless, students in the building at this time for workouts are required to have face coverings on, except for when playing a sport (volleyball, football, etc.).

An overview of the camps which have been held (or are coming up) are below, along with the recognition that fall sports practices start on August 10

- Volleyball and Football Week of August 3 (only for students in high school, and grades 7 & 8 for football by coaches choice)
- Color Guard August 3, 4, & 5
- Cheerleading Camp August 5 & 6
- Band Camp Week of August 10
- Fall Sports Practices Begin August 10

Revised Football Schedule

Below is a revised version of a football schedule as a result of COVID-19. The schedules for the 2020 IHSAA varsity football season have been revised by schools to allow greater flexibility and reduce assigned travel for participating schools. Teams will play 5 district games, and 2 non-district games (4 were scheduled in the initial schedule). The regular season will end two weeks earlier. We will also be using trays with paper water cups for football, instead of bottles to eliminate the sharing of water, etc.

Revised 2020 Bellevue Comet Football Schedule

| Aug. 28 | 0 Northeast | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Sept. 4 | Monticello | | | |
| Sept. 11 | @ North Linn | | | |
| Sept. 18 | Alburnett | | | |
| Sept. 25 | @ Maquoketa Valley | | | |
| Oct. 2 | @ Ed-Co | | | |
| Oct. 9 Date) | East Buchanan (UPDATED Homecoming AND Parent's Night | | | |

Oct. 16 1st Round of Playoffs (all teams qualify for the playoffs this year based on the revised schedule for the pandemic.

<u>Volleyball</u>

We are also exploring what schools are doing with their volleyball tournaments for this season. Quite often these tournaments have 6-8 teams, last all day, have limited seating (in some cases), and are obviously not easy areas to social distance. It may be possible to do smaller tournaments, but I will know more later. The conference is discussing this, along with face coverings being required as a conference at games. Schools can do this, and I believe the conference may take this approach. I have a Board of Control meeting for the conference on Monday afternoon, where both of these topics will likely be discussed. Any thoughts from the Board on this?

Locker Rooms and Transportation

Below is a summary of a few things in the extracurricular area...Note that we are requiring face coverings during some of these times. Extracurriculars are an "extra" and I believe we need to do this. At the same time...there have been some schools talking about NOT having students participate in athletics this fall, or only have in-district scrimmmages, etc.

Locker Room Protocol

- All athletes will wear a face covering while getting dressed for practice/games. Reasoning: If the entire team is in the locker room at the same time, social distancing cannot take place.
- 2. Athletes should do their best to stay spread out while getting dressed for practice/games.
- 3. After practice, coaches will only allow 10 or fewer players in the locker room at a time and rotate the team through. These players should be grouped the same every day and should not be locker neighbors if at all possible. Reasoning- after practice players are sweaty and wearing a mask may be more difficult. Players will also be showering so wearing a mask is not a reasonable request. By limiting the amount of athletes in the locker room at one time, we can insure ample space for social distancing.
- 4. Players should not be allowed to "hang out" in the locker room, hallways or commons area after practice/games. Once athletes are showered and dressed they should leave the building immediately. Athletes should wash their hands and put on a mask upon leaving the locker room. Coaches should be the last ones out of the building and make sure athletes have at least exited the building.
- 5. Athletes should be taking all personal practice gear home EVERY day for laundering. This includes shorts, t-shirts, socks, etc. along with towels. Coaches will have to be diligent in making sure this happens.
- 6. Adjustments and changes to procedures may occur if the situation warrants and as we receive more guidance from the state.

Transportation:

- Multiple busses will be utilized for transportation to and from games to ensure athletes are spread out. Coaches may be asked to drive suburbans if need be to lessen the amount of people on the bus.
- 2. At this time no food or drink should be consumed on the bus.
- 3. Parents have the option of driving their students to and from games. They will be expected to be there at the time the coaches desire. Coaches should get a count of how many athletes will be riding the bus one day PRIOR to the game and communicate with Tim Roth so he can arrange transportation.
- 4. Students can only ride with an adult immediate family member who is out of school and not with a teammate's parents.
- 5. More information on transportation will be provided as we receive guidance from the state.

<u>Games/Events</u>

1. Players should stand 6-feet apart during the national anthem, starting line-ups, etc.

*This is a tentative list on some of these aspects, but more are included and are part of state guidelines and/or will be mentioned at the coaches meeting on Sunday, August 16.

