



# KIPP:WOODSON PARK

## ACADEMY

February 4, 2020

Dear Families,

We hope that you are all settling into 2021!

2020 will be a year that we will never forget. As the COVID-19 pandemic reached our schools and communities in unimaginable ways, we partnered together to ensure that the learning never stopped for our scholars. As we close the book on 2020 and begin 2021 with a renewed purpose, we wanted to take a moment to update you on our path forward. We have a dedicated KIPP Metro Atlanta team continuing to monitor health and safety data in partnership with the Department of Health, school health professionals across the state, and our district partners. In addition to health data, we have continued to listen to you – our most important voice.

In December, we shared with you our decision to pause our phased reopening plan based on public health data that indicated significant increases in COVID cases. At that time, we also made the decision that we would begin a targeted pilot for scholars when we see case rates decline over a three-week period. **When we returned from the holiday break, we began to monitor case rates, and we have seen a steady decline over the past two weeks.**

**As planned in the fall, our first step in returning to school will still be a voluntary supervised synchronous learning pilot for targeted scholars based on academic needs.** Supervised synchronous learning consists of scholars coming to school to participate in that day's virtual learning lessons; it does not include tutorial or 1-1 instruction. **With our targeted, voluntary pilot, both families and teachers will still have the option to participate.** Please note that space will be limited depending on staff participation. In preparation, our operations teams are prioritizing facilities readiness and working hard to prepare classrooms. Staff and scholars who participate in our pilot group will complete training with all the necessary health and safety procedures and receive personal protective equipment. **Safety and excellence have been our guiding principles with all decisions so far and will remain our top priorities as we prepare for this pilot.**

We will learn best practices and refine our safety protocols during our learning pilot, and our next phase of re-entry would be Face-to-Face with Choice; in this model, all families would have a choice of either returning to school or remaining virtual. We will share more information as we finalize details in the coming weeks.

As a region, we will continue to adjust and adapt to our current environment to ensure we are meeting our goal of people first and prioritizing scholar learning and success. Thank you so much for your continued partnership in making decisions that are best for our scholars and families. If you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at your earliest convenience.

With gratitude,

**Dwight Ho-Sang**