



September 4, 2020

KIPP Families:

What a launch to this school year it has been! So many exciting things happened across remote KIPP classrooms and at the launch of our KIPP Cares Center this week. Together, we are most certainly proving what is possible during these challenging times!

In addition to the exciting and innovative things happening in our classrooms, I'm honored and excited to introduce you to our new Head of Schools, Ms. Ciji Pittman, who joined our KIPP Team and Family this summer.

As the Head of Schools, Ciji will lead and ensure that KIPP Columbus is further actualizing our mission - providing oversight and support to our school leadership and all school functions/programs as further ensure our schools are excellent, equitable, and places of joy and learning in partnership with you, our families! Ciji brings with her a breadth of experiences, and more information can be found below. Welcome, Ms. Pittman!

I also want to provide some updates regarding reopening -- as we stay committed to communicating with you early and often.

Based on the [State's Public Health Advisory System](#), Franklin County is now a Level 2, down from a Level 3 -- and we have had two consecutive weeks at [Level 2](#). This is exciting and encouraging news -- I'm hopeful we can keep up this great work in our community for *many* reasons, but especially given that it's the pathway to be back (in-person) with our KIPPsters!

Below you will find additional details regarding our reopening planning, which is largely reflective of the previous timeline provided. While all plans are subject to change, we hope this overview is helpful as we all continue to navigate these times.

- **September 9th:** High School (Fall) Sports Resume (Go, Jaguars!)
- **Late September/Early October:** Communication regarding KIPP's reopening plan (*potential "in-person" for KIPP on Campus students; KIPP at Home will continue through December*)
- **Week of October 12th and 19th:** Earliest date for a gradual return of *KIPP on Campus* KIPPsters to in-person learning (*ex: certain groups/grades of students come back for periods of time to support learning new protocols and procedures, general adjustments, etc.*)
- **Mid-November:** A decision regarding enrollment options/learning models for the second half of the school year will be determined.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to [reach out](#). Thank you for your continued support and engagement, and have a safe, healthy, and enjoyable holiday weekend!

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hannah D. Powell".

Hannah D. Powell
KIPP Columbus, Executive Director

UPDATE ITEMS

Meet Ciji Pittman - KIPP Columbus, Head of Schools

Ciji holds a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Affairs and African American Studies from the University of Virginia and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Chicago Law School. She was a teacher in Atlanta Public Schools, founded an elementary school in Memphis and later founded schools in Wisconsin and St. Louis. Most recently, Ciji oversaw a network of 15 schools across 3 states. Ciji moved to Columbus this summer, and we are excited and honored to welcome her to our KIPP Team and Family!



Virtual Field Day and Upcoming Virtual Dance

KIPPsters across all grade levels completed a series of virtual challenges and activities as a part of our first ever virtual field day this week. KIPPsters created videos and completed fun and creative challenges throughout the field day. Overall, KIPPsters completed more than 450 videos and challenges on Tuesday! We will have more virtual events coming up this month with our welcome back virtual dance parties on Wednesday, September 16th!

KIPP Columbus Athletics Update

Based on the updated recommendations from Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Public Health, KIPP Columbus will be resuming high school fall sports seasons next week (September 9th), and more detail will be forthcoming from our coaches to families, but we are eager for our KIPPsters to have the chance to resume sports activities and safely compete with their high school teams.

Columbus Metropolitan Library Tech Support & Homework Help

KIPP Columbus is excited to partner with the Columbus Metropolitan Library in providing support for our families and KIPPsters! By visiting [this website](#) you will be able to access homework support (K-12), reading support (grades K-3) and find help for issues related to your computer or accessing your classes (K-12). You can also access these supports by calling 614-645-2275. Thank you to the library for providing this amazing support!

Food Distribution

This Tuesday (and Tuesday's moving forward) we will be distributing food on Tuesdays from 9am- 12pm and from 4pm - 6pm. The Harvest will be providing fresh, healthy items in our food packages, and warm meals will be available, too. These meals are available for **ANY and ALL** children in our community 18 years or younger. We look forward to welcoming you to campus for these delicious options, and please share with your neighbors, friends, family!

KIPP Columbus Website

To find the most updated information, all family communications, and helpful links, please visit our website at: www.kippcolumbus.org/coronavirus.

Ongoing Communication

As we enter into the school year, we will be sending weekly, Friday communications/updates that will be shorter in nature, but consistent with key updates/information. If you have any general questions between these updates, please contact your child's teacher, or send an email to covid@kippcolumbus.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 7th: KIPP Columbus Closed - Labor Day

September 16th: Welcome back virtual dance parties (K-12)

September 17th: Columbus Symphony Concert @ the KIPP Columbus Athletics & Wellness Complex - More details to come!

A Little Joy!

What a 'joy' it was to welcome KIPPsters back to campus this week for the launch of KIPP Cares! We cannot wait to see even more KIPPsters back on campus next Tuesday for Week 2!



If you have any pictures, or stories you would like highlighted here or on social media, please send to spotlight@kippcolumbus.org -- thanks in advance!