

Durant Community School District Return To Learn Handbook for Families- Summer 2021 Updates

Durant Community School District

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Contacts:

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All items in this handbook are subject to change at any given time based on changing circumstances. This handbook version is current as of June 1, 2021.

Although this document provides a detailed overview of what the 2020-21 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 Summer Opportunities

Durant K- 6 Summer School- Ms. Walton June 8-24 (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays) August 9th-13th	Summer Edgenuity MyPath Personalized Learning Program (Grades K-5)	Summer Booster Courses (Grades 6th-11th)	Additional Summer Offerings (PK-12)
<p>The Durant Community School District will offer in person summer learning.</p> <p>donna.walton@durant.k12.ia.us</p> <hr/> <p>An Invitation will be sent to all current qualifying K-6 students.</p> <p>The Durant Community School District will utilize these practices to improve health and safety:</p> <p>Frequent hand washing</p> <p>Hand sanitizers will be available in classrooms</p> <p>Water bottle filling stations are available. Students may bring their own water bottle with them.</p> <p>Face masks will be required in the indoor classrooms when summer school is in session. Masks are optional in the outdoor settings.</p>	<p>Individualized learning paths contain lessons according to the student's age and skill level and prioritizes them based on the essential skills tied to grade-level work.</p> <p>Any questions regarding this option can be directed to:</p> <p>mindy.kahl@durant.k12.ia.us (K-2)</p> <p>jenny.dittmer@durant.k12.ia.us (3rd-5th)</p>	<p>4-week online courses Approximately 2 hours a day time commitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep for Language Arts (6-12) • Prep for Mathematics (6-8) • Prep for Algebra I • Prep for Geometry • Prep for Algebra II <p>maria.brown@durant.k12.ia.us</p> <p>jenny.dittmer@durant.k12.ia.us</p>	<p>The Student Services Google Site will be maintained that will include a list of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local and Virtual Summer Opportunities • Academic Support and Enrichment • Cultural • Recreational • Community Resources for families • Credit Recovery for High School Students <p>https://sites.google.com/durant.k12.ia.us/jendittmer/home</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.

Summer 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**- The Durant Community School District will be offering some summer online options through 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. For more information please contact: maria.brown@durant.k12.ia.us or jenny.dittmer@durant.k12.ia.us,

Edgenuity Links:

Edgenuity Website: <https://www.edgenuity.com/>.

Video Library: <https://www.edgenuity.com/video-library/>

Course Content Video: <https://www.edgenuity.com/video-library/?vid=4109760660001>

Student Expiration Video: <https://www.edgenuity.com/video-library/?vid=5978276525001>

American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Considerations:

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

CDC Link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

Leadership:

All communications regarding changings 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

Infrastructure:

Durant Community School District technology platforms:

The platforms we will be using as a district are:

PK-2: Google Sites

3rd-12: Google Site/Google Classroom

Teacher Google Sites/Google Classroom:

Durant Community School District Teachers will have a Google Site (PK-2) and Google Site/Classroom (3rd-12th) created with the following components:

- Their contact information
- Syllabus (Middle School and High School)
- I Can Statements (Elementary)
- Resources Links (i.e. Learning Farm)
- Google Calendar

Families or students who do not have access to the internet:

Please contact the Durant Community School District's Technology Coordinator- Laurie Botkins if you need access to the internet to discuss options.

Logging into an iPad and google account:

Your student's login is: Last 2 digits of graduation year, Student's first initial and last name

Login: ex. 22lbotkins@durant.k12.ia.us

Password: Cats and your student's four-digit lunch number

Ex. Cats1234

Resource to help navigate the technology my student uses for online learning.

In the fall, teachers will provide you with a bank of resources specific to your student's class. Meantime, you may find these tutorials helpful.

[Google Classroom video](#) (3-12)

[Google Classroom Help for 7-12 video](#)

[Google Classroom Document](#)

Student Attendance and Engagement:

In-person Summer School: Please email Ms. Walton if your child will not be attending a particular summer session or call the district office and leave a message.

