



8/7/2020

Dear Kensington Woods families,

We hope that you have been enjoying your summer and have been able to take time to rejuvenate and relax.

We know that you have been anxiously waiting for the plans for the fall and we thank you for your patience. We have been using this time to make very thoughtful, conscious and detailed decisions about the return to school in fall, involving the entire staff in the process and using input from our families as well as the most recent recommendations from the State of Michigan, CDC and Livingston County Health Department.

The mission at Kensington Woods is “to prepare each student for success in college, career and life through an engaging, challenging and innovative educational program that is student-centered and promotes character and values.” The return to school plan for Kensington Woods is centered in our mission statement and the “KWood Difference,” as is all of our decisions, prioritizing a learning experience for students that:

- **Prioritizes safety of students, staff and the KWood community**, using the most recent guidelines and recommendations.
- **Gives flexibility** to meet the unique needs of our families while still providing a quality and equal learning experience for all.
- **Engages students** through a relevant and innovative educational program that focuses on deep investigation of content.
- **Is student-centered**, allowing for the building of relationships between students and staff, student voice and a focus on social-emotional learning.
- **Prioritizes curriculum on the most important content and skills**, but still have high learning expectations for students, meeting graduation requirements and content expectations.
- **Prepares students for what is next** and considers where they are currently at.
- **Gives students ample opportunity for extra support** when needed.
- **Gives enrichment opportunities** that might not be available normally or in this new situation.





Currently the State of Michigan is in Phase 4 on the [MI Safe Start plan](#), which allows, per the [Michigan Return to School Roadmap](#) and [Executive Order 2020-142](#), in person learning with stringent safety guidelines. In Phase 5, safety guidelines are still in effect, but loosened in some situations. Should the area return to Phases 1-3, all schools will be mandated to close the building to in-person learning and move to remote learning. Our Return to School plan accounts for the very real possibility of all phases, prioritizing safety hand in hand with student learning. The DRAFT version of the Return to School plan, which will be submitted to the State of Michigan after approval by Central Michigan University, our authorizer, and our Board of Education, can be read [here](#). There may be small changes in this plan before final approval. The final draft will be posted on our website on or before August 17.

For clarity and ease of reading, we are linking important aspects of our Return to School plan below. More logistical specifics about the safety precautions and learning environment will continue to be shared as we get closer to the start of the school year on September 1.

- [Instructional Plan Options Summary](#)
- [Details on Instructional Plan Options](#)
- [Safety Guidelines Summary](#)
- [Bell Schedule](#)
- [Full Return to School Plan \(draft\)](#)

School Schedule and Calendar

With the instructional plan, we have also changed the bell schedule. Classes will meet 8am-3pm, with Fridays being a remote learning day for all (Remote only learners will have small group meetings). Please see the [Instructional Plan](#) and [Bell Schedule](#) for specifics.

To facilitate the transition back to school, for the first two weeks of school, the afternoon remote learning labs will be remote for all students. This allows a more gradual, focused transition back to school as well as to allow time to get used to new in-school procedures and for time to adjust as necessary. We will, however, have a supervised space for students who cannot get picked up prior to 3pm. School will begin for all students on September 1.

Please see the updated school calendar [here](#).





Teachers, as is Kensington Woods tradition, will be returning for professional development two weeks prior to the start of the school year on August 17, allowing ample time for planning and working through new structures collaboratively.

Back to School Survey – REQUIRED!

To notify us of your learning environment preference and technology needs, please fill out this Return to School Survey (<https://forms.gle/EHSAMg5MUxc7ZFD78>) by Sunday, August 23. (Please note that this is the corrected link).

Questions about the Return to School plan can always be sent to Mrs. Pratt. However, we are also looking at scheduling a remote question and answer session the week of August 17. If that is something you would be interested in, please email Mrs. Pratt at jpratt@kwoods.org.

In conclusion, we want to thank you for choosing Kensington Woods and being a part of the K Woods Difference. We will continue to update you with additional information as we get closer to the school year via email and posting on the school's COVID-19 website, www.kwoods.org/covid19. We value each and one of our students and families and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of your lives. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

In partnership with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessie MacGonigal Pratt". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jessie MacGonigal Pratt, Kensington Woods Schools Principal
and the entire faculty and staff of Kensington Woods

