

Good afternoon, Tuesday, June 30, 2020!

Can you believe it is already the last day of June? This year is moving quickly, and yet January seems a lifetime ago. Please make sure you are pacing yourself as we prepare for the coming year. Here's all your Tuesday information:

Calendar Change: First of all –I apologize for this. I hate to change scheduled events unless it is absolutely necessary. I knew contracts changed to an August 1 start date for teachers. I knew the New Teacher training was scheduled for July 29th. I just did not make the connection until Angela asked about it (thank you, Angela!). I need to move the New Teacher Training to sometime in August. I will not require teachers to come to a training for which they would not be paid. I need to know from you if August 3rd (their technical first work day), or August 10th would be a better day. I will go with whichever day gets the most votes. Please log in your vote <https://doodle.com/poll/gt7zit8wdpbzy9fv> by Friday. Again, I apologize for the change.

Turn in calendars: Also on that note, if you have not turned in your calendars for the coming school year, please do so as soon as possible.

Parent Home Learning Letter: There has been some discussion over the template offered on the Principals' Page regarding parents choosing to keep their students home while school is in session. A couple of things to note: principals are NOT REQUIRED to use this template. It is there for your use if you find it useful. And you may modify the template to fit your needs.

COVID plans: I know you all have been working on your plans for the coming year. I strongly encourage you to share these plans with your school families, sooner rather than later. Now that the school year has struggled to an end, their thoughts are turning to August. Sharing your planning, or even your planning process, will help assuage any concerns.

Also COVID: Two possible situations were brought up in a meeting I had today (thank you Gayle and Mark)-

You may want to keep in mind while you plan what to do if you come up short on substitutes for an extended period of time.

You might also poll your parents regarding what they would prefer to do if it becomes necessary for you to alternate groups of students in the school at one time due to health department restrictions. Would they (and you) prefer to do alternate days, alternate weeks, or go virtual only?

Parent letter: I have attached a parent letter I respectfully ask you to forward to your school families. It addresses our current situation, and assures our families we are doing everything we can to prepare for the coming year.

Safe Schools: Thank you all for your feedback on the Safe Schools training opportunity. We have contracted with the program for the year, and I will be sending you more information next week on how to train as an administrator (so you can track your teachers/staff), and other info about the program. Invoices for the company will be provided in the coming month. Please give me feedback as we go along as we will have an opportunity to renew in the spring.

Principal committees: I have set up a Google Doc for committee sign ups – please check your email for the link. Please choose a committee this week. The committee coordinators will contact you regarding next steps.

Tomorrow marks the first (official) day for our new principals. Welcome! And thank you for answering God's call to serve in our schools.

And tomorrow marks my two month mark in the Diocese of Jefferson City. I can't believe it has only been two months – you all have made me feel so welcome, it feels as though I have been here much longer. I am blessed and grateful to be working with you all.

Happy Fourth of July! May God bless you all, and bless our country!

Blessings,
Dr. Erin P. Vader
Superintendent