

From: Benton Community <BCDistrictOffice@benton.k12.ia.us>
Subject: Additional Detail

Benton Community School District

11-10-20

To: Parents and Guardians, All Staff & Students

Fr: Benton Community Administration

Re: Further detail during the online remote learning days of school

***Details for Remote Online Learning - Tier III - Nov. 11-18 (6 school days)**

General information:

1. COVID-19 status

- a. [County percentage of individuals tested and positive cases](#)
- b. Benton Community COVID-19 [dashboard](#)

2. Dates for online continuous learning - Wed. Nov. 11 - Wed. Nov. 18 (6 school days)

- a. Explanation: We will re-assess our COVID-19 situation on Mondays and determine if an additional week is needed. Our current plan is to make an announcement on Monday, Nov. 16 as to whether we continue for another week (the additional week would be Nov. 19 - Nov. 25) with remote online learning. If this occurs, in-person brick and mortar learning would begin Nov. 30. Please stay tuned for the announcement on Monday, Nov. 16th.
- b. Our current plan (contingent on our COVID-19 situation improving) is to return to in-person brick and mortar school on Thursday, Nov. 19. Our regular bus routes would begin again Nov. 19. Again, wait to hear the announcement on Monday, Nov. 16.

3. School day during remote online learning

- a. Students and parents - please refer to your child's SeeSaw or Schoology online learning management system and log-in for directions and specifics.

4. Activities

- a. All activities are canceled during our school in-person closure and moving to online. Coaches may decide to provide virtual online coaching or lessons and will communicate with students and parents.
- b. On the date we return to in-person brick and mortar school (date to be determined and we will re-assess on Mondays) the Governor announced on 11/10/20 ONLY 2 (two) spectators per athlete are allowed to attend the event. Benton Community will begin following this requirement Nov. 19 provided we are back to in-person school.

5. Meals

Benton Community Schools will offer free grab and go meals during the days we are online learning.

These meals are free for all enrolled students. We will provide Breakfast and Lunch for one week.

Pick up for meals is this Thursday, at all buildings from 7:30-8:30 a.m. and at the Middle School and High School from 4:00-4:30 p.m.

If you would like to participate, please sign your students up at the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/bcmeals2020>

Sign up is good for the duration of online learning.

Please sign up by 7:00 a.m on Wednesday, November 11th for this week's pickup.

If you are unable to use the online form, please call 319-228-8701, extension 119.

6. Parent-Teacher Conferences

- a. Scheduled virtually for Nov. 18 & Nov. 23
- b. Conferences will be held as planned (all are planned to be online/virtual)

7. Calendar

- a. Our school calendar continues during our online remote learning. In other words, our school days are counted toward our 2020-2021 school year as per an approved

waiver from the Iowa Department of Education and the Department of Public Health.

- b. The waiver was approved as of 11/10/20

8. Devices

- a. Please help your child remember to charge their device each day! If you need any other assistance with your child's iPad or Chromebook, please contact Mr. Tyler Maschino at 319-228-8701 Ext. 200

9. Buses and Transportation

- a. During our Tier III online remote learning, our regular school bus routes will not be operating. When we start back again in person, if you have changes to your child's transportation, please contact Tim Lyons, Transportation Director at 319-228-8426.
- b. Special bus transportation will take place for students who have IEP's or ELL direct educational needs as per parent decision. Please contact Mr. Ryan Junge, Director of Student Services if you have questions - 319-228-8701 Ext. 351 or rjunge@benton.k12.ia.us

10. Student illness or COVID-19 related illness:

- a. Parents, please Report any student's illness (COVID-19 or other) to the school office daily even during our days for online learning. Please call your school nurse's office.

11. Mental Health services

- a. Tanager Place continues to provide therapy for Benton Community students and families. If you need information on this, please email schoolbasedsup@tanagerplace.org.
- b. Sessions can be held at their Cedar Rapids clinic location, or be held via virtual or phone platforms.

12. Special services for students

- a. IEP, ELL, 504

- b. Parents should have heard from their child's teacher as to the schedule and opportunities for serving your student.
- c. Not all students with IEP's are required to come in-person to serve the SDI of the IEP or ELL service
- d. Services can be provided online or in-person depending on the needs of the student and transportation route.
- e. 504's - Parents, if you have questions or specific needs for your child's 504, please contact your teachers.

