

# PIPER USD 203

3130 N. 122nd St. | Kansas City, KS 66109

p. 913.721.2088 | f. 913.721.3573 | [www.piperschools.com](http://www.piperschools.com)



Dear Pirate Nation,

Mr. Rogers is quoted as saying, "**In times of stress, the best thing we can do for each other is to listen with our ears and our hearts and to be assured that our questions are just as important as our answers.**" This quote is even more poignant after the unprecedented year we've experienced.

As you are aware, every year our students complete either an XSEL or a Panorama Social Emotional Survey. Additionally, students in grades 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 complete a Kansas Communities That Care Survey. In both surveys, students share their feelings on school and their community. The Piper School District would like to invite you to a community conversation the evening of **November 11<sup>th</sup> at Piper Middle School** in which we will take a deep dive into our students' data. We are looking forward to a conversation as it relates to the data asking the community: ***What stands out? Where are we strong? How can we improve? How do we move forward to ensure that we are doing all we can to help our children?***

Attached is a flyer for the event as well as a summary of the various data findings that we will be discussing. We hope to see you on Nov. 11 which is Veterans' Day! (Special recognition will be given to our veterans.) Please reach out to Jolene Jackson at [JJackson@PiperSchools.us](mailto:JJackson@PiperSchools.us) with any questions or concerns.

## **Kauffman Education Fellow**

CONGRATULTIONS to Amber Buck, Coordinator of Community Relations, Partnerships & Inclusion for our District, who was recently named as one of the newest Kauffman Education Fellows. The Kauffman Education Fellowship was founded in 2018 to examine pressing issues in education, explore equity in schools, and learn the fundamentals of community organizing. You can see her highlight and those of the other Fellows [here](#). You can use [this link](#) to see the work previous Fellows have completed.

## **COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies and Optional Masking Discussion**

The Board of Education is dedicated to monitoring our COVID-19 data and discussing district protocols on a monthly basis. As we consider COVID protocols, please know that circumstances may change and, in turn, influence our decision-making and actions.

At last month's Board of Education voted 4 to 3 to keep masking in place for all students. However, they also tasked the District Administration to outline options for contact tracing and quarantining guidelines if they decided to allow the high school students the opportunity to make wearing masks optional. The next discussion of masking will take place at the **November 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting**. Community members interested in speaking at this meeting should contact the Board of Education Clerk, Mitch Nutterfield ([mutterfield@piperschools.us](mailto:mutterfield@piperschools.us)), no later than **November 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**John Bakarich, III ~ Larry Beashore ~ Ashley Biondi ~ Kim Brown ~ Desiree' Fergus ~ Theresa Fisette ~ Jeb Vader  
Dr. Jessica Dain, Superintendent of Schools**

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We will continue to keep our school families informed and updated. The safety of students, staff, and our community is, and will continue to be, our top priority. Please know that there may be instances during the school year where unpredicted or unexpected circumstances lead to us needing to make quick decisions. If this occurs, we will communicate with you as quickly as possible.

At the current time, we have created a spot on our district website with [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding the specific COVID protocols we are following at this time.

**Please find below our weekly update on District COVID data:**

	<b>Students (Aug. 19- Oct. 22) *Running Total</b>	<b>New Student Cases (Week of Oct. 18-22)</b>	<b>Staff (Aug 13-Oct 22) *Running Total</b>	<b>New Staff Cases (Week of Oct. 18-22)</b>
<b>Piper Early Childhood</b>	2	1	1	0
<b>Piper Prairie Elementary</b>	29	0	5	0
<b>Piper Creek Elementary</b>	18	0	2	0
<b>Piper Middle School</b>	13	2	0	0
<b>Piper High School</b>	20	2	3	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>82 (Running Total)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11 (Running Total)</b>	<b>0</b>

Proud to be a Pirate,

Dr. Jessica Dain  
Superintendent of Schools