

Dear Falcon Families,

Welcome back, sort of...in less than ten days, students will begin the 2020-2021 school year. As excited as we are to welcome each student to the new year, I know there are a lot of questions, so I want to get to them as quickly as possible. Please look for a more detailed newsletter later this month!

This summer has been a difficult and stressful time as we all attempt to navigate how COVID-19 has affected us in our personal and professional lives, not to mention what school is going to look like in the foreseeable future. What I can tell you with certainty is that a number of positive changes have been made to what Distance Learning will look like - the schedule, delivery of instruction, resource distribution, and increased time for student support and family communication. As different as the new school year may be, we are excited to start it with you! Below is the most current information available. Any updates or changes will be communicated.

## STUDENT PASSWORDS

All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade student passwords were recently reset to a formula based temporary password that needs to be changed to a unique password. This password is used for Synergy, Classlink Portal, Google, etc.

Some students have already reset their password (Since July 27th), for those of you who have not, starting this Wednesday, you will be prompted to reset your password when you log in to the [EGUSD Portal](#).

The Formula used for your password is:

Capitalized First Letter of the Student First Name, Last four of Student ID, Two digit Birth Day, a lower case "a".

### EXAMPLE:

Student Name: Jaylen Smith  
Student ID: 99678543  
Student Birthday: February 01, 2007  
Password: J854301a

For instructions on how to reset your password, please watch this [short video](#) or use [these directions](#).

**Incoming 8th graders**, your passwords are the same as they were at the end of last year, unless you have changed it over the summer.

## SYNERGY

Please continue to use [Synergy](#) (ParentVUE and StudentVUE) to send/receive communication from individual teachers and KAMS staff. If you AND your student(s) have already activated your accounts, there is no further action required. If you and/or your student(s) have not activated your individual accounts, please do so to ensure you don't miss any important information.

- **If you AND your student do not yet each have your own Synergy accounts set up, please ensure they are set up by the end of the day on Tuesday, August 11.**
- **This is the way both the school and teachers will be communicating with students and families.**

- Directions for account set up can be found at the Synergy link above. If you need additional assistance, please email KAMS Secretary, Vickie Stuart at [vstuart@egusd.net](mailto:vstuart@egusd.net)

## **STUDENT CLASS SCHEDULES**

**PRELIMINARY schedules** will be available via Synergy at 8:00am Wednesday, August 12

**FINAL schedules** will be available via Synergy Thursday, August 13 (first day of school) beginning at 7:45am

While we do our best to finalize schedules prior to the start of school **all schedules are subject to change** during the first few weeks of school due to class size balancing and/or when initial diagnostic testing results indicate that a placement change is needed.

Our counseling team works very hard to schedule students into their top 5 requested **enrichment course preferences** as indicated on the course preference form, and every effort has been made to do so. KAMS has over 1,400 students, which may mean that not every student will receive a desired enrichment course. If scheduled into an enrichment course that you weren't expecting, we are unable to accommodate requests for changes in enrichment courses. We are asking for students to be flexible, expand their horizons with a growth mindset, and to try something new and different.

## **TEACHER/CLASS START UP INFORMATION**

Once class lists are finalized, teachers will send out information specific to the start up of their class via Synergy mail. Please make sure to check Synergy mail by 7:45am on Thursday, August 13 for specific login information for periods 1, 2, and 3.

## **WEEKLY ACADEMIC SCHEDULE**

Although we would love to be gathering on campus in person, we know beginning the school year in a Distance Learning format is the safest option we have available at this point, and we are excited to meet our new students and families and to reconnect with our continuing students and families as we all continue learning together. In an effort to reduce stress and the number of courses/teachers students need to keep up with, KAMS will be using a modified schedule this year. Students will only be enrolled in three classes per quarter, called a 3 x 4 (3 classes each quarter for four quarters). This means that for the first nine weeks (first quarter) of the school year, students will only meet with and complete work for periods 1, 2, and 3. The second nine weeks (second quarter), students will meet and complete work for periods 4, 5, and 6. Then quarter three we are back to periods 1, 2, and 3, and quarter 4 will be periods 4, 5, and 6.