The approach by the IAHSAA and IGHSAU has given some guidelines to athletic participation and having events, yet it is going to be difficult to monitor, regulate, etc. during the seasons. But, we will make it work one way or another in a positive way. The DE has been involved with this as well, but some of their approaches of taking local control away is concerning. As I have stated in the past, the government wants to monitor how many green beans we put on a lunch tray, but....we will leave some of this all up to you. Local control is good, but sometimes we need leadership at the higher levels. Hopefully, I have provided that to the district at this time.

Summer School

We began summer school last week at the elementary with between around 40+ students in attendance in 6 different sections (some in the morning and some in the afternoon). Additionally, groups are no larger than 6 students, with several smaller than that amount. We also had various camps this week along with practices starting next week and Band camp.

Some teachers have mentioned that other teachers can come in to see how summer school "runs" to ease any tensions about returning. We may also

look at exploring sound with microphones as a result of face coverings in classrooms.

<u>Academics</u>

I have stressed to our staff members over the last 2-3 weeks that we have to remember that school is an educational establishment, and we have to focus on academics, social-emotional learning, and other "typical" school roles and not only on the questions of how we make our rooms fit students, how we keep students six-feet apart, etc. This is a key. While our parents and students want to return, we also must focus on the role of school.

Key Discussion Topics for the Board Meeting

Some key things we need to decide officially for the start of the year are any changes we want to make from our last meeting. Some of these topics include the following:

• <u>Tour of Classrooms</u> - The administration is working closely with the custodial staff and several teachers in "finding space" in classrooms. This means finding 6-foot social distancing between students and removing some other personal items of staff to make more room. This is going well considering the circumstances we are working with at the current time.

We also have some clear shields ordered for tables/desks where distancing may not be possible and some other areas, and some from Plastics Unlimited have arrived and are being used in summer school currently. Some of these have arrived from Plastics Unlimited in Preston, with some others with a "slide through" for papers are arriving in the next week or so (supposed to be at least!)

The spacing at the MS/HS has been addressed by splitting sections, and teachers would have ½ of their class the first 25-minutes or so while the other section is with another associate/teacher, and then rotating after this half-way point in the class. Some teachers may also do a "virtual" class with the students not in their room while teaching those in the room directly. It will look different for students, but something that will work with the efforts of everyone involved.

Some examples of the spacing in rooms



We also put up protective glass shields along the serving line and at the payment stations in both buildings.



• <u>DECISION TO REQUIRE Face Coverings</u> - A question was if we stay with the statement of "strongly encourage" for face coverings? Another version is the following: "Face coverings are expected to be utilized when social distancing cannot be maintained." This was used by another conference school recently during the summer sports season, and the District Leadership Team on Wednesday believed this was a better statement to encourage this for our students. Students would not need to keep the face covering on when they are 6-feet apart.

They could take it off. The main areas of concern are where it is difficult to maintain the 6-feet social distancing that is recommended:

- a. Buses and Suburbans
- b. Hallways
- c. Standing in line
- A few things to consider are:
 - I am requiring it of all staff members who are working with students.
 - This is a good form of modeling the behavior we want, and agreed on by the District Leadership Team
 - I have required it for students coming into the school for summer workouts and camps, and we will continue this for some aspects of the season.
 - Extracurriculars are an "extra" and we will still require them in the weight room for those utilizing it for workouts.
 - It has also been decided that students dressing in the locker room for practice will need to have a face covering on when they enter the locker room for practice to get ready. They will not have it on for practice. When they finish practice, students will go into the locker rooms in small groups to shower/change. When they are in the locker room at this point they do not have to have it on until they get out of the shower area and are finished dressing. When they leave the locker room they must have it on again.

If we expect/require face coverings in these areas it allows for some personal control the rest of the day, and allows for students to "take a break" from it. Regardless, we will provide for students if needed, but will encourage them to bring their own.

- <u>DECISION TO NOT SHARE COURSES</u> Sharing of Courses with Marquette -As I informed you, after a meeting recently with Maquoketa, it was decided that Maquoketa is not allowing us to send any students to their campus for Advanced Welding certification (they are also not allowing Easton Valley students to come to Maquoketa or sending any to Easton Valley for computer applications) based on county health department recommendations.
 - The question was posed if we still want to allow Marquette students to come to Bellevue for courses? Two trains of thought....