13. Learning online

- a. Required remote online learning
 1. Benton Community will utilize Seesaw (PK-6) and Schoology (7-12) to provide resources, content, and assessment to students. Zoom will also be used by teachers to connect with students.
 2. Required Continuous Learning ensures that academic work is equivalent in effort and rigor to typical classroom work. All students are required to participate, attendance is taken, work is graded, and credit is granted. Typically, instruction is provided through Seesaw/Schoology, Zoom, and/or materials/pick up.

14. Schedules for Students

a. Student Expectations

- Participate in lessons as scheduled
- Seesaw/Schoology, Zoom, and/or paper/pencil materials may be used
- PK - Engage for 2 hours a day in blocks of 15-20 minutes, Connect with Seesaw
- K-2 - Engage for 2 hours a day in blocks of 15-20 minutes, Connect with Seesaw
- 3-6 - Engage in 2 hours a day in blocks of 20-30 minutes, Connect with Seesaw
- 7-12 - Engage for 2 hours a week for each course, Connect with Schoology, Check school email daily

15. School Resource Officer Deputy Brandt - available by Phone: 319-538-9377 or email tbrandt@benton.k12.ia.us

16. School Counselor - virtual counseling sessions

- a. Tanager Services - virtual support groups - email schoolbasedsup@tanangerplace.org if interested.

1. Elementary
 1. Quarantine Group - 11/3, 11/10, 11/13, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/4, 12/8, 12/15, 12/18, 12/22, 12/29 @ 11-11:45am
 2. Virtual Learners Group - Mondays 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28 @ 3-3:45pm; Fridays 11/13, 11/20 @ 2-2:45pm
2. Secondary
 1. Quarantine Group - 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/3, 12/8, 12/15, 12/17, 12/22, 12/29 @ 3:30-4:15pm
 2. Virtual Learners Group - Mondays 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28 @ 12-12:45pm; Fridays 11/13, 12/4, 12/18 @ 3-3:45pm
3. Care-givers
 1. Mondays 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28 @ 6:30-7:15pm
 2. Wednesdays 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9 @ 12-12:45pm

17. Resources for parents (under construction)

1. Outdoor play for elementary students
2. Limiting screen time outside of daily schooling
3. Social development
4. Mental health resources
5. Child Care resources
6. Benton County Public Health
7. COVID-19 resources

*DRAFT

From our Return to Learn Handbook:

Hybrid Tier 3

The majority of students are learning at-home. Specific student groups (IEP, ELL, etc) will have the opportunity to enter the brick & mortar location. Students who do not attend in-person will have access to online instruction through Seesaw/Schoology, Zoom, and/or materials/pick up.

- One or more of our school buildings are closed to students due to COVID pandemic. Required learning online will be implemented.

- The majority of students are learning at-home. Specific student groups (IEP, ELL, etc) will be entering the Brick & Mortar setting. Students who do not attend in-person will have access to online instruction through Seesaw/Schoology, Zoom, and/or materials/pick up.
- All students in the closed school building will be engaging with teachers for their online instruction.
- Teachers will provide synchronous instruction and asynchronous instruction to students. Most online instruction will occur as the same schedule the student experiences if they were in the building. Paper packets may also be used. Support staff will assist with supporting and connecting with students.
- Teachers will report to their classrooms and teach online for the regular time the school day would have been in session.

Student Expectations

- Brick & Mortar - Times will vary.
- IEP, ELL, Services for Mental Health, 504's
 - Populations and schedules will be determined by the administration and the building team.
 - Students who have IEP's and students with ELL needs will be transported to the school in the afternoons (approx. 12:30 - 3:00) for specially designed instruction. Expect to receive more information from your principal and teachers.
- At home - 8:00 or 8:15AM - 3:15PM
 - This could include times where students are connected with the classroom (peers and teachers) via Zoom, working on Seesaw/Schoology Activities, completing tasks paper/pencil, etc, and also include times where the student is expected to complete a task independently. Specific times for live engagement will vary by classroom, learning activities, etc.

Attendance

- Brick & Mortar - Traditional attendance will be taken.
- At home - Attendance will be determined by participation in the online streaming opportunities via Zoom and completion of assignments posted to Seesaw (K-6) and Schoology (7-12). If a student is not joining the Zoom session or not submitting work, we will contact parents to identify barriers.

Certified Staff Expectations

- Staff will report to their primary attendance center for work each day unless directed differently by the administration.
- Brick & Mortar - Traditional expectations will be in place for instruction.
- At home - Staff will provide students who are at home instruction via Zoom, the assigned LMS (Seesaw or Schoology), and/or paper/materials.
- Daily Assignment - Teachers' daily assignment may adjust per direction from building administrator.

Benton Community School District would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Benton Community School District directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.