



October 16, 2020

KIPP Columbus Families,

Thank you for your continued support and partnership, and for your patience and engagement as we have worked diligently to determine the safest way to bring your child(ren) back to in-person learning this year for those who elected into KIPP on Campus while continuing to enhance our KIPP at Home programming.

As likely seen yesterday, cases in our community are increasing and our county has shifted to a level 3 COVID-risk level. It is important to note that a shift to level 3 does not automatically transition us to/from a "remote model" as there are a number of factors for consideration (see [this overview](#)).

KIPP continues to be in weekly communication with local public health officials and experts, and has been in even more frequent communication over the last 24 hours in the wake of the rising cases, [the level 3](#) announcement by the Governor yesterday, and the addition of Indiana to the [Ohio COVID-19 Travel Advisory](#).

Unfortunately, we are at the beginning of what is likely, a continued increase in cases, and the data is going in the wrong direction. The timing of this, with our hybrid reopening plans and the limited time we have before winter break is problematic (*7 weeks of remote instruction, 3 weeks [14 days] of in-person learning for each KIPP on Campus A/B group*).

If we were in Level 3 / red and we were on the other side of the curve with cases declining, we would potentially be in a different place. That being said, we are not in that place, and given these factors, **KIPP will continue to operate remotely for the remainder of the semester (through December 20th) for ALL grades K-12** unless factors significantly change in our community. While factors changing is not likely, it is always a possibility and one that we will revisit should that opportunity present itself. (Note: A decision regarding KIPP's instructional delivery model for semester 2 will be made by mid-late November, and our adjusted school year calendar can be found [here](#)).

We also stay committed to finding ways to support our KIPPsters and families, and will be in touch with additional information around potential supports/opportunities for partnership in the coming days/weeks. If you have any questions, ideas, or ways we can support, please [contact us anytime](#).

Next week will remain a professional development week for teachers (no school for students October 19-October 23), and we will return to remote learning on October 26th. Your child(ren's) school will be in touch with more details next week regarding schedules and next steps.

We were so eager to welcome our teachers and KIPPsters back to campus. I know this news is heavy to say the least, and the continued adjustments are challenging. We WILL reopen one day (hopefully sooner than later) and we will continue to do ALL we can to prioritize the safety of our entire community to the fullest extent possible in these dynamic and difficult times. We are, and will continue to be in this together.

In partnership,

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

Hannah D. Powell
Executive Director, KIPP Columbus

Additional Information

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 **hot 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!

Athletics

At this time, there is no change to athletics programming.

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!

The New Albany Lecture Series on Social Justice - FREE Virtual event, Wednesday, October 21st

Ibram X. Kendi, an award-winning historian and leading antiracist voice will be interviewed by civil rights lawyer, advocate, legal scholar, and author Michelle Alexander. This conversation on social justice will be streamed through a virtual platform at 5:45pm on Wednesday, October 21st -- [click here to register](#). Thank you to the New Albany Foundation for the continued support of our KIPPsters and broader community!

KIPP Columbus Emergency Response Fund

The KIPP Columbus Emergency Response Fund is available to address critical needs (housing, food insecurity, transportation needs, etc.) of our KIPPsters and their families at this time and going forward. 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.

KIPP Columbus Website

To find the most updated information, all family communications, and helpful links, please visit our website at: www.kippcolumbus.org/coronavirus. Additionally, a weekly COVID - 19 dashboard has been added to our website which will be updated each Friday with the weeks and cumulative positive cases on our campus for both students and team members. If your child is impacted by a reported case, you will receive outreach directly from KIPP Columbus. If your child receives a positive COVID test, please notify our team as soon as possible at covid@kippcolumbus.org or by calling your child's school.