

Hollis Innovation Academy

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Greetings, Hollis Parents & Guardians!

We hope this letter finds your family well during what has been a very challenging time.

As you may have heard, this school year will begin in a virtual environment. While we look forward to re-engaging with our students, we are all understandably feeling a sense of uncertainty as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. Although a face-to-face educational setting is ideal, the safety of our staff and students is priority.

On Monday, July 13, Superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring submitted a proposal to the Atlanta Board of Education that provided guidance for the reopening of schools. The decision to launch school virtually was a difficulty one, but it was driven by a close examination of health data and informed by the exponential spike in positive COVID-19 cases in Fulton County, which places our district in the “substantial spread” category.

The reopening plan included two major points:

- The school year will begin **Monday, August 24**.
- Students will receive instruction for the first 9 weeks in a virtual environment.

During the weeks of August 3 – August 21:

- Teachers will be provided with professional learning and supplies to enhance virtual leaning strategies.
- Parents will be provided with designated times to enter the building to receive refunds for 8th grade dues and to retrieve items left during the previous school year.
- On-site registration will be offered for new students, rising kindergarten students, and rising 6th grade students. [Sign up here](#) for a registration appointment.
- Student supplies and technology will be distributed.

I understand that the news of reopening schools in a virtual setting may create hardships for families and students. As a Washington Cluster, we are working collaboratively with our community partners to identify support and options for families who may need assistance during the first 9 weeks of school. Over the next few weeks, please look for social media posts and “robo calls” with more information regarding the start of the school year. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me directly at djack@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Thank you,

Dr. Diamond M. Ford, Principal
Michael R. Hollis Innovation Academy

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