# **KIRK WEEKLY UPDATE**

Week of Sept. 6th

# Principal's Message

Greetings Kirk Families and Friends,

This is the BIG week as we start the 2021-2002 school year. Our 6th graders will begin on Wednesday, September 8th, and all grades are in session on Thursday, September 9th. The Kirk Team is extremely excited to welcome back our students and begin the new school year.



Please remember that all In-Person students are required to wear their masks on the bus and in school. Also, as we return to normal students are required to be back in school uniforms this year. Information on uniforms is available on our school website.

Finally, in order to minimize disruptions to In-Person learning please monitor your child's health carefully, and when a student does not pass their health wellness screener have your child stay home for the safety of others.

#### Important Information:

- <u>Meet and Greet</u> New students will have an opportunity to tour the building on September 7th from 1:00 3:00 pm. At this time masks are required for students and adults.
- September 8th: First day of school for 6th grade only
- September 9th: All Middle School students return to school. (7 & 8th-grade first day of school)
- <u>Student Schedules (In-Person & CSDVA Students)</u> Are now available on HAC. Schedules will be handed out in school as well.
- <u>Chromebooks (In-Person students)</u> will be distributed in school during the first two weeks of school. The CSD Technology Agreement must be signed by both a parent and student to receive their device. The Technology Agreement is attached and will also be distributed to students in school.
- <u>Chromebooks (CSDVA students)</u> Chromebook Distribution was held August 31st. If you were unable to make this date please contact the office to schedule a time to pick up your device.
- <u>Antigen Testing</u> Rapid COVID testing will again be provided at school for registered students and staff. More information is included in this newsletter.

I look forward to welcoming our students back to school,

Mr. DeLillio Principal



Technology-Agreement.pdf

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2021-22-CSD-Calendar\_Traditional-English.pdf

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2021-22-CSD-Calendar\_Traditional-Spanish.pdf

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# **Kirk Middle School Athletics News**

Anyone interested in participating in soccer this year MUST have a physical completed after April 1, 2021. Prior to participating, you must have a DIAA physical form completed and signed by a doctor. All completed physicals should be turned in to C103 by September 10, 2021.

Try-outs will begin September 13, 2021- after school.



Christina School District, in partnership with the Delaware Department of Education, Delaware Public

Health and Quidel Corporation, are offering the implementation of a Rapid COVID-19 Testing

Program. Like last year, registered students and staff will participate in weekly testing for the presence

of COVID-19. These tests, similar to a rapid strep test, provide results in as little as ten minutes. Christina School District began offering this service in January 2021. We are excited to continue to offer this mitigation strategy for the 2021-22 school year. Christina School District will use the following process to administer the tests:

• Students/families must opt in to the testing program by completing the COVID-19 School Testing consent form. A copy is provided with this letter. The electronic consent form can be found at <u>https://my.primary.health/l/christina-schools</u>



• Students, with approved consent, will be screened weekly while in school. Testing will be provided and administered by Quidel Corporation. Sample collection will be completed in a matter of minutes with a nasal swab. The student and family will be notified of either a positive or negative result and the next steps required. Quidel will also send email notifications for all test results on a secure online portal for individual/parent review.

To participate in COVID-19 antigen testing, we ask that you complete the COVID-19 test consent form by visiting our website <u>https://my.primary.health/l/christina-schools</u> or by scanning the QR code below. Please contact your child's school nurse if you have any questions regarding the antigen test.

# New Student Meet and Greet: Sept 7th 1:00 - 3:00 pm

On Tuesday, September 7th we will be holding a Meet-and-Greet for new students from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. This event is for our new 6th grade students and any new 7th & 8th-grade students. Students and families will be able to tour the building while teachers are putting the finishing touches on their classrooms.

This event aims to allow our students to see the building and help ease any anxiety they may have before the start of school.

All students and adults will be required to wear a mask while in the building.

# Message From The Superintendent: Dr. Shelton

#### Dear Christina Families,

Christina School District (CSD) continues its effort to keep everyone in school, excelling in the classroom and participating in extracurricular activities.

At Christina, we have learned that there is no challenge too great if we work together. The fact that we are starting the new school year entirely

in person is an important new phase in our battle against the coronavirus. However, continuing to increase our vaccination rate will move us to the next phase, where all school activities can resume. As we prepare to welcome kids back to class on Wednesday, September 8th, our schools are ready to provide the extra academic and mental health support students will need. We are also ready to bring back treasured traditions of school life that were delayed by the pandemic. I hope you will join me in recognizing how far we've come since the start of the pandemic and looking to the new school year with enthusiasm, excitement, and hope.

