
The Weekly Comet Update

From Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

Believe in the Blue! Believe in Learning! Believe in Bellevue!

Being Thankful!

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. This has not been a "normal year" in many ways, but learning is prevalent throughout our buildings and classrooms. A sense of normalcy for learning has become apparent as our students and staff have adjusted to the various barriers with a positive approach and desire to "make this work" no matter what.

The district is thankful for having our students in the buildings in a face-to-face environment in most cases, along with the ability to communicate and allow for productive learning in remote learning situations based on COVID-19 quarantine and isolation periods for students and staff. While the remote learning manner has worked relatively well in most cases, we are still working to make it more effective for our students, parents, and staff members that need to utilize it in a limited time frame (usually less than 10 school days).

COVID-19 Update

The Bellevue Community School District (and districts across the state) have experienced numerous instances of positive COVID-19 tests for both students and staff, along with a larger number of students who have been placed in quarantine as a result of being a close contact with someone inside or outside of school. The large majority of quarantined students are a result of one of the following situations:

- Having a family member in the same household test positive.
- Waiting on a family member in the same household to receive test results as a result of symptoms or being a close-contact of someone who has tested positive.
- Being considered a close-contact of an individual who has tested positive, with a close-contact defined in accordance with the Iowa Department of Public Health defined as being within 6-feet for 15 or more consecutive minutes.

While we have had students considered close contacts in school, these have been limited in the classroom settings. More information on COVID-19, including the number of positive tests of staff and students and more information is available on our website at

www.bellevue.k12.ia.us

What Can YOU Do?

Your actions as individuals and families in following guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health, the CDC, and other professional medical organizations is vital for school to continue in its current format. I personally encourage YOU to continue following this guidance for the health of our entire school, school community, area, and beyond. **OUR actions collectively make a difference.** In addition, wearing a mask around others outside of your household, social distancing, and avoiding social gatherings where these actions are not followed is imperative to the health and safety of yourself and others. Please consider this in your actions.

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.

Updates for Concerts and Athletics

The extracurricular seasons are underway at this time. Below and on the following page are some "Winter Event Admission Protocols" as result the Proclamation from Governor Reynolds last week. Some of the key points include the following:

- Participants will be given two tickets for games and concerts.
- Seating will be limited as a result, with specific areas to sit.
- Spectators for games will only be able to be present at the game they have a ticket for, as tickets in most cases only allow admission to one specific game.

More information will come out in the future in regard to concerts, and the current information may change in the near future as well. The district will work to keep everyone updated on our event protocols.

Concert Dates: MS/HS Choir – December 17; MS/HS Band – December 21; Elementary Concert – Virtual Release of Performances the week of December 21.

Winter Event Admission Protocol Updated November 24, 2020

General Information

1. All Athletes will receive two tickets the school day prior to the event. These tickets give the holder permission to attend the event. Admission still must be paid.
2. Tickets must be presented at the admission table of the event. Anyone not having a ticket will NOT be admitted. NO TICKET, NO ADMISSION. **LOST TICKETS WILL NOT BE REPLACED.**
3. Tickets are only good for the specific game, not the entire night. Fans can attend the game they have tickets for, i.e. a JV girls ticket only allows admittance to the JV girls game.
4. Fans must leave when their specific game is over and should not arrive early for the game attending. Exception: Fans that have tickets to different level games will be allowed to remain. I.E. If a person has a child playing in the JV girls game and V boys game, they would be allowed to stay for the V girls game.
5. Start times will be set for all events and those events will not start earlier than posted start time. Check www.rivervalleyconference.org for the up to date start times.
6. Face masks are REQUIRED for all events for the entire time while in the facility.
7. Fans will be expected to be spread out to maintain social distancing requirements. Seating will be clearly marked on the bleachers showing where people can sit at Bellevue CSD. Other schools may have similar markings, please abide by these guidelines.

Home Basketball Admission Instructions

1. Upon paying admission, spectators will be given a wrist band indicating what game they are allowed to watch. People with tickets to different level games will get multiple wristbands and must wear all of them to be allowed in the game. **WRISTBANDS MUST BE ON YOUR WRIST THE ENTIRE TIME.**
2. Spectators can only be in the gym where the game they are allowed to watch is being played. Fresh-Soph and JV boys will be playing in the west gym, JV girls, Varsity girls and boys will be playing in the main gym.
3. Start times in Bellevue: JV boys 4:30, JV girls 4:30, FS boys 5:45, Varsity girls 6:00, varsity boys 7:45
4. ALL Comet fans must sit on the west side of the main gym and on the east end of the bleachers in the west gym.
5. Entrance procedures: All Comet fans should use the hallway off the Hall of Pride to enter the main gym. Visitors will enter through the door off the commons. The same process should be followed when going to the concession stand.
6. Exiting procedures: The gyms will be cleared after each contest. Fans should leave the facility immediately at the conclusion of the contest and not gather in the commons or any other area in the building. Congregating on the floor after the game will be prohibited.

Home Wrestling Admission Instructions:

1. Upon paying admission spectators will enter the gym using the hallway off the Hall of Pride.
2. Seating areas will be designated for each school in attendance. Comet fans will sit in the northwest corner of the gymnasium.
3. Upon the conclusion of the event fans should exit the facilities in a timely manner and not congregate in the commons or other areas of the facility. Congregating on the floor after the event will be prohibited.

General Comments

1. Concession Stand- Concessions will be available but may be limited in their menu depending on the school. Some schools may prohibit food in the gymnasium. Bellevue will have concessions and at this time food will be allowed to be consumed in the gym providing people do not use it as an opportunity to avoid wearing a mask. Food should be eaten in a timely fashion.

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