



UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

CHRISTOPHER BACHMEIER, SUPERINTENDENT

Burlington-Des Lacs Elementary
301 Wallace, Burlington, ND 58722-2235
Des Lacs-Burlington High School
PO Box 117, Des Lacs, ND 58733-0117
725-4334 (HS) – 725-4375 (FAX)
839-7135 (E) – 838-1573 (FAX)

DIRECTORS

Brett Casavant, President
Brenda Buri, Vice President
Josh Sundsbak, Director
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Jody Askvig, Business Manager

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July 8, 2020

Hello, I am hoping that everyone is enjoying the summer! I wanted to drop a note with where we stand regarding school this upcoming August. Last March, Governor Burgum closed schools for in-person instruction due to concerns about COVID-19. He directed schools to serve their students via distance learning “until further notice”.

The Governor amended his order on June 1st to allow schools to have summer school if it was in groups of 15 or less. We have been taking part in this with our extended school year program for our Special Education students as well as our summer Drivers Education Program.

We are in frequent contact with the ND Department of Public Instruction and the Governor’s Office trying to find out what schools will be allowed to do in August.

- At this time, we do not know if students will be allowed to return.
- If they can return, will class-size caps and social distancing guidelines be in place?
 - If so, that may force us to limit the number of students who can attend school each day.
- Will masks be mandatory?
- Will schools still have the authority to offer distance learning classes to our students who have been identified as high risk by a medical-professional?

It is our hope that the guidelines we need to follow will be released by mid-July prior to our school board meeting on July 15, 2020. Once those guidelines are released, we will develop our plan within those guidelines, and we will share our educational plan for this fall with our families.

We know how difficult this uncertainty is for many of you. Rest assured that as soon as we have guidance from the state, we will communicate our plan. If you have specific questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 701-725-4334.

Sincerely,

Christopher Bachmeier
Superintendent of Schools