



9/2/20

Dear Nativity families,

We are about to embark on a new year together, and although the world feels dark between the continued impact of COVID-19 and ongoing racism and violence against Black people happening in our country, the return of the students, teachers, staff and families of Nativity School of Worcester to one another brings hope and light. Though we are still unable to be together safely in our building on Lincoln Street, the faculty and staff have been working tirelessly to ensure that your Nativity Men will still feel surrounded and supported by their community and receive a well-rounded education on a virtual campus.

In order to make that happen, we have designed a schedule meant to closely reflect the schedule the boys would follow in the building. Details on every aspect of the day are included in the [Virtual Campus Student and Family Handbook](#). **Please read it through in its entirety and use it as a guide throughout this remote learning experience.**

Here are some of the important dates to mark in your [calendar](#) as we begin our phased re-opening:

Thursday, September 3: Students begin work on independent study projects to get them ready for the virtual start of classes. These projects can be found in the same Google Classrooms they used for the summer and will also be emailed out to their school accounts.

Wednesday or Thursday September 8 & 9: Family Check-Ins. Please sign up for a 15 minute Zoom call through this [link](#). **These calls are mandatory for all families.** Once you sign up, you will receive a Zoom link from your grade level lead teacher.

Wednesday, September 9: Supply pick-up at 67 Lincoln Street. Please come to the school according to the following schedule to pick up a box of materials for your student:

5th Grade: 11 am - 12 pm

6th Grade Ellacuria: 12 pm - 1 pm

7th Grade Grande: 4 pm - 5 pm

8th Grade Mveng: 5 pm - 6 pm

If you have an issue with your time slot, please call or text me ahead of time at 774-502-0197 to let me know.

Thursday, September 10: Virtual Orientation from **6 pm - 7 pm**. **This is a mandatory event for families.** Your grade level lead teacher will email a Zoom link to the call in the days to come. They

will go over information about virtual campus, including the Google Site and Classrooms, daily schedule, and who your student's teachers are.

Friday, September 11: Independent study projects due for students on Google Classroom.

Monday, September 14: Virtual Campus opens at 8:30 am

Students will be attending 5 classes each day which are all required and should note that while they only had one Google Classroom per grade during the summer, there will be multiple Google Classrooms now that all subjects are being covered. Students can access all Google Classrooms through their grade level Google Site, which will be added to our school website for easy access.

Teachers will be spending the first two weeks of virtual campus helping students navigate the new technologies they will be working with as well as building community and working on social emotional learning. Other than a grade for their independent study project, students will not be graded for the first two weeks to ensure they can transition to a virtual classroom without the pressures of being assessed. They will receive detailed comments on their progress reports to let them know formally how they are doing. **Teachers will also continue to check in with families on a weekly basis each Friday to ensure we are all working together to help each Nativity Man reach his full potential.** If you are looking for ways to support your child's understanding around the [Black Lives Matter Movement](#) or [COVID-19](#) please click the links for more information and do not hesitate to reach out to us.

This will be a learning experience for students, families, and staff members alike, but I have no doubt that our community is well positioned to work together, prioritizing care and empathy for our boys and for one another to make this school year a success. I am grateful to each of you for your continued partnership and trust and look forward to seeing you all virtually soon.

Best,

Emily Kent
Principal