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## Decorah Community-

As we approach the exciting upcoming Boys Basketball State Tournament in Des Moines, I am writing to address the matter of holding school or canceling school for the state tournament..

In recent years, the school district has canceled school on two occasions when both the Girls and Boys basketball teams advanced to the state tournament. While recognizing the significant achievements of our student-athletes, we also understand that such cancellations have created hardships for families, disrupting routines and causing inconvenience for both parents and students.

Given the circumstances, we have carefully reconsidered our approach and have decided against canceling school for the Boys Basketball State Tournament this year. To provide more clarity, we will adhere to our regular school schedules for the first game on Tuesday and, if successful, for the subsequent game on Thursday. However, we will assess the possibility of adjusting the school day should our team advance to the championship game. We truly appreciate your understanding and flexibility in this matter. Our commitment is to maintain a balanced and consistent policy across all sports and activities at the state level, recognizing the broader impact of such decisions on our school community.

To make this decision feasible, we acknowledge that some staff members will need to stay back to hold down the fort and ensure the smooth running of the school operations. For those staff members who make this sacrifice, we express our sincere appreciation.

We understand the enthusiasm and support that surrounds these events, and we want to encourage the entire school community to rally behind our boys' team during this exciting time. To facilitate attendance, we will be providing a pep bus to transport students to the game. This unique initiative allows us to continue our commitment to education while still fostering school spirit and support for our talented athletes.

It is our sincere hope that this decision will be met with understanding and support from the school community. We remain dedicated to providing the best educational experience for our students and maintaining a fair and consistent approach in our decisions. Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to the continued success of our Boys Basketball Team.

Sincerely,

Tim Cronin, Superintendent

## 100 Claiborne Drive Decorah, IA 52101

ADAM RILEY, ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR JACKIE RECKWARD, ACTIVITIES MANAGER

## 2024 Boys State Basketball Information – Quarterfinals

Decorah High School is extremely excited to have our Boys Basketball team play in the 2024 State Tournament at Wells Fargo Arena. We look forward to the continued support of the community and fans for our students just like in all of our activities. A regular day of school will be held on Tuesday, March 5 for the Decorah Community School District in order to maintain a balanced and consistent approach to state level events while recognizing the impact that such decisions can have on the broader school community. State Basketball Community Letter Information for future contests can be expected immediately following the quarterfinal game.

In order to prepare those planning to attend this great event, we want to provide some information to help everyone prepare for a great experience and support the staff at Wells Fargo Arena with the management of the event.

- Decorah vs. Williamsburg in the State Quarterfinal
  - 2:00 PM on Tuesday, March 5 at Wells Fargo Arena
- Tickets can be purchased in advance online at the link below or at Wells Fargo Arena.
  - o 3/5/24 State Basketball Tickets
  - \$12.00 Cost of Ticket General Admission for All Games on 3/5/24
    - Service Fees will apply for Online Transactions
- High School and Middle School Pep Bus Offered through Decorah Schools
  - \$30 Cost Includes Game Ticket Checks Made out to Decorah High School
    - Deadline Students will need to sign up and pay in the High School or Middle School Office by 3:00 PM on Monday, March 4. Contact Jackie Reckward <u>jackie.reckward@decorah.school</u> with questions.
    - Reminder there is no school on Monday, March 4, but each office will be open and checks can be made to Decorah High School.
    - Pep Buses will only be available for Decorah Community School Students in grades 5 through 12.
  - Students will dismiss and load at 9:15 AM and leave at 9:30 AM from the Circle Drive at Decorah High School for High School Students and outside the main doors of Decorah Middle School for Middle School Students.
  - Due to financial considerations and burdens to the School District and the Decorah Viking Athletic Booster Club, the school district will not be managing any Community Charter Buses.
- Wells Fargo Arena has a Clear Bag Policy
  - Maximum Size of 12"x6"x12" is permitted. Exceptions will be granted for medical, family or child care bags no larger than 4.5"x6.5"
- All Spectators will enter through the south gates of the arena and exit through the north gates.
  - Decorah will be the Home Team and spectators will sit on the north side of the arena directly behind the scorer's table and team benches.
  - Decorah Students will sit behind the Decorah Bench immediately to the right of the scorer's table while facing the floor.
  - Please follow the directions of Wells Fargo Arena Staff for directions to spectators leaving one game and entering for the next game. (Enter from the right and leave to the left after awards presentations.)
- Please remember to enjoy this experience provided for our school and community.
  - Express Gratitude to the staff of Wells Fargo Arena and the IHSAA for their work to provide a great environment for us to participate in.
  - Display positive sportsmanship and encouragement for all schools and officials.
  - Wear Red and Blue!
  - o Be Loud and Proud to Show others what the Decorah Community is all about!