

Nottingham Knightly News

January 26, 2021

Dear Nottingham Families,

I enjoyed listening to Kindergarten Information Night yesterday evening. If you or someone you know has a rising kindergartner, please register early. Visit the [APS Registration](#) page for more information.

Many of our staff and teachers are taking advantage of being vaccinated. At the same time, you may see an uptick in activity around campus. Some staff and teachers are beginning to return to the building to work from Nottingham in preparation for student returning for hybrid instruction.

Directories are here! Please stop by and grab your Nottingham PTA Directory from the **bin in the front of the school.**

Families of students with special needs: As we move forward, Lori Alexander, the student support coordinator, will be calling parents and guardians regarding Medicaid consent. We need to ask this of families that do not have a response on file, (which means Syphax does not have a signed form with a response). Parents cannot provide typed written email consent. Consent can either be provided by scanning the original document with a signature or turning in the signed original document. APS will be mailing Medicaid letters home to parents on February 1st. Please contact Lori (lori.alexander@apsva.us) with any questions.

Be sure to visit our Nottingham PTA website for updates, [newsletters](#) and other information. Our next **PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00PM.** More information on the zoom link to follow.

Some upcoming dates:

- February 1, Monday Teacher Workday – No School for Students
- February 2, Tuesday PTA Meeting – Presenter, Mark Jones
- February 5, Friday **Early early release (11:25AM)**
- February 12, Friday Virtual Dance Party
- February 15, Monday President’s Day – No School for Students
- February 22, Monday Nottingham School Information Session
- February 25, Thursday Early Release – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 26, Friday Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thanks,

Reminders

Please see the January 18 email from the assistant superintendent of teaching and learning for information on the concurrent model for grades 3-5. Based on that message, students in grade 3-5 will participate in the **concurrent instructional model**, similar to the model adopted for secondary students. In the concurrent model, teachers will instruct both groups of students – those attending school in person, and those participating online – simultaneously. To accommodate training for this model and other professional learning for elementary teachers and staff, **Friday, February 5 will be an early release day for all elementary students**. Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation as we work to navigate these changes. We will **communicate any changes to teacher assignments two weeks prior to student return dates**, once they are announced. Again, it is our ultimate goal to limit changes to our classroom groups and to keep learners with their current teachers. I apologize in advance if this does not work for every student.

Our **Nottingham School Information Session for Kindergarten and New Families will be held on Monday, February 22 at 9:00AM** (virtually). Please encourage our new families to attend. We welcome anyone who would like to hear more about our typical instructional program to attend. We will not address return to school questions at this time.

Winter Weather Procedures. In the event of a change in our operating status due to weather, APS will alert all staff and families by 6 p.m. the evening before, with any morning updates communicated by 5 a.m. **Distance Learning will continue for all students during inclement weather events providing there is no interruption in power or network connectivity. In the event schools and facilities need to close due to an inclement weather event, Level 1 students attending school in-person would temporarily revert to Distance Learning.** Distance Learning will follow the normal schedule during inclement weather, with asynchronous instruction on Mondays and synchronous instruction on Tuesday through Friday. It is possible that a major storm causing a power or network outage may require us to cancel distance learning and call an official “snow day.” APS will follow our inclement weather protocols on deciding if other school-based activities, such as meal services, in-person learning support or athletic practices can continue, and will keep you updated through School Talk messages, social media, text alerts, local media, and our website.

Teachers will take attendance each day. As a reminder, we begin each day at 9:00 AM and conclude at 2:20 PM. Additionally, you are encouraged to email our **Attendance Line**

(attendance.ntm@groups.apsva.us) when an absence is unexpected and prearranged notification was not possible. The following are generally considered excused absences: illness, quarantine of student, doctor or dentist appointments, death in the family, observance of a religious holiday, court appointments, inclement weather emergencies, connection issues while in virtual learning, and severe family emergencies. We need to note other absences as unexcused. Finally, we will contact families when a student has two absences or when absences, tardiness and early departures begin to accumulate.