Health & Safety:

Our commitment to health and safety:

1. Students will be given some hand sanitizer upon entering into the building
2. Transportation Cleaning- Sprayer
3. Enhanced Environmental Services- The Durant Maintenance Team will be moving throughout our facilities to clean high-touch surfaces.
4. Masks will be provided for summer school employees and students
5. CDC and Handwashing Signage will be posted throughout the building
6. Adults and students not in a classroom environment, masks are optional.

Proper hand washing to be maintained:

Additional hand washing time will be built into the daily schedule. Teachers and staff will monitor students to ensure proper handwashing techniques. When hand washing is not feasible, hand sanitizer will be available. Teachers will be issued a spray bottle of hand sanitizer and will spray students hands before entering the classroom. Please consider [the CDC site on handwashing](#) to help your student learn best practices.

Cleaning procedures that are in place?

Custodial and maintenance staff will frequently disinfect highly touched surfaces, like door handles and railings as much as possible. Classroom electronics, tables/desks, and other shared items will be cleaned by custodians and staff. Restrooms and locker rooms will continue to be cleaned with hospital grade disinfectants and cleaners.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): for in-person summer school learning

The safety and well-being of District students and staff is always our highest priority. Students and staff will wear a reusable cloth or disposable face mask when in an indoor classroom environment. When outdoors, masks are optional for students and staff. The District will provide appropriate face masks to any students or staff members who do not have access to an appropriate face mask.

Adults and students, not in a classroom environment, masks are optional.

CDC Link for Screening K-12 Students for School and Symptoms:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/symptom-screening.html>

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 summer 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.
- If a positive COVID-19 case is identified at school, the school will assist Local Public Health to complete a case investigation and to determine possible close contacts of the positive case. **ANY CLOSE CONTACTS IDENTIFIED BY PUBLIC HEALTH ~~or~~ WILL BE QUARANTINED PER PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES.**
- **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE ILL!**

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of reported symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to SARS-CoV-2**. Symptoms can include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms and children and youth with SARS-CoV-2 infection may experience any, all, or none of these symptoms. (See [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#) for more information).

Given the wide range of symptoms and the fact that some people with SARS-CoV-2 infection (the virus that causes COVID-19) are asymptomatic, there are limitations to symptom screening conducted by schools for the identification of COVID-19.

Temperature screenings prior to entering school buildings:

- At this point in time we will not be administering temperature screenings prior to entering school buildings. The District asks that you take your student's temperature before coming to school. Do not allow your student to attend school if their temperature is above 100 degrees. Call your healthcare provider and the attendance office if your student is presenting symptoms.

Drinking fountains:

- Drinking fountains will be available throughout the school day, but we prefer that students bring their own water bottles to school for personal use. If you wish to send a labeled personal water bottle with your student, it needs to be clear, and have a twist off cap for filling that is separate from the drinking or straw opening.

Summer Meal Pickup: Meals will be available and FREE for all children ages 1-18 throughout the summer. Meal Pickup will include a week's worth of breakfast and lunch items and pickup will be held on every Tuesday until further notice. Location will be in the Bus Alley (East of the High School Building) and pickup time will be 12pm-12:30pm. Child do not need to be present; parents/guardians are able to pick up meals for their children (daycares are not permitted to pick up meals for those under their care UNLESS children are present at pickup).

Buses:

1. Students will be assigned seats
2. Students will dismiss from the busses upon arrival to school in sections or small groups
3. Food or drinks will not be allowed on the busses
4. The district has purchased a safe disinfectant sprayer to be utilized after bus routes for enhanced cleaning.
5. Students riding a bus to school will be seated in family pods both before and after school.
6. 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. No rugs, stuffed animals allowed in the classroom
2. Interior doors will be kept open as much as possible
3. Tables will be spread far apart, utilizing all parts of the room for social distancing

Lockers:

1. The lockers will be assigned this year to the students.
2. It is crucial that there is no food and or drinks in the locker area.
3. Articles of clothing must be taken home on a daily basis.
4. Lockers will need to be emptied everyday as they will be cleaned and disinfected

Recess:

- Recess structures and routines will be reviewed following public health guidance.

Seating Charts:

- Seating charts will aim at social distancing. In some instances, it may be necessary to sit small pods of kids together at tables, with distance between each pod. Lunch locations and seating, along with recess times, may look different as well, in order to encourage 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.