Our **first day of school is Thursday, August 13, beginning at 8:00am**. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the schedule will be the same, while Monday has a slightly altered schedule. Students should expect to have live instruction and independent work daily, as well as have an opportunity to get extra help and ask questions, both in and outside of class time.

MONDAY - Student Schedule - TERM 1- August 13-October 9, 2020	
live/synchronous: focused instruction, weekly plan, weekly expectations, and weekly assignments	
9:10am-9:50am Period 1	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher
9:50am-10:00am	Transition/Break
10:00am-10:40am Period 2	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher
10:40am-10:50am	Transition/Break
10:50am-12:00pm Advocacy/Period 3	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher Advocacy 10:50am-11:20am      Class 11:20am-12:00pm
Lunch/Break 12:00-12:30pm	Eat, relax, create, read for fun, do something active, help with chores
12:30pm-3:00pm	<b>Independent Learning/asynchronous: complete and turn in all assignments</b> Teachers will be in meetings during this time and will be unavailable for student/family contact.

TUESDAY-FRIDAY - Student Schedule - TERM 1 - August 13-October 9, 2020				
DAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		live/synchronous: focused instruction, guided instruction, collaborative learning, ask questions, ask for and schedule additional assistance		
8:00am-9:20am Period 1	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher			
9:20am-9:30am	Transition/Break			
9:30am-10:50am Period 2	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher			
Lunch/Break 10:50am-11:30am	Eat, relax, create, read for fun, do something active, help with chores			
11:30am-12:50pm Period 3	Zoom/Google Meet with Teacher			
12:50pm-3:00pm	<b>Independent Learning/asynchronous: complete and turn in all assignments</b> Connect with teachers live (zoom/google meet/ telephone/synergy mail) for extra help or if asked to attend by your teacher			

### First Two Days of School - Welcome and PBIS Kick-Off

PBIS is the acronym for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. At KAMS, we believe that all students have value, all students should be respected, and all students have a place on our campus. PBIS behavior strategies are explicitly taught, recognized, and are embedded in all aspects of our KAMS community. During the first two days of school in periods 1, 2 and 3, students and staff will focus on getting to know each other and review school expectations in a fun and positive way with activities created by our PBIS team. All students need to do is login to each class and participate!

### ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions. Teachers are responsible for submitting attendance. Students do NOT need to fill out a Google Form for attendance.

### TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS/CHROMEBOOK PICK-UP

Textbook and materials pick-up will be a "drive through" format to minimize physical interaction. Please do your best to follow the schedule below; however, if it doesn't work for your family, we understand. Please come during any of the other scheduled days/times that works for you.

If you did not check out a **Chromebook** last year and need one now, there will be an opportunity to check one out during your scheduled time below.

Additionally, if you need a band instrument or specific supplies needed for a class, these will be checked/handed out during this same time.

If you need a **hotspot** for internet access, please follow this [link](#). Please note, the hotspots will only work for district issued Chromebooks.

All students will receive a KAMS academic calendar/planner for FREE!

**General Guidelines for materials pick up:**

- Remain in your vehicle at all times
- Have all vehicle occupants wear a mask
- Enter through KAMS Parking Lot drop off/pick up line, then through the front gate...
  - You will be provided a map and volunteers will guide you through the campus
- **On a piece of paper** (printer paper, binder paper, etc.), **please print largely and legibly:**
  - **STUDENT NAME:** first and last
  - **ID NUMBER**
  - Please be prepared to show this paper to staff at the front gate and at the library.
    - If you have more than one student in the car, please show all papers to staff at the same time.

