



July 30, 2020

KIPP Columbus Families,

Thank you for your continued support and partnership during these challenging times, and for your patience and engagement as we have worked diligently to determine the safest way to begin our 2020-2021 school year.

After meeting with Columbus Public Health (CPH) officials yesterday and receiving updated guidance from both [CPH](#) and [Franklin County Public Health \(FPCH\)](#), **KIPP Columbus will open this school year remotely for the first 6 weeks (August 24th - October 2nd)** and all extracurricular activities will be suspended effective tomorrow, July 31, 2020.

This is not a decision that is being made lightly, and we genuinely want nothing more than to have the opportunity to welcome your children back, in person, to campus this school year. *It is my sincere hope* that we can reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community and have the opportunity to resume in-person learning sooner than later. We miss our KIPPsters terribly, and we will continue to do everything we can to support you and your families.

As you know, our teachers and leaders are incredible and innovative, and while so much is uncertain, they will most certainly bring love, creativity, joy -- *connection, care, and community* - to every space and student, regardless of the instructional model, and we will continue to grow and learn as we continue on this journey.

As we begin remote learning, please know that this will look/feel different than it did this past spring during the mandatory school closure. KIPPsters will have synchronous instruction ("live," with a teacher) daily, attendance will be taken, and assignments will be graded. Our teachers return on August 10th for Professional Development and will be further building out the programming, but below you will find **sample daily schedules (Monday - Friday, 9a-3:30p)** for all grades:

- **Sample Daily Schedules:** [K-5 \(Primary and Elementary\)](#); [6-8 \(Middle\)](#); [9-12 \(High\)](#)

**KIPP's 2020-2021 Year-Long Calendar** has also been updated and can be found [HERE](#). A decision regarding "KIPP on Campus" programming after October 2nd will be made no later than September 18th. All plans are subject to change, but we will continue to communicate early and often in consultation with our local health department. KIPP at Home will continue through December for those families who have chosen/choose that option.

We are **extending the deadline to choose the semester-long (August - December) "KIPP at Home"** option to Monday, August 3rd. [Please click HERE to enroll](#), and with more details regarding the options [HERE](#). We want to ensure this enrollment option is extended based on the new information you are receiving today. While all students will begin the year remotely, if/when students are able to return to campus between October - December, only those students enrolled in "KIPP on Campus" would be able to do so. "KIPP at Home" students would remain in a remote only program through the first semester.

More details will be forthcoming regarding computer distribution (*every KIPPster will have their own computer and access to the internet*), Student and Family Orientations, KIPP's new remote learning platform (*hopefully this will simplify and streamline the online learning process!*), and Free Meal Distribution for all students.

Additionally, we know that this announcement creates challenges for many of you. We are actively working with various community partners (Columbus Urban League, Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, and more) to explore what *might be possible to provide* students with a safe space to go, daily, to engage in their remote learning at minimum. For those families enrolled in "KIPP on Campus" (in-person/remote) option, we will be connecting with you yet this week to gauge your interest.

The health and safety of our students, team, and families remains our top priority, and continues to guide our decision making. Please [email](#)/call (614.263.6150) with any thoughts/questions, and we will continue to meet with public health officials and experts on a weekly basis (at minimum), and will stay in close communication as we proceed.

In partnership,

Hannah D. Powell, Executive Director, KIPP Columbus