

Donovan Community Unit School District # 3

Educating Students Since 1842

Mr. Toby Coates, Superintendent & K-5 Principal

Mr. Andy Jordan, 6-12 Principal

July 2, 2020

Dear Donovan School Community,

The purpose of this letter is to give you a preview of the school year that is ahead of us. As I've previously stated, the State Board of Education released guidance for schools to open for the start of the new school year. **I want to be very clear, at this time, Donovan CUSD 3 is committed to in-person normal school days and confident in our ability to provide an environment that is as safe as possible for students and staff.** To do this, we will all need to work together and all of us will be inconvenienced. Kids need to be in school with their friends and professional teachers. Inconvenience is a small price to pay to keep our kids and the adults that serve them safe and healthy. In-person learning this fall will look a lot different than years past. As of July 1, 2020, the following guidelines will need to be followed:

[Donovan CUSD #3 DOES NOT have the authority to waive any of these State requirements]

1. Face coverings will be required for ALL students, staff, and visitors.
 - a. Face masks are required at all times when indoors, as well as when individuals are within 6 feet of others outdoors.
 - b. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has communicated that face shields have not been deemed effective for source control and are only to be used when other methods of protection are not available or appropriate.
2. No more than 50 individuals can gather in one single space within the school.
3. Schools must conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks....OR...require that individuals self-certify that they are symptom free before entering schools
 - a. Students must be COVID19 symptom free and not have a temperature over 100.4 in order to attend school and we will check temperatures at school throughout the day.
 - b. We are still awaiting guidance on how self-certification can be accomplished
4. School buses are limited to no more than 50 people.
 - a. All 3 daily routes have more than 50 students riding.
 - b. Parents are encouraged to transport their child(ren) to and from school. You will be asked at registration on July 22 if your child(ren) intends to ride the bus.
 - c. Routes will be altered and possibly added based on the number of students needing daily transportation.
5. Donovan staff will be increasing schoolwide cleaning and disinfection

Perhaps the most important concept will be that sick kids and sick adults cannot come to school. We are making arrangements for staffing issues. Parents, please start planning on how you will handle illness situations in your families.

If remote learning becomes necessary, expectations for students and teachers will be clear to all involved. State guidance for remote learning this school year will be more demanding on students and teachers than last spring and more aligned to day to day learning. Daily work will be assigned and letter grades will be earned.

More details will be available at Registration on July 22, 2020 from 1:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Donovan High School

Thank you,
Toby Coates, District Superintendent