- We allow them to ONLY come over for courses that we have room and are NOT splitting courses up as a result of reduced numbers in course sections. For example, we have 28 in an English class and will split that class up into two sections of 14. Each section will meet with the teacher for half the time and the other time is utilized to work on a class assignment, etc. The switch will happen halfway through the class period. For students to come over I would say we would only allow them to come over IF the class is already being split into sections, but for a class of 12-14 (as an example) we would not allow students to come over as it would force us to split the class and take away instruction time.
- We do not allow students to come over at all. This would follow the lead from the other Jackson County Schools and would follow the health department recommendations that have been shared with me and other superintendents as a whole. I also spoke with the health department individually about this, and they agreed it is not the best decision overall.

A risk is having our students spread this to their students who come over, and then impacting their school, along with their students impacting our students.

We are not allowing parents and guests (speakers) for the safety of all, so what would make Marquette different? What about Band students, which is somewhat a co-curricular activity? DECISION WAS TO ALLOW MARCHING BAND STUDENTS TO COME TO BELLEVUE AND PRACTICE MARCHING BAND OUTSIDE, BUT NOT TO COME INTO THE BUILDING.

<u>APPROVED - Board Policies</u>

See the attached Board Policies that I am recommending to be adapted. Note the recommendations specifically made for the policies of 907 and 907.Rl. Both of these deal with the operation of the district during a public health emergency. These are all in a separate attachment.

Summer Projects Update

Below is a list of some of the main projects worked on this school year from about the end of April through the current date:

• New ceiling tile and lights in HS Hallway classrooms and bathrooms



• Main gym floor completed, and gym cleaned



- Security camera wiring for more cameras, along with improved cameras, for the security of the building and grounds at the Bellevue MS/HS
- Wood chips on elementary playground (in progress)

- Regular summer cleaning of all rooms, hallways, etc., along with other changes due to COVID-19
 - This includes moving furniture multiple times to allow for social distancing, and moving furniture from room-to-room to make this possible.
 - Putting together "glass shields" for teacher rooms and office spaces
 - Wood chips for the playground. We typically do this once every two years or so. It was desperately needed. We had two piles like this for each side that staff raked and shoveled, along with a skid loader.



• I authorized filling in the holes in "Lake Bellevue" (otherwise known as our 5th grade playground). This was needed more this year based on the need to have specific areas for students on playgrounds. See the before and after pictures (note the picture from before showed water even though it had not rained in several



days)

•



<u>APPROVED - Handbooks</u>

The Bellevue MS/HS and Elementary Handbooks for students are attached, along with the Non-Certified Staff Employment Manual. There is also a part of this about COVID-19 and sick days at the end. No changes of significance as a whole.

School Finance Update

I will provide a brief overview of our budget at this time. Right now it appears as if we are under budget by approximately \$300,000. This is good. The bad news is that we are going to be experiencing some other significant costs this year potentially, but this makes it more doable financially for our district and increases our "unspent budget authority" for this year.

Recognize our enrollment with the district impacts our funds directly.

Legislative Priorities

Each year the Board submits the Bellevue CSD "priorities" for the upcoming legislative session in January. These are determined by the Board. The Board decided to submit these priorities.

- #3 Preschool Funding
- #7 Mental Health Support
- #8 Special Ed Funding
- #18 School Funding Policy

APPROVED - Bellevue Alumni Association and Bellevue State Bank

<u>Two Donations</u>

- Mike Reed contacted me about some funds that the Bellevue Alumni Association would like to give to the school district for use. I recommend we accept this, and I will hopefully find out some information on how they want these funds to be spent. The total amount is about \$900.
- 2. Bellevue State Bank is providing \$3000 from the funds in recognition of the bank's Preferred Plus Club Checking Account Holders. The bank holds an annual event for them, but due to COVID that was not held, and the bank thought their customers would feel this is a much better use of those funds. We are utilizing them for glass protective table shields and related items.

Bellevue State Bank is also providing 1000 paper bags (popcorn bags typically) for our students to put their face coverings in when they utilize them in school. Masks should be set aside after a day, and only used once every three days based on health guidance. We are giving elementary students and teachers the 5 bags to make it easier

to keep track of for the students and teachers. We will also provide the bags for students in grades 6-12 as well if desired, but also recognize they may place them in their backpacks, etc. Kelley Humphrey will explain the proper manners to staff and students for wearing and taking off a mask at the start of the year.

