



This has been another busy day for the dedicated staff and faculty at Iowa Western as we prepare to operate under the “new normal” conditions thrust upon this nation by the novel COVID19 virus. Every day brings a new set of challenges and decisions that need to be made to stay in front of this global pandemic. It’s encouraging for me to see and hear the stories of our Iowa Western family coming together in support of students and others during this time of need.

The crisis management team met via Zoom this morning to prepare for any further disruption in daily operations on our campus. It went remarkably well!

It was decided today that the entire staff will join the students and faculty next week in observing a weeklong Spring Break. We believe that this is much needed time off for staff to re-energize after some long and difficult days of planning since the virus outbreak was announced. It will also give the cleaning crew time to disinfect the campus.

In addition, we hope that everyone follows the urgent recommendation of federal, state and local officials to remain home during this time to help carry out mandatory social distancing regulations. Travel during this time is not advised.

Although we are letting staff off for the break, we encourage everyone to stay connected via e mail with your direct report supervisors and vice presidents. Decisions will need to be made which may involve certain staff, so it is critical that everyone stay connected while on break.

There will be some individuals on campus working next week, so the buildings will be accessible to employees. If you need to be on campus for some reason and find the doors locked, call security at 402-659-4939 to gain access.

We appreciate all of the efforts everyone is making to assure that our students are able to complete their coursework for the spring semester.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Kinney'.

Dr. Dan Kinney

President

Iowa Western Community College

2700 College Road, Council Bluffs, IA 51502