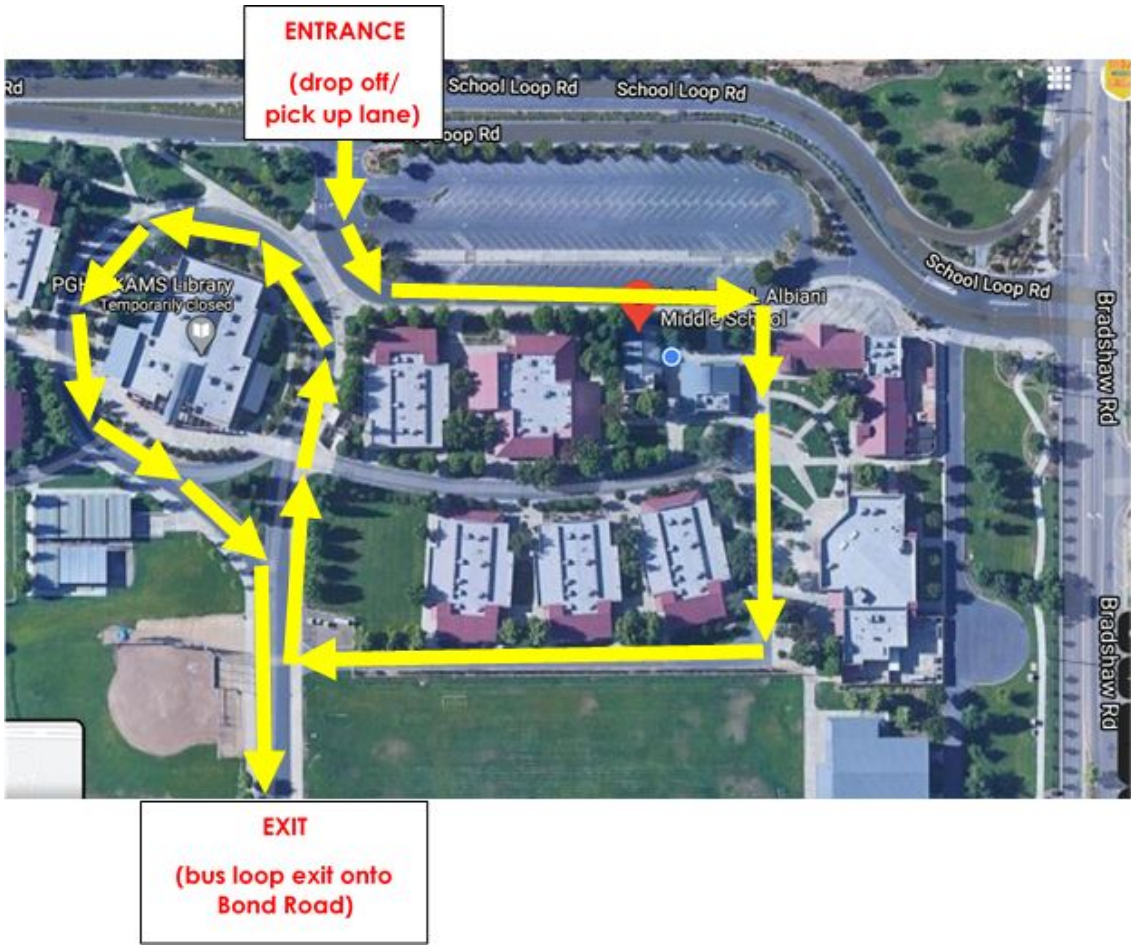
**8th Grade (and 7th grade siblings)**

<b>Last Name A-C</b>	Wednesday, August 12	9:00am-11:30am
<b>Last Name D-J</b>		11:30am-1:00pm
<b>Last Name K-O</b>		1:00pm-3:30pm

<b>Last Name P-S</b>	Thursday, August 13	12:30pm-3:30pm
<b>Last Names T-Z</b>  Any 8th Grade (and 7th grade siblings) who have not picked up books and materials.	Friday, August 14  Band instruments will not be handed out today. If you need an instrument, please attend during a different time period.	1:00pm-3:30pm

**7th Grade**

<b>Last Name A-C</b>	Monday, August 17	12:30pm-3:30pm
<b>Last Name D-J</b>	Tuesday, August 18	1:00pm-3:30pm
<b>Last Name K-O</b>	Wednesday, August 19	1:00pm-3:30pm
<b>Last Name P-S</b>	Thursday, August 20	1:00pm-3:30pm
<b>Last Names T-Z</b>  <b>Anyone who has not yet picked up textbooks and materials.</b>	Friday, August 21	1:00pm-3:30pm



We empathize and share your concerns about what this school year may bring and are committed to providing a safe space, accessible curriculum, appropriate support, and opportunities for additional assistance for all of our students. We are in this together and will succeed together.

In partnership,

Brie Bajar, Principal