<u>APPROVED - Depositor Banks</u>

I recommend the Bellevue CSD name Bellevue State Bank, Fidelity Bank, ISJIT, and UMB Bank as depositor banks for 2020-2021 school year up to an amount of \$21,000,000. We have done this for several years, and it allows us options in depositing funds. Penny can explain more about this process at the meeting.

APPROVED - Memorials

We first approved this at our February 2020 Board meeting, but we should do this at the start of each school year, and it is a gesture that is appreciated (and in many ways expected) in our community.

In the interest of public perception, the Board (District) may recognize the death or serious illness of current or past employees and board members with a contribution of flowers or a certificate declaring a financial contribution to student groups based on the individual's perceived interests. Additionally, the Board (District) may recognize the death of immediate family members of employees and board members which occur during their employment or term of service. The amount will not exceed \$50.

Information Items

Legislative Update

I do not have any big news to share for this item, but want to keep it on our agenda to monitor legislative actions on funding for schools, and other school-related activities.

<u>Transportation</u>

Each year the district is compensated for providing transportation services to the non-public school. We are consistently "shorted" on this by about 25% annually. This year our costs were \$56,331.07 and the district only received \$42,203.43. The shortfall, as a result, is \$14,127.64.

IASB Convention

This year the convention will be virtual.

Streaming to Your Device This November!

We are pleased to announce that the 75th IASB Annual Convention is shifting from the in-person event you all know and love to a new, exciting format. Your favorite aspects of Annual Convention-inspirational keynoters, education sessions on groundbreaking topics, networking opportunities-will all be in one interactive and engaging virtual platform **Nov. 18-19**.

The shift away from a face-to-face event was well-researched and vetted, with your health and safety top of mind. We know you want to stay connected and learn with and from your peers across the state, which is why we have been innovating during the pandemic to continue to offer you meaningful and relevant learning opportunities. Now, more than ever, it's important to prioritize learning together and strengthening your social connections.

Delegate Assembly: This year's Delegate Assembly will also be offered in a digital format. We look forward to this important event, where members set the legislative platform, select candidates for the IASB Board, and hold the annual meeting. More details will be coming soon.

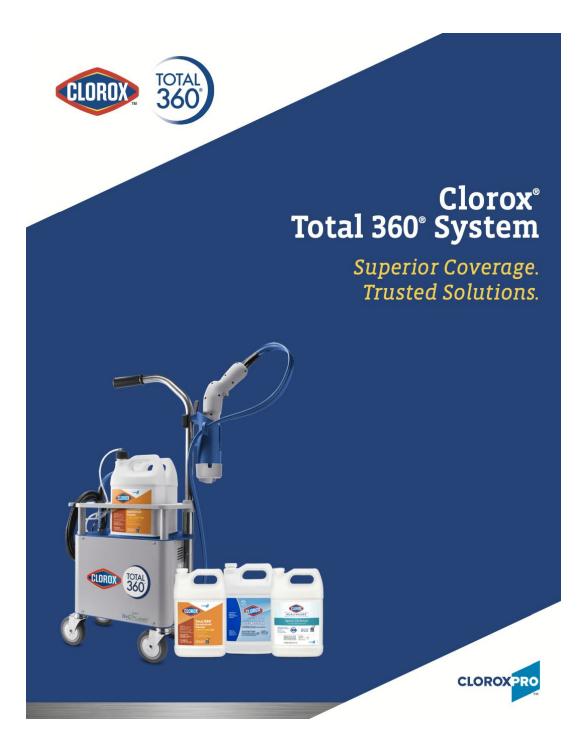
Trade Show: One aspect of Annual Convention that won't look the same this year is our Trade Show. We have made the difficult decision to cancel the Trade Show to stay compliant with nonprofit laws. You'll still see many of our exhibitors online **Nov. 18-19**, just in a different way.

We believe that our 75th Annual Convention will be the best one yet-because it's not about where or how we hold the Convention, it's about who is participating and learning together. It's all about YOU!

Comments from Building Principals, Superintendent, and School Board Members

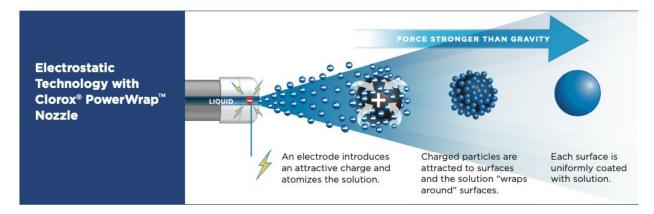
<u>Adjourn</u>

Next meeting is on September 14, 2020.



