



May 15, 2020

## SLPS Parents and Guardians:

As we prepare to bring the 2019-2020 school year to a close, the District is simultaneously winding down and gearing up—with plans for summer learning, graduation and the 2020-2021 school year.

The coronavirus pandemic has been transformative, requiring us to adjust virtually every facet of our operations. It has demanded a lot from all of us, but, most notably, COVID-19 quickly reshaped the way we teach and the way students learn. It has placed you, our parents and guardians, into a new role in your child's daily education.

While we cannot predict the future, we can try to use what we have learned, and are learning, to support our families. Presently, there is a weekly meeting with other school leaders and Dr. Frederick Echols of the St. Louis Department of Health to hear the very latest on COVID-19 and go over proposals for how to start the 2020-2021 school year in a way that is safe and practical for students and staff. As you will see in the updates below, a task force of parents, teachers, principals and administrative staff also has been established to work on these plans.

This is a time of change and requires patience and flexibility. We will continue to keep you informed as we learn more. Here are some important updates:

## Year-End Preparation:

The last day of the 2019-2020 school year for students is **May 21, 2020**. Presently, our school teams are communicating with students on all grade levels, as they work to close out the school year. Your school principal or teacher will contact you about the process to collect your student's personal items. On designated days, parents/guardians and students will be able to visit the school and pick-up their items curbside. If you have any concerns, contact your school.

If you are the parent or guardian of a graduating senior, please know plans are in the works to provide a traditional graduation ceremony in late July or early August.

Our graduation plan has been approved by the St. Louis Department of Health, and we should be able to share a date very soon. Please visit [www.slps.org/class2020](http://www.slps.org/class2020) to find out more about closeout plans for the Class of 2020.



## Pandemic Meal Program:

The District's pandemic meal program will continue through the month of June, at least, and may be extended. Kits with meals to last a full week can be picked up every Friday from 8am to noon. Visit [www.slps.org/meals](http://www.slps.org/meals) for locations. The District operates 27 sites, and we also have listed additional sites offered by charter schools. Thanks to the support of our partners, some SLPS sites will be offering activity kits, free books, and safety gear, as well.



## Summer Learning:

A virtual summer school for high school students is scheduled for July 6-31, 2020. Instruction will focus on credit recovery, and students may also complete coursework in the U.S. and Missouri Constitution and CPR.

Summer school for elementary and middle school students is scheduled for August 3-14, 2020. Depending on guidance from the St. Louis City Health Department, this may be in schools, virtual or a hybrid. The date is also subject to change.

Over the summer, we will continue to provide academic support to families to keep students engaged and learning. Through our partnership with The Nine Network, students can tune in weekdays from 12:30-2:30pm for literacy and math instruction for grades pre-kindergarten through 4, taught by local teachers, including Dr. Albert Sanders Jr. from Adams Elementary (pictured) and Angela Griffin from Mullanphy Investigative Learning Center! Learn more at [www.ninenet.org/learningtoolkit/teachers](http://www.ninenet.org/learningtoolkit/teachers).



## School Restart Task Force:

The District is working to develop a plan for the 2020-2021 school year that will meet or exceed all St. Louis Department of Health and CDC guidelines. To assist with this effort, a task force of parents, teachers, school leaders, community leaders and administrative staff has been established.

Please click [HERE](#) for a presentation by Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams on the School Restart Task Force. Its five areas of focus are governance, wellness, instruction, facilities/school operations and technology. Initial recommendations will be made in June with a final recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education in July.

## Enrolling for the 2020-2021 School Year:

In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19, registration has been suspended for new and returning Early Childhood Education (ECE) families for the 2020-2021 school year.

- In the meantime, parents/guardians of new students should complete this [Pre-Registration Form](#).
- Returning PreK-3 and PreK-4 families currently enrolled in the District will be automatically enrolled at their current school for the upcoming school year and should submit this [Intent to Return Form](#).



Please double check that your contact information is correct when submitting your form. Once registration begins, the ECE department will contact you to complete the process.

Continuing/returning students will be assigned to the school last attended at the end of the 2019-2020 school year if the grade level is not a transition grade, and your child has not been accepted to attend a District magnet school you applied for. Transition grade-level students will be assigned to their neighborhood school at the next level, or the receiving school for their 2nd to 3rd grade or 5th to 6th grade magnet program. Returning District students will be automatically enrolled.

To enroll in your neighborhood school (new students), please complete [this form](#) to request a seat. School staff will contact you later in the summer to obtain verification of address, along with immunization and birth records to complete registration and enrollment.

There are still seats available for many District magnet schools throughout the city. Please visit [www.slpsmagnetschools.org](http://www.slpsmagnetschools.org) to learn about the options and fill out an application for the 2020-2021 school year. The lottery for the 2021-2022 school year will open in September.

If you would like to have your child tested for the Gifted and Talented Program, please contact director Kip Warr at [Kip.Warr@slps.org](mailto:Kip.Warr@slps.org) to discuss testing options for your child.

## Available Resources:

Regularly visit [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org) where we post information to support your student and family. If you need to reach your principal, please call your school's main number. This line forwards to the principal and is answered during business hours. For general questions for the District, call 314-437-8430. For emotional support, call 314-345-6900 or email [studentservices@slps.org](mailto:studentservices@slps.org). Submit other questions online through [Let's Talk](#).

**We appreciate all you are doing to support our efforts. Please, stay safe, stay home, and stay connected.**