



"Inspire Excellence"

July 22, 2020

Dear Kenesaw Staff, Students, and Community,

As we officially close out the 2019-2020 school year with our postponed Graduation Ceremony on July 25th, I would like to recognize and commend our students, staff, and parents for your resilience and courage over the past several months as we, along with the entire world, have battled the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am sure you have several questions and concerns as we anticipate the re-opening of our schools. I want to assure you that we are actively and intently creating a plan to ensure that any form of reopening occurs with the highest level of safety, health, and guidance conducive to a positive learning environment for our students and staff.

Although we have been fortunate in Kenesaw to have not seen the spike in cases other areas of our state have, we also recognize the severity of this pandemic and are mindful of the members of our school and community that are particularly vulnerable. Understanding that no plan will be perfect, we have thoughtfully considered all available options and believe the unique position and minimal spread of the virus in our community allows us to tailor our reopening plans specifically for the village of Kenesaw. Our hope is that we, together as a community, work to ensure we are protecting ourselves, our loved ones, and each other and by doing so, our students and staff are able to safely return to school.

With the health and safety of our students, staff, and community at the forefront of everything we do, the KPS administration and School Board, ***along with and led by an outstanding group of student leaders***, are proud to introduce and launch the ["Kenesaw Cares"](#) community campaign in response to COVID-19.

["Kenesaw Cares"](#) was informed by assistance and advice of local, state, and federal health and safety organizations and focuses on key recommendations which include some of the following:

- Face coverings. Although not mandatory, students and staff are encouraged to wear face coverings during all educational activities (at school or on the bus).
- Physical distancing. Students and staff should engage in physical distancing (spacing between seats, in hallways and on buses) as reasonably possible.
- Hygiene efforts. Handwashing, personal hygiene, and cleanliness stressed. Increased cleaning and disinfection of all areas including classrooms, common areas, and buses.
- Symptom screening. Parents and students should monitor temperatures and look for signs of any symptoms of COVID-19. Daily temperature checks will be conducted at designated entrances.

In consideration of our student and parent needs, teachers and school administration are developing instructional plans for a variety of learning situations including in-person, remote, and/or other blended models of instruction and will have learning options in place for students unable to attend in-person classes. Understanding that things could change at any time, we will continue to work diligently to develop safe reopening plans and will provide clarifying information and updates as they become available. **We are planning to begin school on time and in person as scheduled on August 12, 2020.**

As of today, we have received responses on our KPS COVID-19 surveys from 79 parents, 32 staff members, and 36 (7-12 grade) students. Thank you for providing us with valuable insight on your experiences with KPS throughout this pandemic. Your responses are very important for our planning process and we are taking all into consideration. If you have not had the opportunity to share your thoughts with us and would like to, please click on the following link for the survey(s) that apply to your role within KPS.

[Parent Survey](#)

[Student Survey \(7-12\)](#)

[Staff Survey](#)

We look forward to working with you and continuing to prepare our students for the path that lies ahead. We hope that as the summer months come to an end, you and your families remain safe and in good health.

Sincerely,

Rick Masters
Superintendent

Nicole J. LeClaire
Principal, 7-12

Joe Wiechman
Principal, Pre-K - 6

Kenesaw Cares Campaign Video

The "Kenesaw Cares" Community Campaign Is being led by these outstanding student leaders of Kenesaw High School:

Deric Goldenstein

Eli Jensen

Madeline Kennedy

Lauryn Kenning

Kaylee Larson

Shawna McKimmey

Liam Parker

Madeline Pulver

Emma Schroeder

Kaylee Steer

MISSION STATEMENT

"In partnership with our community, we will provide a specially designed and challenging education, encourage positive citizenship, and promote lifelong learning."