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Dear KPS Families,

In response to COVID-19, our school is moving to a 4 day in person school week, with Friday's being distance learning for all students. Teachers will be at school five days a week. As we continue to navigate what is best for our students, teachers and community, it became evident that our current model was less than viable. As we worked through the additional steps of distance learning, responding to health issues within the school, and redefining how we function daily within the school during a pandemic, it became clear, teachers needed more time to execute the original plan.

Fridays will be used for teachers to plan, upload distance learning lessons, and for staff development in the areas of technology & delivering quality distance learning. The "early outs" on the calendar will be absorbed into the Fridays to preserve instruction time. Regular Friday staff meetings will occur to more efficiently communicate with staff and parents as we analyze the effectiveness of the revised plan. There will be an intentional effort to help parents navigate distance learning with their student. Friday attendance will be accounted for based on the completion of Friday distance learning assignments.

Education has shifted fundamentally due to the pandemic, and there is a need to bring KPS staff and our community up to speed on how we can best respond to the changes. Teachers will be in the building 5 days a week and students will still be required to complete distance learning activities on Fridays. Understandably, this change will be a hardship for some. After evaluation of our current plan, evidence revealed that we were not effectively educating our students. Additional training and preparation time to execute our plan is necessary.

This is a temporary change to the school calendar. The four day week will be analyzed at the end of this school year. The first four day school week will begin the week of October 26th and the first Friday students won't be in school will be Friday, October 30th.

Sincerely,

Jeff Simmons
Killdeer Superintendent

The mission at Killdeer Public School is to ensure students acquire the knowledge, attitude, ethics, and skills needed to become productive citizens in our society.