



Leaders of Innovative Future-Focused Real World Learning

Dear USD 353 and Wellington Community,

We are halfway into week two of school and I want to start by again acknowledging and thanking our teachers, staff, administrators, students and families. These are challenging times for everyone as we are all navigating a lot of changes. I understand there are frustrations and certain aspects of the reopening plan are an inconvenience for our families.

Our students are back in the classroom and making connections again that we have been missing since March. It's been rewarding to watch our students back in action.

I want to address a change that was announced on Monday by KSDE. They are no longer requiring learning logs for students. Instead, a one time learning assurance needs to be signed by all parents/guardians. You will receive more information from your student(s) school on this in the coming days.

As many of you are aware, our BOE had their regular September meeting on Monday night. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the district's approved reopening plan and the possibility of deviating from the plan and reopening schools fully. They have scheduled another meeting for Thursday, September 17th to discuss this further. They have asked for parent/guardian and staff feedback as well. The district has emailed a survey to parents/guardians and staff. The meeting is open to the public and will also be live streamed. It will begin at 7pm in the WHS auditorium.

Since the original plan was for me to meet with the Sumner County Health Department weekly and give an update, I will continue following that plan for now. The SCHD recommended that we operate next week in the yellow phase. As a reminder, the yellow phase is hybrid learning. The SCHD recommends operating in the hybrid phase for another week as we wait to see how the numbers trend after Labor day weekend and with school and sports starting.

We will have more information and guidance on what the next weeks will look like for our district after Thursday night's BOE meeting. We will give an update and more information as soon as we are able.

Thank you, as always, for you continued patience and support.

Sincerely,
Adam Hatfield
Superintendent, USD 353