

February 5, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope that you are as excited as we are to be able to open school on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Most of our students have not seen the inside of their schools for almost a year. On Tuesday, we will begin school in the hybrid mode of education. As I am sure you are aware, this means that one-half of our students can attend school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and the other half will attend on Thursdays and Fridays. You should have heard from your school as to which days your child(ren) will attend. Basically, students with last names A-L will go the first two days and M-Z will go on Thursdays and Fridays.

If you are not comfortable sending your child(ren) back to school at this time, most likely you have already enrolled them in on-line classes for the year. If not, and you would like for your child(ren) to complete the year virtually, please contact your school so that your child(ren) can be enrolled in online classes. If your child(ren) are enrolled in online classes and you would like for them to return to school in the hybrid mode, please contact your school so they can be assigned to the proper cohort.

All of the staff at every school in the District has been and will continue to work diligently to follow COVID safe practice protocols. Every classroom is completely disinfected every Monday and Wednesday. On Mondays, custodians complete a deep clean in every room, every restroom, and every other area and then complete the cleaning with a mist of Clorox 360 disinfectant. On Wednesdays, every area of each school receives Clorox 360 treatment and major traffic areas are deep cleaned. Every day, custodians and teachers continually clean doorknobs, restrooms, keyboard, and other surfaces that students might touch. Our goal is to be as clean and safe as possible.

Although everyone is working hard to maintain safe and clean areas in our schools, we cannot guarantee that someone will not contract COVID-19. If that is a major concern of yours, please consider continuing the year in the virtual environment.

Because of the strict guidelines that schools must operate under, we ask that you do not send your child to school if he or she exhibits any signs or symptoms of COVID-19; has a fever, is coughing, has a running nose, is vomiting or has other symptoms. Please keep your child at home until he or she is fever free for at least 24 hours without medication and symptoms have resolved. If you are unsure, please feel free to call your child's school and speak to the school nurse or the principal. Even if your child(ren) must remain home, they may still attend school virtually to prevent an absence or get behind. If your child does come to school with any COVID-19 symptoms, he or she will be taken to the nurse for evaluation. Most likely you will be asked to come pick him or her up and keep them home until symptoms are resolved. Please, please help us with this as we want to help ensure the safety of all of our students and not be put into a position where we are having to close down classrooms, buses, or schools.

Again, we are excited to have kids back in school. Please know that we will do everything possible to keep them safe and make the remainder of this school year something that will be beneficial to furthering their education. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact your school.

Sincerely,  
Johnnie S. Cain  
Superintendent