April 24, 2020

Dear KIPP Columbus Families:

It was wonderful to see so many of you during our first KIPP Columbus Community parade, especially after learning of the extended closure for the remainder of this academic year. We really miss all of you so much and can’t wait to “see you again.”

Over the next two weeks, we will be finalizing decisions related to the remainder of this academic year and the month of June— including details for end of year celebrations, graduation, summer school offerings, and more. This information will be shared with you as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, the last day for students remains May 29th and more detail can be found below regarding other key details that have already been confirmed related to this 19-20 school year.

We are actively working through potential plans for the remainder of the summer and next school year (20-21), but so much remains uncertain. We do not know what the coming months, or next school year will bring, but I can promise you that we will approach it together and we will stay in close and consistent communication through it all. The messiness, the stress, the questions, and more -- as well the inspiration, connection, and joy and so much in between.... we will work through all of it, together. And as soon as it is safe for us to return, we will be all in to make that happen.

I’m also grateful to share that KIPP has established the “KIPP Columbus Emergency Response Fund.” This fund will be used to address critical needs (housing, food insecurity, transportation needs, etc.) of our KIPPsters and their families at this time and going forward. As you are aware, the needs in our community are significant, and this is one additional step to meeting those needs. If you are in need of some additional support at this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team here, and we will do all we can to connect you with resources.

A few additional updates:

- **KIPP COLUMBUS SENIORS (CLASS OF 2020):** Our seniors have earned nearly $6 million in merit based scholarships and we are immensely proud of them as they prepare for their next chapter in such a challenging time. The class of 2020 is our FIRST graduating class from KIPP Columbus High, and while the conclusion of their time at KIPP is different than anyone imagined, we are doing ALL we can to ensure that it is not diminished.

  More details will be coming around the graduation ceremony, caps and gowns, senior photos, senior celebrations (and more) at the beginning of May — but ALL of these **will be happening** in some way! Again, they may be different, but they will no doubt be special and memorable.

  If you have ideas about how we can ensure this time is filled with some extra joy and memories, please take a few moments to share those here.

- **CONFIRMED DECISIONS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 19-20 SCHOOL YEAR AND MONTH OF JUNE:**
  - Last Day for Students remains May 29th, and remote learning will continue during this time.
  - Summer School Session #1 will be done remotely June 1st - 19th with a decision about Summer School Session #2 (July 13th - 31st) to be determined by the end of May.
  - June Summer Camps have been cancelled with a decision on July camps to be determined by end of May.
  - Athletics will not begin practicing until at least July with a decision to come by the end of May.
  - Campus remains closed through at least June 2nd.

- **FOOD DISTRIBUTION:** KIPP will be distributing **FREE meals** from campus this Monday, April 27th from 7a-12p and until (at least) August. We hope to see you, your friends, neighbors, family, and anyone else you know!

  (note: If you are unable to make this time because you are considered an essential worker or are unable to get to campus, please reach out to us at kippoffice@kippcolumbus.org (614-263-6137) and we will make arrangements.)

- **REMOTE LEARNING:** Information will continue to be updated on our website, and through communication from your child(ren)’s teacher and school. Thank you for your continued partnership as we keep learning together!
- **COMPUTER REPAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:** The longer we are out of school, the more technology issues/needs might arise, and KIPP has created a computer repair program to support with this. Please fill out [this form](#) if your child’s computer is in need of repair, and our operations team will be in touch with next steps. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work through this.

- **PANDEMIC CHILD CARE CENTER:** The YMCA continues to operate a pandemic childcare center on the KIPP Columbus campus -- and has spots available. Do you know of any first responders or essential workers who are in need of childcare? [Check out this flyer](#) and please share with those who may need this resource.

In partnership,

Hannah D. Powell  
KIPP Columbus, Executive Director  

(If there is anything we can do to support you throughout this time please email [covid@kippcolumbus.org](mailto:covid@kippcolumbus.org) or fill out [this form](#) anytime.)