Clorox® Total 360® System Delivers Superior Results

The Clorox® Total 360® Electrostatic Sprayer, with the patented PowerWrap® nozzle, is an efficient, reliable and powerful method to ensure all surfaces - front, back and sides - can be properly disinfected and sanitized.



The Clorox[®] Total 360[®] System Advantages...

Patented PowerWrap[™] Nozzle

The advanced nozzle design provides highly reliable atomization and particle size.

Delivers uniform wraparound coverage on all sides of target.

Powerful Air Compressor

The dynamic air compressor enables fast, efficient delivery of charged particles to targeted surfaces.

> **Cover more intended** surfaces in less time.

Reliable **Delivery Method**

The corded system ensures safe grounding and consistent electrostatic output.

No variance in performance due to operator handling or battery life.

Exceptional Wraparound Coverage vs. **Other Sprayers**

The Clorox® Total 360® **Electrostatic Sprayer delivers** more uniform, wraparound coverage to the targeted surfaces than current sprayers on the market today.* Superior surface coverage helps provide better protection from the spread of germs.

*Results were determined in a single spray study conducted on metal trash cans (7.5 inches in diameter). Testing protocol established by using average of manufacturer suggested spray distances. Cordless electrostatic sprayer disinfection nozzle setting used.

| | Front | Side | Back |
|---|-------|------|------|
| Clorox® Total 360® Electrostatic Sprayer | | | |
| Cordless Electrostatic Sprayer | | | |
| Pump Sprayer | ja - | | |
| Trigger Sprayer | | | |

Get Superior Coverage with Trusted Solutions...For Healthier Facilities

In facilities where people work, live, and play, illness-causing germs can quickly spread on surfaces. Manual cleaning methods and traditional disinfecting tools aren't designed to effectively reach all areas, leaving facilities and tenants at risk of illness.

Now a revolutionary new way to get the job done right.

The Clorox[®] Total 360[®] System pairs an electrostatic sprayer with a portfolio of Clorox disinfectants and sanitizers to ensure all surfaces — even those hard-to-reach, difficult-to-clean areas — are properly treated. The superior coverage helps keep facilities healthier, while also saving time and money.

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REDUCES

COST

Uses 65% less solution*

TAKES LESS TIME Up to 75% faster*

Treat up to 18,000 sq. ft. per hour

Today, illness and infection have larger impacts than ever before:

\$1,685/employee

Average annual cost of illness to employers¹



1. Source: http://journals.lww.com/joem/Abstract/2003/12000/Lost_Productive_Work_ Time_Costs_From_Health.4.aspx

\$14,000

The direct cost of hospitalization alone due to a MRSA infection ${}^{\scriptscriptstyle 3}$



3. Source: http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb35.jsp

*Compared to a trigger sprayer

\$400,000

Cost to a major university to combat a Norovirus outbreak²



 Source: http://www.foodpoisoningnews.com/rochester-norovirus-costs-30000-osuoutbreak-over/

\$34,157

Average cost of a hospital-onset C. difficile infection⁴



 Zhang, S.; Palazuelos-Munoz, S.; Balsells, E. M.; Nair, H.; Chit, A.; Kyaw, M. H. Cost of Hospital Management of Clostridium Difficile Infection in United States-a Meta-Analysis and Modelling Study. BMC Infect. Dis. 2016, 16 (1).

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The Clorox[®] Total 360[®] System provides greater surface coverage in less time with less solution.* Designed with the end-user in mind, the system is built for maximum efficiency with minimal waste.



Fast, Effective Coverage

- Treats up to 300 square feet per minute, up to 75% faster than traditional sprayers*
- Completely covers front, back and sides of surfaces with less labor required
- One-step treatment saves time



Ideal for Large Spaces

- 18,000 square feet can be covered on a continuous spray
- Uses up to 65% less solution to treat surfaces, so your liquid goes farther*



- Ready-to-use premixed solutions; no measuring or diluting
- Ergonomically designed sprayer with lightweight handle
- Always-on sprayer button eliminates trigger fatigue

Electrostatic Sprayer Safety



Unit is grounded via plug.

The Clorox® Total 360® System meets Underwriter Laboratories' published and nationally recognized standards for safety.

Safe for End-User

- Grounded device
- UL certified
- Clorox®Total 360® PPE guidelines based on testing both sprayer and solutions together

*Versus a trigger sprayer per square foot

Use product as directed. Consult product label or manual for complete safety information.