

May 15, 2020

To all USD 345 staff and families:

May 20, 2020 marks our last day of continuous learning and the last day of the 2019-20 school year. This Friday evening is our final #BeTheLight commemorative event for our seniors. I want to let our seniors and their families know our thoughts are with you as we wind down our school year with the Class of 2020. You will forever be linked worldwide because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but you will persevere and we are so proud of you. I look forward to seeing all of you on August 2 for your graduation ceremony!

With summer around the corner and the reopening of Kansas, we are developing plans that could potentially allow us to bring students back to campus over the summer with health and safety as a priority. This includes [summer camps](#) and summer learning opportunities. [Click here for details on our plan](#) as it aligns with the governor's and local health department's reopening plan. We will continue to monitor and modify our plan, as needed, to follow local health and safety guidelines.

We have also begun to explore the many different scenarios for school next fall to ensure our students will be educated in a safe and healthy environment. Things we are considering include: smaller groups for classes; spacing students during lunch; hand-washing routines, social distancing on bus rides, sanitization procedures, etc. As you can see, there are many items to contemplate as contingency plans are developed.

While school buildings remain closed, USD 345 meal distribution continues to serve families at Seaman's designated food distribution sites. We will continue meal service at our current sites through May 20, 2020. Beginning May 21, 2020, mobile sites will be discontinued and meal distribution will move forward with two drive thru sites: Mathes Early Learning Center (2032 N Kansas Ave) and Seaman Middle School (5530 NW Topeka Blvd) from 11:00-11:20 am, Monday-Friday until July 31, 2020.

While the closure of our school buildings was a decision that was made to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we understand the negative implications this has had for some of our students; from falling behind academically to social and emotional needs. We will continue to work closely with families as we address these challenges. Our commitment to our children, employees, community, and families will remain firm and unwavering through any uncertainties we will face. We will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Noble  
Superintendent