

Durant Community School District Return To Learn Handbook for Families

Durant Community School District

408 7th Street
Durant, IA 52747
Phone: (563) 785-4432

Contacts:

Joe Burnett- Superintendent
Rebecca Stineman- PK-6th Principal
Joel Diederichs- Jr/Sr High School Principal (7th-12th)
Maria Brown- Director of Instruction
Mary Dorris- District Nurse

All items in this handbook are subject to change at any given time based on changing circumstances. This handbook version is current as of August 12, 2024.

Although this document provides a detailed overview of what the 2024-25 school year could look like, we will be responsive to our students' needs and future guidance from the aforementioned organizations. Any parts of our plan may change due to the fluidity of the situation. Updates will be communicated to families through the year.

Durant Wildcat Return to Learn Summary

Option 1 In Person Learning	Option 2 Remote Instruction for students with a medical recommendation	Communication	Commitments to Safety
<p>The Durant Community School District will offer face in person learning. This will be done on the traditional school schedule/calendar.</p> <hr/> <p>In order to choose this option please select “in person learning” when registering your child for school.</p> <p>To register please go to: www.dursis.durant.k12.ia.us</p>	<p>The Durant Community School District will be utilizing Edgenuity for families who choose Remote Instruction.</p> <hr/> <p>K-12: A family that may need to use Edgenuity at the K-12 level would require a medical excuse.</p> <p>Any changes to the educational setting (online vs. in-person) will occur at semester only. Any other circumstances will be evaluated by administration.</p> <p>Please contact Maria Brown</p>	<p>The Durant Community School District will utilize the JMC messaging system as a way to communicate with families.</p> <hr/> <p>We will be following the recommendations of the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Department of Education, Cedar County Public Health, and the CDC., as well as any proclamations made by the governor.</p> <p>Please make sure you are signed up for parent alerts through JMC.</p> <p>Please understand that if a child or staff member contracts COVID we will not send a mass communication.</p>	<p>The Durant Community School District will utilize these practices To Improve Health and Safety.</p> <hr/> <p>More frequent hand washing</p> <p>Hand sanitizing stations will be located throughout the buildings</p> <p>Water bottle filling stations are available. Students may bring their own water bottle with them.</p> <p>The Durant Maintenance Team will be moving throughout the facilities to clean high-touch surfaces.</p>

Introduction:

This handbook is based on available public health information at the time of its creation. These plans were created with committees that had representation from school administrators, teachers, nurses, counselors, nutrition, maintenance and transportation directors along with AEA9 Consultants of the Durant CSD. The handbook will be adjusted based on newly available data and guidance from public health officials.

Mission Statement:

It is the mission of the Durant Community School District to enable students to understand the world around them and grow the talents within them so they can become fulfilled individuals and active, compassionate citizens.

Learning Options for Durant CSD

1. **On-Site** - 100% of students physically in the building. Students will follow a traditional schedule with traditional classroom structure.
2. **Remote Instruction**- By choosing not to send your student to school onsite, your student will be participating in the required online learning model provided by the district. At this point the district will be contracting EdGenuity, an online education provider approved by the State of Iowa. The provider will give us access to curriculum in all content areas K-12.

A student's educational success is our top priority. If a student is not earning passing grades, we as a district have an obligation to meet with the student/family and develop an alternate plan.

All Grades K-12th

A family that may need to use Edgenuity at the K-12 level would require a medical excuse. Any changes to the educational setting (online vs. in-person) will occur at semester only.

Any other circumstances will be evaluated by administration.

For more information please contact: maria.brown@durant.k12.ia.us

or explore the following website <https://www.edgenuity.com/>.

Latest Link from the Iowa Department of Health: <https://idph.iowa.gov/>

Iowa Department of Health Issues Updated COVID-19 Guidance to School and Child Care Settings:

<https://idph.iowa.gov/News/ArtMID/646/ArticleID/158416/IDPH-Issues-Updated-COVID-19-Guidance-to-Schools-and-Child-Care-Settings>

Leadership:

All communications regarding changes in delivery of instruction will be by administrators.

