

## MEMORANDUM

To: All APS Families

From: Dr. Lisa Herring, Superintendent

Date: February 19, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 Vaccinations, Intent to Return Declarations, and Other Updates

### **Reminder of Intent to Return Declaration**

With the launch of our latest Intent to Return Declaration on Wednesday, Feb. 17, our APS families can choose a learning option through the final nine-week quarter. Remember, if you don't complete the form by Monday, March 8, your student(s) will remain in their current instructional learning model. The form and details are available on the [Declaration Form page](#).

### **Seven-Day Pop-Up Meals Available to Children on Saturdays**

Our Nutrition Department is distributing seven-day pop-up meal kits to children ages 1-18 in the city of Atlanta on Saturdays. Each meal kit will contain seven breakfasts and seven lunches and will be available this Saturday, February 20, from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Hightower Station Shopping Center Parking Lot at 2636 Martin Luther King Dr. SW. Meal distribution will take place from an APS school bus.

### **Phase 1B of COVID-19 Vaccinations**

APS is actively preparing for Phase 1B of COVID-19 vaccinations—the phase that includes eligibility for educators. We know that vaccinating as many staff members as possible will be critical for continuing to open our schools safely. As such, our district is working with the Fulton County Board of Health on future vaccination events for APS employees once Phase 1B is launched.

In order to be able to accommodate thousands of APS educators who will take the vaccine, APS will need hundreds of volunteers—both medical professionals who will be able to administer the vaccine as well as non-medical volunteers to help staff the events.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you are a medical professional and are willing to help us inoculate our educators, please consider signing up. To determine if you have the authority to vaccinate, please go to <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/GetVaccinatedAPS>. If you are not a medical professional, we still need your help to serve at the events.

While we do not yet know the dates of these events, all volunteers must pre-register as this process will help us be ready to go as soon as Phase 1B is launched. We are asking any interested volunteers to proactively register on <https://servga.gov/> for the organization: Fulton County, Medical Reserve Corps.

We will send the details about APS' vaccination events once we have that information, but please anticipate a Saturday or Wednesday event from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Thank you in advance for answering our call to action and helping us with this important initiative.

### **Random Acts of Kindness**

After nearly a year of teaching and learning amid a global pandemic, Random Acts of Kindness Week finally came around the calendar again to remind us: People need kindness, they crave kindness, and they DESERVE kindness.

As superintendent and a former school counselor, I am thrilled that [the week has become a tradition for APS](#), where social emotional learning has become not only a district priority but a model for other school districts. We also joined the authors and illustrator of *Mirror Face: A Book on Self Love* for the launch of a global social media movement they are calling #MirrorFaceChallenge. ([You can watch the program launch on our Facebook page!](#)) I am hopeful that the random acts of kindness continue week after week.

Thanks as always for your engagement and support! Please stay healthy and be well.

Yours in Service,

Dr. Lisa Herring