

Board of Education
Eldon Brashear, President
KANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Home of the Comets

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October 25th, 2020

Dear Kansas parents, staff and community members:

On October 24th we received notification of HS staff members that have tested positive for COVID-19. While we must protect the privacy of the people involved, we believe it is best to communicate transparently with you so that you can make well-informed decisions for your family.

There is nothing more important to Kansas Public Schools than the safety and health of our students, our staff and their families. We are working directly with county health officials to address this situation. They have recommended that we share the following information with you. We have contacted the Health Department and have completed the contact tracing. Those who were in close contact with the staff have been notified. Those involved have been quarantined by the protocols set forth by the CDC, the local Health Department and our district.

Due to the amount of staff that is in quarantine at the High School we will transition **ONLY THE HIGH SCHOOL** to Distance Learning starting Monday October 26th through Friday October 30th. **All other sites will remain open.** We will plan to return to learn in the building on Monday Nov. 2nd. At this time, all extra-curricular activities will continue as scheduled because these programs have not been affected by Covid. Buses will run at regular times to pick up middle school and elementary students.

While in Distance Learning, attendance will be mandatory and students will be required to do their work, unlike last Spring. Attendance and assignments will be completed through google classroom.

Grab & Go meals will be provided and they can be picked up at the High School at 10-10:30 am. If you wish to pick up these meals please email dlmeals@kansasps.com. All meals will be free for 18 & under. Children do not have to be present. These meals will be on school days through October 30th.

Kansas Public Schools will sanitize and disinfect the high school building while students are out. When the High School students return on November 2nd, we will continue to follow all COVID-related safety procedures including home self-assessments, daily temperature checks, wearing masks, hand sanitizer, cleaning and disinfecting.

COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person contact and through the exchange of respiratory droplets. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, we must be vigilant. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these

symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Stay at home when you are sick.
- Practice social distancing- at least six feet between you and other people.
- Wear a cloth mask in public when you cannot social distance.

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. I encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support of Kansas Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Cory Steele, Superintendent
Kansas Public Schools