



District Administrative Offices

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Dear Families,

I am reaching out to share information from the April 26th board meeting on three specific topics.

First, the wearing of masks during summer school.. If you child is planning on attending summer school, please know that at this time the Board made the decision to make the wearing of masks optional. Obviously, if we see a surge of COVID-19 cases in the community or across the state we can modify that decision. We've been monitoring cases in our schools and community all year and have always made adjustments accordingly.

Over the course of this school year the district has continued to look for ways to reduce costs as we have been faced with a reduced budget due to a declining enrollment, less state aid and some unforeseen circumstances. In an effort to maximize our student transportation bus ridership and decrease expenses, the Board made the decision to combine the Kennedy Middle School and Germantown High School students to the same bus routes. In addition, County Line and MacArthur Elementary Schools will have consecutive bus routes. Due to the changes in bus routes, school start and end times will be adjusted beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. Please see the new times here: <https://5il.co/s4mc>. More family specific information about transportation for the 2021-2022 school year will be sent by the end of May 2021.

Lastly, the topic of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in our schools. At the April 26th meeting, a previous motion made during the April 12th Board meeting was rescinded. Upon further reflection, the Board felt that different theories, whether it be in science, literature, history, math, etc., should not be banned by the Board. Changes to our curriculum are evaluated, researched and presented to the board for approval. There were no changes to our curriculum regarding CRT.

Currently, CRT is presented as a theory in just two high school elective courses; *AP Literature & Composition* and *Critical Thinking & Writing*. CRT is one of many critical theories that the students are exposed to in these classes. Other concepts taught include, but not limited to feminist theory, political theory, economic theory, post modernism, post-colonialism, pscholanalytics and structural theories. The two mentioned courses have been offered to students for many years. In short, nothing has changed from previous years. Please note, CRT is not taught in our elementary or middle school or any of the required course work at the high school, only in the two electives as one of many theories discussed.

Sincerely,

Brett Stousland, Superintendent