

Dear NCPS Families,

On behalf of the Northampton County School Board, it brings me great pleasure to extend this opening message to the community of Northampton County for the 2021-2022 school year. As I enter my eighth year as Superintendent, we are facing the challenge of opening our schools while dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and school renovation projects.

The summer is going by quickly, and we are extremely busy in preparation for the upcoming school year. Central Office staff and building administrators are in the process of attending various workshops and trainings. The Human Resources Department has been working diligently to fill staff vacancies. Finally, our Building and Grounds Department has been making repairs and upgrades to all our campuses.

Northampton County Public Schools will be returning to instruction five days a week. All students will be required to wear masks in school and while riding the bus. Social distancing will be implemented when possible.

We are also pleased to inform you that Northampton County Public Schools will continue to participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). All Northampton County Public School students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at **no charge** to your household each day of the 2021-2022 school year. No further action is required of you and your child(ren) are eligible to participate in the meal program without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

Kiptopeke Elementary School is undergoing a major renovation project. Installation is underway for a total replacement of the HVAC systems at the school. In addition, the school will receive new lighting and have all of the windows and skylights sealed. The new HVAC system is geothermal and will greatly reduce the school's carbon footprint and operating cost. While the project will not be completed by the start of school, classes will start on schedule. I anticipate all work to be finished by mid-October. All of the work done after the start of school is scheduled after normal operating hours.

I urge you to support the Northampton County Education Foundation and join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). These organizations are extremely vital to the division and provide support in various areas including grants, awards, fundraisers, materials, and supplies.

I invite all parents and students to attend Open House. This year, Open House will be on September 2, 2021 from 10:00am-7:00pm. I hope to see you at Open House and during the school year. Thank you for your time, and please feel free to contact me at elawrence@ncpsk12.com or 757-678-5151 x 2002 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about Northampton County Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Charles Lawrence
Division Superintendent