

Pikeville Independent Schools

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Panther Families:

It is with great excitement that we anticipate the return to in-person learning for our students following the break. I wanted to give you information, including a schedule for the return, as we have made an adjustment to our calendar. The recommendation from the Department of Public Health is that schools return to in-person learning no earlier than January 11th. As a leadership team, it has always been our goal to provide our students, team members and community with the safest situation for in-person learning, and we believe we did that very well in the fall. With multiple holidays over the next two weeks, there is the possibility of an increased spread taking place, and in attempting to keep our environment safe for all stakeholders, we must keep that in mind. It is also very important to us that we have our students in classrooms with the best of the best in this profession. With those things in mind, Pikeville Independent will begin instruction for the second semester on January 11th, on our yellow (A/B) schedule. The week of January 4th has transitioned to PD/Work Days for our team members.

As a result of this change, February 8th, which was a PD/Teacher Work Day will now become a school day. While a determination has yet to be made about Hillbilly Days, if they are cancelled, April 15th and 16th will both become instructional days for our district. The final plan for these days will be announced upon that determination being made, and further adjustments to the calendar will take place as necessary. These adjustments allow us the opportunity to have students in our classrooms on more days, as that continues to be our ultimate goal. The schedule through January 15th is as follows:

12/21	Break	12/28	Break	1/4	Teacher Plan/PD	1/11	A Group
12/22	Break	12/29	Break	1/5	Teacher Plan/PD	1/12	B Group
12/23	Break	12/30	Break	1/6	Teacher Plan/PD	1/13	A Group
12/24	Break	12/31	Break	1/7	Teacher Plan/PD	1/14	B Group
12/25	Break	1/1	Break	1/8	No School	1/15	All-Virtual

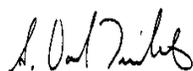
Also, as mentioned in August when we rolled out our plan for our hybrid model, as we consider areas of education that include socialization and students learning from each other in classrooms, our team has found it very important that students have an opportunity to safely interact with all members of their classes. While our ultimate goal is to return everyone to green, and we will continue to work toward that when it is an option, we also want to provide the opportunity to maximize socialization and learning while on hybrid. While our students are always masked and six feet apart, they still have the ability to build these relationships in those situations. Because of this, the plan we released was to rotate our hybrid days based upon four groups that were created. There will be further information forthcoming from the schools, but the general groupings beginning on January 11th will be:

<u>Group Number</u>	<u>Household Last Name</u>	<u>Hybrid Group</u>
1	A-D	A Group
2	E-J	B Group
3	K-R	B Group
4	S-Z	A Group

As I mentioned, we will have more information released concerning this change. If you have further questions after that point, you can call your child's school the week of January 4th, as they are always happy to assist you.

Thank you for a great first semester as we have navigated an unprecedented time. We are extremely proud and thankful for our students, our team, and our community for the passion for education that has been shown during this semester. We look forward to our students being able to return to in-person learning on January 11th, as we know we will be able to do this safely and successfully, just as we did the first semester. We are thankful for the opportunity to educate the students of Pikeville Independent. We hope all of you have a wonderful break!

Sincerely,



S. David Trimble
Superintendent