



*March 12, 2021*

Good afternoon, NKC Schools families,

We are looking forward to welcoming back all students in grades 6-12 currently learning via a hybrid model to a full five days of in-person attendance beginning March 22! Dr. Clemens shared rationale and thinking in his [update](#) last week. As plans, programs and services evolve, we want to keep you informed. Please read more about changes to our school calendar, meal distribution and other important items.

### **Updated Calendar**

Returning to full-time in-person learning for our secondary students the week of March 22 comes with some benefits. First, this timing allows for a full nine weeks of in-person learning on a schedule not utilized for over a year! It also gives us one full week in this model prior to Spring Break with the opportunity to rest and recharge almost immediately. District administrators can then utilize Spring Break to make any necessary adjustments to systems and structures prior to our return on April 5. In preparing for this transition, we want to share several updates to our school calendar:

- All grades K-12 will now follow a Wednesday two-hour early release schedule. Just as it has for our elementary teachers throughout the year, this time will provide secondary teachers greater opportunity to connect with and support virtual learners. Schools will release students two hours early each Wednesday.
- Students in grades 6-12 will attend classes on their typical A/B rotation schedule with some modifications on Wednesdays. Look for more details to come from your student's school.
- To provide our on-site COVID-19 vaccination clinics for all staff and minimize disruption to student learning, the following dates will be virtual learning days:
  - Wednesday, March 24 will be a virtual learning day for students in grades 6-12.
  - Friday, March 26 will be a virtual learning day for students in grades Pre-K-5. Adventure Club will be closed.
  - Wednesday, April 14 will be a virtual learning day for students in grades 6-12.
  - Friday, April 16 will be a virtual learning day for students in grades Pre-K-5. Adventure Club will be closed.
- Spring Break remains Monday, March 29 through Friday, April 2.
- In response to feedback and working in conjunction with CTTN, and pending Board approval, Wednesday, April 28 will now be used for teacher-directed professional

development, collaboration and planning, as well as an opportunity for students to catch up on school work and prepare for the weeks ahead. No new learning will take place on this day and students will not report to their school buildings. All staff should report to their typical Wednesday work site on this day.

- The last day of school remains Friday, May 28.

Updated calendars, reflecting each of these changes, are available here:

[Elementary Calendar](#)

[Secondary Calendar](#)

### **Meal Distribution**

- NKC Schools will continue to provide free meals to all students learning in-person and virtually.
- As our secondary students begin attending five days per week, daily meal pick up at the high schools will be discontinued, as those staff members and resources will be dedicated to providing school meals to a greater number of students attending on site.
- Weekly meal kit pick up on Wednesday evenings at Northgate will also be discontinued. Instead, weekly meal kit pick up will be available at each high school on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. when school is in session. Meal kit pick up will cease on holidays, breaks in the school calendar, inclement weather days, and non-school days.
- These changes will begin the week of March 22. More information is available at [nkcschools.org/meals](http://nkcschools.org/meals).

### **More Information About March 22**

As we make final preparations for our in-person learners to return on March 22, we know you may still have questions. The [Frequently Asked Questions page on our website](#) has been updated with additional information, and answers to a few of the most common questions appear below.

*Will the hybrid schedule still be available?*

No. Beginning March 22, full five-day attendance will serve as the district's in-person option for students. We will continue to offer our fully virtual options for any family who prefers this choice for their student.

*If my student is currently learning 100% virtually, could he/she switch to in-person learning on March 22?*

Yes, a shift between learning modes is possible during this time of transition. Families have been asked to contact their student's school principal if they'd like to have further discussion regarding their student.

With the shift in schedule on Wednesdays, some programs offered for specific student groups will be affected due to transportation schedules. Families of students attending impacted programs such as Title I preschool, the High School Alternative Program, work experience sites, and any others, will be contacted directly with further information.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact your student's school principal or utilize [Let's Talk](#). Thank you for your continued partnership with NKC Schools as we strive to serve as Champions for All Students!