

Kenwood School Newsletter

Principally Speaking

February 3, 2021

Dear Kenwood School Families,

I'm sure that you share our frustrations with the ongoing discussions regarding the opening of schools in Sonoma County for "in class" instruction. I would like to bring you up to speed with where we are--presently--and to ask for your input, as we continue to pivot, by necessity.

Our teachers, while continuing to excel in our "distance learning" format, would welcome the opportunity to bring our students back on campus, when appropriate safety measures are in place. At this point, we would consider that to be: 1) All staff who choose to be vaccinated have received both vaccinations; 2) Sonoma County being in the "red" tier in terms of the number of cases of COVID-19, for at least five consecutive days. Both of these would need to be in place prior to any consideration for "in class" instruction.

Unfortunately, our scheduled vaccines have been delayed in the past several days. Our school district staff was scheduled to receive the initial vaccine in mid-February, along with the other school districts in our area group (Santa Rosa City Schools, Bennett Valley, Rincon Valley, Bellevue and Piner-Olivet). However, we have received word earlier this week that we will most likely be delayed for an additional 2-3 weeks. Following the initial vaccine, we would be scheduled to receive our second vaccination four weeks later. There is then a two week waiting period after the second vaccination that is needed to provide the greatest assurance of safety. This pushes our return timeline into early to mid April.

We would like to request your input as we continue to make plans that would enable our staff and students to return to "in class" instruction during the current school year. We would still be considering a type of "hybrid" model, that would have classes divided into two separate cohorts, with 1/2 of each class on campus at a time. Students would still be required to be physically distanced, as well as to wear masks. We would continue to offer a "distance learning" format for families who would choose to continue with this type of instruction, rather than returning to "in class" instruction in the "hybrid" format.

I want to clarify that continuation in "distance learning" should we return to an "in class" model, will most likely look very different from our current "distance learning" format. For example, your child may be assigned to a different teacher, depending upon the availability of all teachers who choose to return.

I know that this is a lot to digest, as we continue to navigate the many difficulties associated with the pandemic. I appreciate your continued support of our staff during this challenging time. Please complete the accompanying google survey so that we may continue planning for the remainder of our school year.

Survey Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSec3tpqmRsltJoU17H3A3wwddIOncR8qWTr5C_cmA90dZ0m8A/viewform?usp=sf_link

Upcoming Events:

- 2/4/21 KSA Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7946406088?pwd=Y09ZVFVzemtmTOY5M050TUZESE5odz09>
Meeting ID: 794 640 6088
Passcode: 562521
- 2/8/21 Lincoln's Holiday: No School
- 2/11/21 Board of Trustees Meeting , 3:00 p.m.
- 2/15/21 Presidents' Holiday: No School
- 2/22/21 Teacher Work Day: No School
- 3/22-3/26 Spring Break
- 5/31/21 Memorial Day: No School
- 6/4-6/8 Emergency Make-up Days**
- 6/7 Sixth Grade Graduation
- 6/8 Last Day of School**

