



DRIVERS ED

LESSONS FOR THE ROAD OF LIFE

Dear Parents / Guardians;

I wanted to update all of you on our progress for moving forward with Drivers Education.

First, thank you to all the parents that helped their son/daughter get their make up work complete. I am finalizing with the last two students this week. THANK YOU!

Now on to Behind the Wheel. We have been given permission to start our plans for Behind the Wheel. As required by the MN Department of Vehicle Services that regulates Drivers Ed, we have developed a safety plan that is specific to COVID-19. This is posted on the school website – please be sure to read through this.

As part of the state recommendations, we are adjusting our driving to limit it to 1 student in the vehicle at a time. This means that I must re-do my schedule for the summer. As I develop this schedule, I need some additional information. Please complete the online form that is being sent out by the school district. The sooner you complete this, the more quickly I can get the schedule back out to you.

As you prepare for your scheduled driving sessions – you need to remember a few things.

- Each student will be required to return a signed waiver when they come for their first scheduled session. This can also be found on the school website – if you need a printed copy, please let me know and I can bring one the first day of driving OR mail one out to you.
- Each student **MUST** have their PERMIT prior to their scheduled drive time.
- Each student **MUST** do a health screening **prior to each day** of driving – these questions can be found in the safety plan. If they are sick, they **MUST** reschedule with me.
- Each student **MUST** bring their own fabric/re-useable or disposable mask each day they drive

Finally, the packet that I would have handed out during the Parent Class is also posted on the website. There are some reminders for the step by step process for students to get their permit, as well as some great resources for parents/guardians.

If you have any questions or concerns, please be sure to email or call me. Please see the FAQs on the next page.

D'Anne Johnson
Drivers Ed Instructor
218.686.4829
deidra64@gmail.com

Here are some **Frequently Asked Questions** – some I've received, some I'm anticipating.

QUESTION. Are you going to be holding the Parent Class? As they are lifting restrictions, I have been in touch with the State DVS office and the school about hosting the parent class. I requested permission to offer the parent class over Zoom and was denied. Right now the school would allow us to hold the class, but we could only have 10 people in the room. Due to this, we will NOT be holding this class at this time. As restrictions open up, we may host this later this summer or in the fall. You may also ask, how else might this affect my daughter/son? Without the Parent Class, you will need to log an additional 10 hours of supervised driving before you take your road test.

QUESTION. Does my daughter/son need to wait to start driving until the parent class is complete? No. As soon as they turn 15 they are able to take their WRITTEN test. As soon as they pass that & complete their application for a permit/license, they can start driving. No need to wait for the Parent Class OR Behind the Wheel.

QUESTION. Have the exam stations opened up so my daughter/son can go take their test? Exam stations started to open up on Tuesday, May 19. ROAD TESTS will not begin again until May 26, 2020. The following exam stations will be open – the rest will remain closed for the foreseeable future. An additional point – they are SEVERLY backlogged in driving exams, this is mostly in the metro area, but many are driving north to get their tests taken so it may affect us as well. You will notice below that only 2 are fairly close to us.

Arden Hills	Anoka	Eagan
Plymouth	Rochester	Mankato
Marshall	Willmar	Detroit Lakes
St. Cloud	Brainerd	Duluth
Grand Rapids	Bemidji	St. Paul (knowledge testing only)

Due note that if you intend to go to an exam station – YOU MUST HAVE AN APPOINTMENT or they will turn you away.

QUESTION. Will the driving be the same as in the past? Due to the limitation on the number of students in the car, we will be modifying our driving routes. Each drive day will be limited to 2 hours. The first day we will drive in RLF, the second to TRF, and the third to Crookston. We will NOT be going to Grand Forks.

I will create my schedule to go through July. If anything changes, the schedule will be reviewed and updated where possible.

QUESTION. What should I do if my daughter/son are sick? Please call / text the instructor and cancel that scheduled drive time. We will do our best to reschedule as soon as possible.

QUESTION. What if we don't have a mask or a waiver? The student will not be allowed to drive if the waiver is not signed. If the student has a medical condition that does not allow them to wear a mask, this must be documented with the school. The instructor will work with the school administration to verify this.