

Dear NBCA Families,

I know there is a lot of information being given to you right now, so we are trying to make everything as clear and easy to understand as possible. Thank you for being patient and for asking such good questions. This email will contain a lot of important information, so please read in its entirety.

New announcements:

- The Green Bus will not be operating the rest of the week. We apologize for the inconvenience.
- Bible Club is cancelled for today. There is a possibility that Bible Club will be offered virtually in the future.
- After school tutoring scheduled for today and tomorrow is cancelled. We are making plans to continue the tutoring virtually, but have not worked all of that out yet. We will contact parents once we have that worked out.
- Pick-up time for materials for virtual students will be Friday, November 20 from 11-3. Please do not come in to pick up materials prior to that date/time as the teachers need time to prepare the materials.
- We are surveying parents to see if there is a need for Child Care during our building closure. If you are interested, please complete this short survey by Monday, November 23: <https://form.jotform.com/203166552136148>
- A revised copy of the "New Branches Virtual Academy Parent Information Packet" is attached [NBCA 2020 Virtual Academy 11_16.pdf](#)
- We will continue to follow our school calendar for half-days, Thanksgiving Break, and Holiday Break [NBCA 2020-21 Calendar Final August 2020.pdf](#)
- GSRP Preschool program will continue in-person, as normal.
- If you would like to pick up FREE meals for your children, we are offering meal pick-up on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00am-12:45 at the front entrance beginning next Monday. You may pick up breakfast and lunch meals for up to one week during this time. Please complete the weekly order form so we know how many meals to prepare: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eXSYvCVHcSQ514FRVhLs8y5PNNme13WO7IAi1aqEhxA/viewform?edit_requested=true
- A copy of the New Branches Virtual Academy Student & Family Handbook containing our policies for virtual learning is attached [New Branches Virtual Academy Student & Family Handbook.pdf](#)
- **Virtual learning is not optional. All students MUST attend, participate in Zoom calls, and complete required assignments. Attendance will be taken daily and we will follow Kent ISD Truancy requirements. Grades will be given for all core subjects. Students who do not complete required classwork and assessments may not be promoted to the next grade.**

Important Upcoming Dates:

The last day for in-person instruction will be Thursday, November 19 through January 11.

Tuesday, November 17 – Normal day for in-person instruction. Personal belongings will be sent home with students.

Wednesday, November 18 and Thursday, November 19 – Parents may choose virtual learning instead of in-person learning if not comfortable sending child(ren) to school (must do one or the other or will be counted as absent). If you choose virtual learning, please let your child's teacher know on Tuesday so all personal belongings and learning resources can be sent home on Tuesday.

Friday, November 20 – All students will be required to log in to Canvas and complete a minimum of one assignment to be counted as present. Teachers will be offering office hours from 8:30am-3:00pm and will be contacting every parent of an in-person student by phone to answer any questions. Parents of virtual students will be able to come into the school to pick up learning materials for the next month from 11-3.

Wednesday, November 25 - Half-day of virtual learning until noon

Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27 - No school, Happy Thanksgiving!

November 30- December 18 - Virtual learning

December 18 - Half-day of virtual learning until noon

December 21-January 1 - No school, holiday break

January 4 - Virtual learning resumes

Week of January 4-8 – Re-evaluation of returning to school in-person. The decision will be made this week whether we must continue to learn virtually or if we can return to in-person instruction for those students who choose to return to in-person instruction. Virtual learning will still be offered.

January 11, 2021 – Tentative return date for in-person instruction

FAQ's

"How will I know my child's daily schedule?"

Your child's teacher will communicate the daily schedule to all parents through email and Canvas. Teachers will also send home a listing of your child's login information for common websites.

"Does my child have to have a learning coach?"

We know this is a difficult time to make arrangements for virtual learning. Yes, your child needs a responsible adult or older child to serve as a learning coach during virtual learning to help with navigating websites, answering questions, and encouraging to complete assignments.

"How will I know what my child will need to do to learn?"

Your child's teacher will communicate with you through emails and Canvas, our learning management system. All assignments, daily schedule, Zoom links, etc. will be posted each day/week.

"What if our household doesn't have internet?"

Please notify your child's teacher if you do not have internet connectivity in order to learn virtually. We have resources to help families connect for the purpose of students learning virtually.

Thank you, parents/guardians! Let's hang in there together to make this the best experience for the children.

Stay safe and well.

Ms. Larkin & Ms. Crawford