We need your help. We are asking that everyone practice mitigation strategies in order to continue offering in-person learning.

#### **MITIGATION EFFORTS**

CSD's mitigation efforts continue to evolve as Delaware public health officials provide new guidance. However, our comprehensive mitigation plan demonstrates our commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe learning and working environment for our students and staff.

As previously communicated, the plan to keep our schools safe includes, but is not limited to, wearing





a face mask indoors, hand washing, staying home when sick, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfecting.

Frequent testing continues to be a major mitigation measure. To that end, please sign up your child, regardless of vaccination status, for weekly Antigen testing. Those families who participated last year will again need to register for testing. To register your child(ren), please <u>visit our website</u> or by scanning the QR code below.

As a reminder, CSD has invested in upgrades and improvements to our HVAC systems, which included higher-rated, linked type, HVAC filters. The district also purchased and installed Sterionizer air purification systems and the highly effective ADIBOT disinfection system that utilizes UV-C technology that quickly and efficiently disinfects the air and surfaces from harmful pathogens, including COVID-19, MRSA, and influenza.

All these efforts, along with numerous others, are key to providing a healthy and safe learning environment for our students and faculty/staff.

#### STAY HOME WHEN SICK

As a partner in helping keep classrooms and schools COVID-free, it is imperative that your child stay home when they feel ill. This is an important step in helping to keep our students, faculty/staff, and community healthy.

We ask all students to perform a <u>daily health screening</u> before coming to school each day. **If your child answers yes to any of the above questions, they are expected to stay home**. We ask the parent/guardian to report the absence to the school.

It is equally important that a parent/guardian notify the school if your child has had a positive COVID-19 diagnosis and/or has been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

#### **MASKS**

The CDC and Delaware Department of Public Health continue to promote the use of masks as one of the top mitigation strategies to slow the spread of COVID-19. We strongly recommend that everyone follow the advice of health experts by wearing a mask while indoors in public spaces. Inside of our buildings and on school buses, masks are required regardless of vaccination status.

#### **COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION**

According to the CDC and Delaware Department of Public Health, vaccines continue to be another top mitigation strategy to stop the spread of COVID-19. Health experts at the national, state and county levels agree that the vaccine is an effective and powerful tool that dramatically reduces your chances of getting COVID-19. Additionally, increasing the vaccination rate in a community is a key factor in reducing the spread of the virus.

- The COVID-19 vaccine is free and available at many sites throughout the county and state. <u>Click</u> <u>here to find a location near you.</u>
- There are COVID-19 testing sites throughout Delaware. Find a location near you now.

We must all work together to make our schools as safe as possible for students, faculty, and staff. While CSD is taking measures to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19, we need our families to do the same. Engaging in Christina's mitigation strategies increases our chances of continuing to provide a world-class learning experience in person. It also increases our chances of our students being able to continue participating in athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular activities. As always, we continue to be available to answer questions and/or address concerns. Our <u>schools'</u> <u>phone numbers and email addresses</u> are easily accessible from the websites.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of our schools and our district. We are honored to serve Christina students and families and to be a part of your child's educational journey.

We are committed to providing the safest environment possible for your child to learn, play, and grow.

Thank you and welcome back to school!



# **Introducing ADIBOT-S**

Kirk Middle School will be one of the first schools in the country to utilize the ADIBOT-S disinfection robot. The highly effective ADIBOT disinfection system from global robotics leader, UBTECH, utilizes UV-C technology that quickly and efficiently disinfects the air and surfaces from harmful pathogens, including COVID-19, MRSA, and influenza. This is done without the use of harsh chemicals.

## School Fundraiser

We will be selling Kirk facemask as a school fundraiser at our Meet and Greet on Sept. 7th as well as during the opening weeks of school. Our new masks are made of high-quality materials that include a durable liner with an opening for a filter and adjustable ear loops.

Our new mask will be sold in the lobby during our Meet and Greet and in the front office during the school day for \$5.00 (cash only)





### **School Supplies & Uniform Information**

This school year a school supply kit will be supplied to each student at Kirk. We anticipated that school supplies may be in short supply this year and we also wanted to express our gratitude to all our families that supported us through the hybrid experience last year. Attached is a list of the supplies that we will provide to every student along with a list of additional supplies that will still be needed. This information is also posted on our website. Supply kits and Chromebooks will be distributed during the first two weeks of school. Additional information will be provided at later date to CSDVA families on when these items will be distributed. Also, included in this section is information on the Middle School Uniform Policy. Please see the attached PDF.

pdf

Kirk Middle School Supply List 2021 - 2022.pdf

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MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM DRESS CODE.pdf

Download 460.1 KB



