



January 14, 2020

Dear Viking F-A-M-I-L-Y (Students, Parents & Staffuly):

Let me start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year! We made it through 2020 together. In his 1963 Letter from a Birmingham Jail Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote, “We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” While the past year has been tough, we’re looking forward to new beginnings, and we will make it through 2021 together too.

We’ve begun this spring semester like we ended the fall semester, in phase 1 fully online. However, PSD middle schools are moving to in-person learning in February, but not by Monday, 2/1 as PSD initially communicated on Wednesday, 1/6. The dates listed in that communication were target dates. They were not firm and have been updated. So, Lesher will transition to in-person, on-campus learning fulltime with the other PSD middle schools tentatively on Monday, 2/8 (<https://www.psdschools.org/psd2020-21>):

Week of January 5 – 8

Phase 1 fully online.

Week of January 11 – 15

Phase 1 fully online.

Week of January 19 – 22, MLK, Jr. Day Monday, 1/18 No School

Phase 3 (B group Tuesday/Thursday, A group Wednesday/Friday)

Week of January 25 – 29

Phase 3 (A group Monday/Wednesday, B group Tuesday/Thursday, remote learning Friday)

Week of February 1 – 5

Phase 3 (A group school Monday/Wednesday, B group Tuesday/Thursday, remote learning Friday)

Week of February 8 – 12 & beyond

Phase 4 fully in-person.

I’ve attached a Quarter 3 Schedule OVERVIEW Updated 1-14-2021 and Lesher’s 3 schedules for Phase 1 Fully Remote (Quarter 3 Phase 1 Remote Blue-Blue-Gold-Gold Bell Schedule 2020-21), and Phase 3 A/B Groups and Phase 4 Fully In-person (Quarter 3 Phase 3 A-B Blue-Blue-Gold-Gold AND Phase 4 Blue-Gold Bell Schedule 2020-21), which are the same except the phase 3 schedule follows a blue-blue-gold-gold rotation while phase 4 follows a blue-gold rotation, and phase 3 is on campus 4 days per week while phase 4 is on campus 5 days per week. The phase 1 and phase 3 schedules are the same schedules we’ve been using in those phases. Lesher staff will discuss bringing daily Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) classes back for the last 40-minutes of school if we are in phase 4 for quarter 4.

Please understand PSD’s virtual options are PSD Virtual (PSDV) and Poudre Global Academy (PGA), with limited space availability. If a student wants to transfer to one of those options as we move back to phase 3 and eventually to phase 4 in the next 3 weeks, the family needs to



submit a transfer request form to our counseling office registrar Genevieve Steensma (gsteensm@psdschools.org, 472-3804). Students who are home sick, on quarantine, or simply absent can still call in to classes as Lesher teachers will have their laptop cameras and microphones turned on, but they will not be teaching to the camera as they will have students in their classrooms. This is simply a short-term effort to keep students caught up who are out of class temporarily. It is not intended to be a long-term substitute for PSDV or PGA. Lesher teachers will be prioritizing their in-class students 5 days per week in phase 4.

We have a few new faces at Lesher this spring. Ms. Meghan Devine will be our long-term 7th grade science substitute for Mr. Mayer while he is on leave, and the following student teachers will be helping us as well:

- ✓ Savannah Peters (CSU) with Allison Pearse, English 7
- ✓ Samantha Harsh (CSU) with Sarah Freemyer, Science 8
- ✓ Annette Miller (UNC) with Loni Obluda, Orchestra/Band 6-8
- ✓ Meredith Kinney (UNC) 1st 8 weeks, with Jo Dixon, PHE 6-8

Also, as of the 1/7/21 middle school athletic directors meeting, unfortunately PSD middle school athletics remain canceled until March 1st when girls softball, boys and girls golf, and boys and girls track and field are slated to begin. Middle school athletic directors will consider adding a boys sport to complement girls softball at that time. Finally, as we get closer to the target phase 4 start date of Monday, February 8th Lesher will communicate its increased COVID mitigation efforts in a subsequent THORSday Update.

Thank you again families, for your ongoing support this year. Continuing to stick together is a W-I-N = What's Important Now!

Shine on,

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