

# Dunklin R-5 School District Communication

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**To: Dunklin R-5 Parents, Grandparents and Guardians**

**Date: May 11, 2020**

**Released: May 12, 2020**

**Regarding: COVID-19 Summer School and Re-Opening**

**From: Dr. Clint Freeman, Deputy Superintendent**

Dunklin R-5 Parent, Grandparents and Guardians

Over the past several weeks it appears that there are more questions than answers surrounding summer school as well as the reopening of school for the 2020-2021 school year. Last week, we received guidance from the Jefferson County Health Department, recommending that we keep our buildings and facilities closed through June 30, 2020, along with canceling all summer camps and sports practices through June 30. The Dunklin R-5 School District plans to follow these recommendations for the safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

In the upcoming week, we will be putting together a task force (Back at it Blackcats) with district staff to engage in the planning, preparation, and implementation of a virtual **or** in-person summer school that will be held July 13- August 7, 2020. This date is pending the re-evaluation of the COVID-19 situation in conjunction with the Jefferson County Health Department and our County Executive. As we get further along with the discussion, surveys and questionnaires will be generated to gather information and develop plans from our parents and staff.

The Back at it Blackcats task force will also be charged with developing plans to re-open our school in August. There are many options and ideas on how we can accomplish this, but at this time we are certain it will look very different. We appreciate your patience as we work to put the best plan in place for our school and community. We will also develop surveys to gather information and develop plans on the re-opening for the 2020-2021 school year.

In closing, I appreciate the support we've received from the community. This has been difficult on all of us. I'm proud of our teachers for making the best out of the situation and engaging our students. Our food service and transportation departments have been outstanding, delivering over 20,000 meals since the start of the closure. We are taking advantage of this time, cleaning facilities and pushing forward with construction projects. We want all of our Blackcats back, and we will find a safe way to open our buildings for students.