

Dear KIPP Newark Families,

We hope that this email finds you safe and well! Here are the Top 5 Updates from KIPP Newark for the week of **May 18, 2020**.

1. **KIPP Family Survey:** On Monday, you will receive a text request prompting you to take a survey to give us feedback on your experience with remote learning so far! We want to hear from YOU, so please take 3-5 minutes to complete it. We value your feedback and are looking forward to using it to inform our planning for this summer and next year.
2. **COVID Testing Available in Newark:** COVID testing is available free for Essex County residents at Weequahic Park on Wednesdays and Fridays. Six hundred tests are available per day, and insurance is not required. Visit www.EssexCOVID.org or call 973-324-9950 for more information!

3. **School Opening Scenarios for the 2020-2021 School Year**

Prior to the pandemic, our start date for the 2020/21 school year was August 17th for new students and August 19 for returning students, and the last day of school was June 11, 2021. **Families should continue to plan around those dates and we will communicate any updates as soon as they're confirmed.**

As a public school in the state of New Jersey, we will continue to prioritize our students' safety and adhere to all state guidance. As a result, we are preparing for all scenarios for the start of school including being back fully in person, fully remote, or a modified school schedule that includes a blend of remote learning and in-person instruction. As soon as we have more guidance from the state, we will make sure to update families with more information on these scenarios.

4. **Summer Opportunities:** Many of you have asked about summer programming. We will still offer, virtually, our Extended School Year program for students with IEPs. We are also looking into providing a broader summer school program open to all students. We will be collecting feedback on families' interest in such a program via the family survey mentioned earlier.

5. **Building Protocol and Procedures**

We wanted to make sure that you know that when our buildings re-open, we will implement updated protocols and procedures for our day-to-day operations to ensure the safety and health of all staff and students. We are currently examining every part of our school day - from classroom spaces to arrival/dismissal procedures to school meals to gym/recess and more - so we can make any necessary changes needed to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19 while still providing a high quality education. We will

follow all recommended protocols from health experts and continue rigorous building cleanings with special attention paid to high touch surfaces. We will also give students frequent reminders about hygiene and hand-washing and have ample cleaning supplies on hand in every classroom.

We know that the uncertainty about next year is challenging, but we know for sure that we will continue to ensure all of our kids are safe, connected, and learning no matter what the scenario as we plan for 2020-2021.

Love,
Ms. Belcher