Procedure for picking up my child during a summer school session:

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

Appropriate building-wide social distancing as needed:

- DCSD will promote social distancing through altered scheduling/building signage/classroom organization & building access points.
- Outdoor learning environments will be utilized when available and appropriate

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.

Weight Room:

- Maintain social distance by being 6 feet apart when possible.
- Masks are optional.
- Coaches must maintain a daily record of what athletes are participating, when, and symptoms they may present.
- Athletes should be monitored at start of practice for temperature >100.3F or symptoms of COVID-19 (fevers, chills, cough, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell).
- If symptoms are present, they should not participate in practice and should be referred to a physician for evaluation and testing. When free weight exercises require a spotter, a spotter should be positioned at each end of the bar and both should wear masks. Safety measures in all forms must be strictly enforced in the weight room. Students should bring their own water bottle, shoes, towels, and other personal equipment. The use of locker rooms, shared water coolers with cups, and water fountains will be prohibited during these sessions.

Summer Sports: Masks are optional for summer outdoor athletic events and activities.

Iowa Academic Standards:

In- Person Summer School: The key components that will be emphasized throughout summer school are:

- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Phonemic Awareness/Phonics
- Self-Selected Reading
- Fluency

FAST Fluency

Students will be progressed monitored in fluency throughout summer school when applicable.

Edgenuity K-5 MyPath and 6-12 Booster Courses:

The Edgenuity online K-5 MyPath and 6-12 Booster Courses utilize the Iowa Core Literacy and Math Standards.

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.

Durant Community School Student Services Team:

Jenny Dittmer- Student Services Coordinator
Kristy Badtram- High School Guidance Counselor
Kristin Milotte- Elementary Guidance Counselor

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

A provider from Life Connections will continue to provide individual counseling services for students on-site throughout the summer.

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

Setting up a structure and routine at home if students are learning online:

Maintaining and communicating predictable routines allows students to have a sense of psychological safety—they can manage stress or connect with someone who can help them. Designate a space as a student's "office space". They can decorate it like an adult office with family photos and positive quotes. [Click here](#) for a list of resources including emotional support and tools to ease the stress of online learning.

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](#)

Child care resources:

If we are required to implement a 100% online learning environment or a hybrid learning model, we realize child care may become an issue. As we continue to make informed decisions, we will use your feedback from surveys to help guide us in our decisions. We ask that you start developing a plan in case we cannot return to buildings. Check with family members and neighbors. [This State of Iowa resource may be helpful.](#) You can also call the Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral program at 1-855-244-5301

Equity:

At Risk:

The Durant Community School District will ensure equity support for all students including our at-risk population. We will continue to identify those at risk based on our data and survey results.

- Participation in services will be tracked through the district's learning platform, Google Sites/Google Classroom, along with participation with teachers through distance learning. Additional communication will occur from teachers/counselors/administrators to families/students when participation is not occurring or there are barriers to overcome with the instruction.
- Technology and internet needs will be met through the district's technology plan.

Special Education:

The Durant Community School District will ensure appropriate access to and equity of Iowa's Academic Standards and other needs as the result of the disability and ensure all rights and responsibilities under IDEA are provided.

Families with children with an IEP will receive the same communication that applies to everyone in our district. If additional communication needs do occur regarding special education services, the administrators will communicate directly with the families or their roster teacher may provide this communication as well. All procedural safeguards that accompany an IEP will still be in effect in all learning scenarios.

IEP/504 Parent Meetings:

IEP meetings will continue to be conducted virtually if the district is currently accessing the full distance model or if we are utilizing on-site instruction. This will help to control the visitors in our building due to health/safety concerns. If parents/guardians need assistance to access technology, the roster teacher will reach out to the parents/guardians prior to the meeting to help troubleshoot the technology resources. If parents/guardians are not able to virtually attend the meeting, they may attend via phone.

Gifted and Talented:

The Durant Community School District will ensure equity support for all students including our gifted and talented population.

English Language Learners:

Identification of ELL students: We will use new Department of Education guidelines for provisional ELL placement. If entering a virtual learning environment, based on the Home Language Survey and parent interview, student(s) can be placed in the ELL program until we can formally assess new students with ELPA-21 screener.