TRANSFORMATIVE WORK UNDERWAY
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THE COVER PHOTO
Bryan Hill is a Sumner Academy of Arts & Science graduate who participated in the IT Summer Internship Program.

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Greetings community,

Summer vacation has come to an end. The KCKPS Team is excited for the 2019-20 school year, and I am ready to fulfill my second year as your superintendent of schools.

I have had a year to visit our schools, meet with parents and leaders, listen to students and learn about this community, which has become my home. What I know is that Kansas City, Kansas is made up of caring individuals who cherish the rich history, diverse cultures and the people of this community.

You are especially passionate about the education system. You want your children to receive a quality education providing the outcomes needed for individuals and communities to grow and prosper. That is the same passion I have as a more than 22-year veteran of education.

Transformative Work Underway

Our KCKPS team has been hard at work over the last year putting into place what we believe will make a real difference in the lives of the students of Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools. Throughout the year, I have talked about what administrators and staff have been doing to close the achievement gap and to move our students ahead academically. School administrators have created 60-Day Plans. These plans are intended to make sure the first 60 days set the course to meet yearly goals. That’s only the beginning of the transformative work that is taking place throughout the district. Over the course of this year, we will report on this work and keep you posted on our progress and outcomes.

In this quarter’s message, I will share with you some of that exciting work to transform KCKPS education. We are giving students an opportunity to learn Spanish by re-introducing World Languages at every middle school in the district. We are replacing Algebra/Geometry 1 with Math 8 to give students an opportunity to learn fundamentals before tackling harder mathematics coursework. We are also changing to Algebra I, Geometry, Statistics and Algebra II. Another change for students will be the addition of Advanced Placement (AP) courses at our high schools. This will enable all of our students to pursue college-level studies.

We have looked at ways of giving our students more hands-on learning experiences with our staff. Over the summer, we offered paid, IT internships for students. It was an opportunity for them to earn while they learned valuable skills in information technology. They were learning in areas related to the Help Desk, computer repair, networking, audiovisual technologies and programming. The goal of the program is to help students understand the correlation between their pathway coursework, allow them to use the acquired knowledge and apply it in a workplace setting, and strengthen college and career core competencies.

Focus on Educators

Our focus has also been on retaining and hiring the best and the brightest to teach the students of Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools. We have some of the best teachers and administrators working with our students and we want them to continue to do so. At the same time, we want to continue to attract more educators inside and outside the classroom to work with our students and continue our progress.

In May, the Kansas City, Kansas Board of Education approved the 2019-20 Negotiated Agreement demonstrating our commitment to our teachers. This newly ratified contract with our teachers signifies our willingness to listen, learn and identify ways in which we can continue to work together. We know and realize that it is about providing the best education to our students.

Highlights of the approved 2019-20 Negotiated Agreement:

• All returning teachers, with available step movement, will move up a step
• A 1% increase to base
• Added longevity pay/annual stipend for teachers who have been continuously employed for 10 years or more with KCKPS
• Improvements to the salary schedule to make it more competitive for career teachers
• Special Education teachers will receive a 2% stipend above the regular salary schedule

As you can tell, the 2019-20 school year is going to be another great one KCKPS! Students First! That’s our focus at KCKPS.

Dr. Charles Foust
Superintendent of Schools

Paw Way, an IT intern from F.L. Schlagle High School, receives one-on-one support and instruction from Rashid Hoda, a school district computer programmer, during the IT Internship Program.

Students participating in the IT Internship Program attend the first-day orientation.
Welcome to the 2019-20 School Year! We are eager to have our students back in the building to begin a dynamic year of learning. This is going to be another great year for the students and staff of Kansas City, Kansas Public School. Here are a few dates to keep in mind:

**Enrollment**
Centralized Enrollment for all new students to the district in the 6th through 12th grades is scheduled for the following dates at the Central Office & Training Center, 2010 N. 59th Street:
- July 29: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- July 30: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- July 31: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- August 1: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- August 2: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Elementary students will enroll at the school in their attendance area.
- August 12 – August 30: Enrollment will take place at your student’s school during the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. Schools will be unable to enroll students during the first three days of school on August 7, 8 and 9.

Parents are asked to bring the following with them when they enroll their student:
- Current immunization records (Students may not enroll without shots being up-to-date)
- Birth certificate
- Transcript
- Proof of residency (one of the following: mortgage/lease agreement, utility bill or mail with the parent’s name and current address; or driver’s license with current address. Mail addressed to “resident” is not acceptable.)
- Proof of guardianship

**First Day of School**
- August 7: First day of school for K-5, 6 and 9. This is an early release day for students.
- August 8: First full day of school for all students.
- August 12: First day of school for Pre-K (half-day and full-day)

**Northwest** will NOT be on an alternate calendar this school year. They will use the district calendar dates listed above.

**New Stanley** will have an alternate calendar for the first day of school. Please visit the school’s website for details on dates.

Visit KCKPS.org to view calendars.
Immunizations
The Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools follows state regulations regarding immunizations for students. All students MUST comply with these regulations to attend school. All students returning to school for the 2019-2020 school year must be current on their immunizations. Parents have been notified by letter about returning students in need of additional immunizations before the fall. Please make plans to have your children immunized before the new school year begins. Details about immunizations are posted on the district website at kckps.org and in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Early Release Wednesdays
Each Wednesday during the school year, building staff come together in professional development sessions to strengthen their skills, practices, values and expectations and to improve student achievement.

To allow for this professional development time, students at all grade levels are released two hours early each Wednesday. (The exception is half-day preschool students who do not attend school on Wednesdays).

Parent and Student Handbook
The Student Services Department has updated the Parent/Student Handbook to serve as a resource for families. The handbook includes information about enrollment, student health and safety, school district policies, student support programs and services, and much more. The handbook will be provided to all families at the beginning of the school year. It also is available online in both English and Spanish on the district and school websites.

2019 Fall District Calendar

August
2  District Inservice/Building Inservice
5  Building Inservice
6  Convocation/Building Inservice
7  First Day of School (K-5, 6, 9) Early Release
8  First Full Day of School – All Students (K-12)
12  First day for Pre-K

September
2  Holiday/Administrative Offices Closed

October
10  Last day of 1st quarter
11  .5 Records Prep/.5 Inservice
16  Early Release/Family Advocacy
17  Family Advocacy Day/No School
18  Teacher Non-Duty Day/No School

November
25-29  Holiday/No School
27-29  Administrative Offices Closed

To view more calendar information, visit kckps.org or your school site.

Board meetings for the new fiscal year were not approved before this issue went to press.
STAY IN THE KNOW!

- View the board meetings at YouTube.com/KCKPSTV.
- Watch the rebroadcast of board meetings on Spectrum Channel 18 and Google Fiber Channel 145 Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.
- View Archived Board Meeting Highlights on the website.

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