



July 2, 2020

Hello Peabody Community!

Welcome to July! I hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather and getting outside!

I know there are many questions as to what school will look like in August. As you may have read in district communications, LPS has created a [Restart Task Force](#) to create different scenarios for the start of school. Please click on the link above to learn more information. As you all know, so much depends on the Governor and the Health Department as to what our final decision will be. Thank you all for your patience and flexibility as we wait! I will send specific information for Peabody as soon as I have more details. No matter what scenario we find ourselves in, I can assure you that your child will be given the very best support, love, and guidance at Peabody!

In addition to navigating the challenges that COVID-19 has presented us, our nation has experienced tragic events that weigh so heavy on our hearts. We have all seen graphic images of our nation and communities in pain and hurting. This is so impactful to our entire community.

At Peabody, we stand against racial injustice and other discriminatory acts to ensure a safe, welcoming, and loving environment for ALL of our students, staff, and community members. In October of 2017, the LPS Board of Education adopted a Resolution of "All Means All". This resolution announced our commitment to support all students' ability to succeed by cultivating learning environments that are physically and emotionally safe and supportive, to embrace and value our diversity, and to act quickly to prevent and address any and all discrimination and harassment in our schools. These are standards and expectations that guide our thinking about everything we do at Peabody Elementary School.

We will continue to implement our Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) to ensure we are teaching kindness, responsibility, respect, caring, inclusiveness, integrity, courage, and perspective taking. As a school we have started and will continue the work we have done around equity and culturally

responsive education. We will continue to learn more and ensure we enter every opportunity with kindness in our hearts.

All of this can be difficult topics to talk about with your children. Here are some resources that are available to guide your thinking and discussions.

[How to Talk to Your Kids about Race and Racism](#) - ParentToolkit.com

[Talking About Race](#) - National Geographic

[Teaching Ideas and Resources to Help Students Understand the George Floyd Protests](#) - New York Times

[Engaging Young People in Conversations about Racism](#) - Anti-Defamation League

[Books to Teach Kids of All Ages About Racism](#) - Chicago Parent Magazine

[How White Parents Can Use Media to Raise Anti-Racist Kids](#) - Common Sense Media

[Kids Need to Talk About George Floyd, Protests, & Racism](#) - USA Today

[Teaching about Race, Racism & Police Violence](#) - Teaching Tolerance

As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns. Myself, along with our entire Peabody staff are committed to ensuring our students are safe, loved, and accepted.

Happy 4th of July!

In partnership,

Francesca Pappalardo

Principal

Peabody Elementary School