



NKC Schools families,

Throughout the summer and now fall, COVID-19 has required our district to plan for innovative and unique ways to welcome our students back to school. It's been encouraging to see our community adapt to this changing situation by hosting virtual back-to-school nights, tuning in to Parent University sessions, and re-imagining new first day of school traditions. Coming together, we have continued to be flexible and solve challenges posed by COVID-19. Today, we have several updates to share with our students, staff and families about plans for our year ahead.

At the Board of Education meeting Tuesday evening, Superintendent Dr. Clemens and district leadership shared the updates that follow:

In-Person Attendance Schedules

- According to our [NKC Schools decision criteria](#) and COVID-19 data from the Clay County and Kansas City, Missouri Health Departments, our area is currently at a medium level of overall disease activity. Following these criteria, we plan to begin the school year with the following student attendance scenarios:
 - Students in preschool through grade 5 will attend face-to-face, beginning the year in [Scenario 1](#). They will attend in person five days per week, with additional cleaning to occur each evening.
 - Grades 6-12 will begin the year in [Scenario 2](#). Students will attend in person classes two days per week, learning virtually at home three days per week. Students in Group A (last names A-K) will attend Mondays and Tuesdays, and students in Group B (last names L-Z) will attend Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesdays will be reserved for deep cleaning of the school building and provide additional time for teachers to collaborate and offer feedback to students.
- The secondary rotation calendar has been adjusted to balance in-person attendance days for our students in grades 6-12. [View the updated A/B calendars here](#).
- Additional plans are in place for our students with unique needs, including special education services and instruction for English language learners.
- NKC Schools will continue to monitor data and re-evaluate attendance scenarios for our face-to-face learners on a regular basis all throughout the year. Every effort will be made to ensure transitions between attendance scenarios occur at natural breaks in the year, such as at the end of a quarter or semester. We will continue to share what we know, when we know it.
- **The first day of school for all students, regardless of option or attendance schedule, will be Tuesday, September 8.** If not attending in person, all students will be expected to log in virtually on the first day.

Safety & Operations

- We will host our second Community Conversation opportunity for our community tomorrow, August 27, to discuss safety as we navigate COVID-19, racism in America, and the need to take care of ourselves. Thank you to all those who have signed up to engage in this important conversation together. These will be scheduled quarterly.

- NKC Schools has purchased an extensive stock of masks, sanitizer, gloves and other PPE for use in our school buildings this fall. [See more details on PPE and cleaning protocols here.](#)
- Our custodial staff has also developed extensive cleaning procedures to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 in our facilities.

Athletics & Activities

- Fall athletics and activities will continue with all safety precautions in place.
- Venues, scheduling and format of events may be adjusted to meet guidelines from the Clay County Health Department.
- While district events may look differently, all student groups will be included and celebrated.

NKC Schools' Board of Education laid the foundation for continued success throughout the upcoming school year with approval of the budget and 2020-2021 [Balanced Scorecard](#). The leadership by our Board members through the uncertainty posed by COVID-19 is greatly appreciated.

The community's flexibility and continued support for NKC Schools is greatly appreciated. We know that it will certainly be an unusual start to the school year, but our teachers, staff and schools are looking forward to welcoming our students on Tuesday, September 8. Should you have additional needs or concerns before the year begins, please don't hesitate to reach out to your student's school. Additional resources for families are also available on our website at nkcschools.org/coronavirus. Whether our students learn virtually or in person, we are proud to serve as champions for each of our 21,000 learners and their families.