

CROSS COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

HOME OF THE COUGARS

Post Office Box 525

Stromsburg, Nebraska 68666

(402) 764-5521 – Telephone

(402) 764-8294 – Fax

Brent Hollinger
Superintendent

Celebrate the past...
Embrace the Future

Thursday, March 19th, 2020

As we all know by now, Governor Ricketts and Commissioner of Education, Dr. Blomstedt called for additional efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 that included the closure of all schools by this Friday, March 20th and continued through March 31st. Cross County complied with this recommendation and our last day with students was Tuesday, March 17th and we will be closed through March 31st. It is our hope that we will be able to open back up on Wednesday, April 1st.

We have also been told by Governor Ricketts and Commissioner Blomstedt that by the later part of next week (March 23-27) we will receive direction from Governor Ricketts regarding the weeks to follow through the end of the school year. They mentioned there is a possibility that the Governor will shut all schools down for 6-8 weeks which in essence takes us to the end of the school year. Regardless of what decision is made, it was noted that the state and local officials will reevaluate the situation every two weeks to determine next steps.

The teaching staff is working on a plan to provide enrichment/learning packets and digital lessons for our students. While this will look much different than regular education, our goal is to allow our student's education to move forward during this school closure. Information and details of how your child(ren)'s education will be delivered and shared by their teacher or teachers. It is our goal to have a launch date for remote education sometime next week. Please note, however, that guidance from the federal and state governments are changing every hour. Our intent to launch next week may change if our guidance changes over the course of the next week or so.

At this time, all activities are canceled through March 31st and the facility is closed to students through March 31st. This means no practice, weights, track meets, concerts, banquets, etc. Larger events coming up are prom and graduation and we will do everything in our power to have those two events. We want ALL of our scheduled events to happen after March 31st and we will not cancel any of them until we are forced to do so.

Lead, Grow, Succeed

CROSS COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

HOME OF THE COUGARS

Post Office Box 525

Stromsburg, Nebraska 68666

(402) 764-5521 – Telephone

(402) 764-8294 – Fax

Brent Hollinger
Superintendent

**Celebrate the past...
Embrace the Future**

If your child or children have items at school that are still needed, please contact the office in order to retrieve them. Ideally, we are wanting this to be completed by Friday, March 20th.

Parents.....I want to thank you for your patience and understanding. As schools are being mandated to close, we completely understand how this effects your household, your family dynamics, etc. I am a parent as well and this new path is already occurring in my house! Thank you again for your support as we proceed in making the best decisions as we can educationally.

I want to take this opportunity to commend Cross County staff as we travel through this uncharted path. Decisions are being made that have never had to be made before. A school attorney said it best when describing what we are faced with.... ***“we are attempting to fly a plane as we are still building it”***. We are doing our best to get organized and to help all students during the closure. Our philosophy at this point is to make the best of it and turn a time of unknown and stress into new unique and neat opportunities. I believe that will happen because of the great patrons, parents and students that reside in our school district. I will continue to communicate often with you. Thank you for your support and patience as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Brent Hollinger

Brent Hollinger
Superintendent of Schools
Cross County Community Schools
bhollinger@crosscounty.esu7.org