

Aberdeen School District

Dr. Becky Guffin, Superintendent

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Dear Golden Eagle Parents,

Calendar Update

The School Board voted today to make a change to the current school calendar by adding an additional day to the Thanksgiving holiday break. **There will be NO SCHOOL on November 25, 26, and 27.** School will resume after the holiday break on Monday, November 30. This additional day is being added to allow a much deserved break for all our staff who have been working tirelessly to safely return students to learning.

COVID Update

We continue to be extremely pleased with the communication families have shared with us regarding their personal circumstances and student absences. **It is absolutely essential that students remain at home if they are experiencing any COVID related symptoms even if they appear to be mild.** We have learned that COVID is very “sneaky” with children and can be present even with what seems like very mild or short-term symptoms. Keeping your child home when they are ill is helping keep others safe and our schools open.

The increase in the number of cases all across the country are extremely concerning and we ask for your continued cooperation with very basic things that help stop the spread of this virus-wear a mask, wash your hands, and keep your distance. We really need all of our students doing those things to make a difference. While we have no immediate plans to return to remote learning, parents need to continue to be prepared for a change in the school schedule. Working together to keep our schools open is the only way we can make that happen.

Quarantine and Isolation Calculator

The South Dakota Department of Health recently added a new tool to their website that assists with calculating return dates for positive cases and close contacts. This very helpful tool can be found at <https://doh.sd.gov/COVID/Calculator/default.aspx>.

District App

If you haven't already downloaded the new District app, you are highly encouraged to do so. We will use the app to send important announcements through push notifications and live feeds. The app also includes event calendars, important documents, staff rosters, and breakfast/lunch menus. The app may be downloaded in the App store or Google Play Store. A brief video explaining the features of the app may be found at <https://youtu.be/mvVemurWe14>.

Free Meals

As was previously announced, the USDA approved a waiver to allow free meals for all students until the end of this school year. Any second servings or a la carte items will need to be purchased through the lunch payment system. We sincerely appreciate all of the work of our food service department in getting this grant approved and for their work every day in providing meals for all of our students. We encourage families to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity this school year.

Again, thank you for all of your help as we navigate these challenging times together. Stay safe and healthy.

Respectfully,
Becky Guffin, Ed.D.
Superintendent