

MEMORANDUM

To: All DEA Members

From: John Kealey (President), Michael Reinholdt (Vice President), Maggie Rietz (Communications Chair), Cari Johnson (Negotiations Chair), Toby Paone (UniServ Director)

Re: Update for March 25, 2020

Date: March 25, 2020

This memorandum to you is our attempt as leaders of the Davenport Education Association (DEA) to keep you informed as best as we can on issues involving employment, work expectations, communication with the Davenport Community School District (DCSD), contract negotiations, staffing for the 2020-2021 school year and other related matters. With the DCSD closed until April 13 (at the very least), there are a lot of unanswered questions as the District and indeed the entire world deals with the pandemic of the COVID-19. Yet we want to get you the best information we can at this time. Here are some of the questions we are getting and answers to them. **Please note: All joint DEA-DCSD decisions are subject to change based on Federal and State guidelines and policies.**

1. What are the work expectations of teachers between now and April 13?

Teachers can provide information and resources to students but cannot create or alter anything that would be graded. Guidance for secondary teachers regarding work assigned before March 13th will be coming in an email soon. The DEA worked with district personnel on this clarification. That said, assume at this moment that school will resume on April 13 unless a directive from the DCSD, the Governor or a higher authority deems differently.

2. If we have specific questions regarding curriculum or anything else academically-related, who should teachers turn to?

Teachers can always direct their curriculum questions to Corri Guy at guycor@davenportschools.org or to their building principal, depending upon whether the question(s) is building-specific or of a districtwide nature.

3. When will teaching assignments for the 2020-2021 school year be determined?

The DEA and the DCSD Administration started preliminary work on teacher assignments and placements for the 2020-2021 school year right prior to spring break. The parties will be communicating via e-mail and telephone this week to continue the staffing process. It has been stated many times the DCSD does not want to lay off any employees for the 2020-2021 school year. April 30 is the last day notifications can be given out to employees to indicate layoffs for

the following school year so practically speaking, it is hoped that teaching assignments for the 2020-2021 school year will be completed by April 30, 2020.

4. What's going on with negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement?

Communications between the DEA and the DCSD Administration are on-going and indeed are being expedited in a similar way that teaching assignments are being handled (see Question 3).

5. What is the plan and/or timeline if school is cancelled for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year?

Right now, the plan is to reopen the DCSD on Monday, April 13 unless the school district is directed otherwise by state or federal authorities.

We thank you for your patience and vigilance during this pandemic and shut down. We continue to advocate on your behalf and are in direct communication with District officials on a regular basis. Please keep up-to-date with the DEA via our Facebook and web pages at www.facebook.com/DavenportEducationAssociation/ and www.davenporteducationassociation.com/. Additionally, ISEA will be sending out periodic text messages to its members with updates on the statewide situation with the COVID-19 virus. Please look for those messages.

Despite the uncertainty, we ask you remember millions of 'unsung heroes and heroines' around the world are working in clinics and hospitals as first responders helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. In our own schools, custodians are cleaning and re-cleaning these buildings to provide a safe, healthy environment for our students and staff to work in upon our return. Cafeteria employees are making meals for kids to be fed in their neighborhoods every day. Be a good citizen, keep your social distance to help prevent the spread of this virus and take good care for one another. And, of course, wash your hands! We look forward to getting back to 'normal' as much as everyone else!