Communication when changes occur with school closings or required continuous learning:

The Durant Community School District will provide updates via School Messenger. To be sure the messages reach you, please confirm your email contact information:

1. (School Messenger)
2. JMC Parent Portal - dursis.durant.k12.ia.us or access is located on the Durant Webpage-request contact information changes.
3. Consider following the district on social media.
4. If you have additional questions, you can always reach out to the Central Office or your building principal.

Durant Community School District Central Office
563-785-4432

Durant Elementary School (PK-6)
Rebecca Stineman -Principal
563-785-4433

Durant Jr/Sr/ High School (7th-12th)
Joel Diederichs- Principal
563-785-4431

Health & Safety:

Our commitment to health and safety:

1. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building
2. Transportation Cleaning- Sprayer
3. The Durant Maintenance Team moves throughout our facilities to clean on a regular basis.
4. The school nurse will monitor for communicable diseases and proceed as necessary.

Students who become ill:

- Students or staff with fever of **100.0** or any other signs and symptoms of illness will be asked to go home. **Please be prepared in some cases for your student to be excluded from school until they are symptom free or for a minimum of 24 hours.**
- If you are called to pick up your student due to illness, it will be expected that he or she be picked up **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, or within a maximum **45-60 minutes**. Please make arrangements for this to happen. School staff **MUST** be able to reach a parent or another family contact when needed, and they must be picked up in a timely manner.

Cafeteria:

1. Regular lunch trays and disposable forks will be used. Food may be self-serve on a buffet or individually packaged.
2. Hand washing and glove use as normal following CDC and ServSafe Food Safety guidelines.
3. Cleaning/sanitizing procedures will take place in eating areas.
4. Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout lunch lines.

Buses:

1. Food or drinks will not be allowed on the buses.
2. Face masks are optional on the buses.

Building and Grounds Recommendations:

1. Custodial staff members will assess the most effective manner for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting buildings and grounds. Custodial schedules will be changed accordingly. United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved disinfectants for SARS-COV 2 will be used.

2. In addition to the regularly scheduled cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting of all buildings, high-touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily including tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

Classrooms:

1. Interior doors will be kept open as much as possible
2. Tables will be spread far apart, utilizing all parts of the room for social distancing

Visitors in the building:

- Visitors will be limited to essential purposes during the school day to preserve the safest possible learning environment for students and staff. Therefore, visitors need to be pre-approved by the Pk-12 office first.

Procedure for picking up my child during the school day:

- If a student needs to leave school during the day for any reason, families will remain outside in their vehicle and phone the office. Students will be escorted out of the building.

Support appropriate general mitigation strategies across delivery models:

- The Durant Community School District did require staff to participate in IDOE recommended health training modules and will post and review district health expectations for staff/students and visitors.
- The Durant Community School District will follow IDOE/legal council recommendations regarding privacy in communication to others in suspected COVID 19 cases.
- The Durant Community School District encourages students and staff that are considered “high risk” or immunocompromised to visit their healthcare provider.

Social Emotional Behavior Health:**Who to contact, If my student is showing signs of emotional distress:**

We encourage you to reach out to your student’s teacher. You may also contact your building principal or guidance counselor for additional support.

Here is another resource to help you in case of an emergency or needing additional support:
Eastern Iowa Mental Health and Disability Services Region
Hotline Number: 844-430-0375 this is a 24 hour crisis line
Website: www.EasternIowaMHDS.org

Signs of emotional distress:

According to the American Psychological Association, symptoms of distress may look different in children and teens than adults. For children distress may look like:

- acting irritable or moody
- withdrawing from activities that used to give them pleasure
- routinely expressing worries
- complaining more than usual about school
- crying
- displaying surprising fearful reactions
- clinging to a parent or teacher
- sleeping too much or too little
- eating too much or too little

For teens distress may look like, all of the above signs of distress in children as well as:

- significantly avoiding parents
- abandoning long-time friendships for a new set of peers
- expressing excessive hostility toward family members

How can I assess my student's emotional health?

Here are few resources to help you:

[CDC Helping Children Cope with Emergencies](#)
[How to Ask What Kids are Feeling](#)

