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From: KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT <email@blackboard.com>

Date: July 13, 2021 at 4:53:17 PM EDT

To: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Subject: KASD Summer 2021 Communication

Reply-To: email@blackboard.com



**KUTZTOWN AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Maximize potential, embrace change, create the future

Good afternoon KASD Families and Community,

I hope all students and families are finding time to enjoy the summer months. Our staff and administration are balancing respite and rejuvenation, while also preparing for an exciting 2021-2022 school year. At Kutztown Area, we are proud of our curriculum, instruction, assessment and school culture.

Over the past 5 years, we have been recognized for our success as a Title 1 School of Excellence for demonstrating academic growth in our elementary schools, routinely been listed on the Advanced Placement Honor Roll for access and success by the College Board, and in 2020 KAHS was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. In 2020-2021 our community experienced a successful school year including in-person learning for 167 days or more in grades K-8, a beautiful graduation held in our stadium for the first time, and the adoption of a budget including 0% tax increase for the 7th consecutive year.

A great deal of recent attention has been paid locally and nationally to Critical Race Theory and its influence in schools and curriculum. In KASD the conversation has coalesced around Policy 832-Educational Equity. Community discussion on all topics of concern is the sign of a healthy community.

Equitable access to learning is not a new concept in education. For decades educators have been stripping away practices that have been barriers to learning for students. KASD has always been committed to this type of introspection. The term educational equity is now being used, and at times being misunderstood. Critical Race Theory is not included in the District core curriculum and is not part of our own planning for equitable access to learning. Our long-standing obligation and dedication to eliminating barriers to achievement is the foundation of equity in education.

Over the timeline of these discussions, we have answered many questions for those who have inquired. For a summary of relevant questions and District answers, [please see this document](#).

We are grateful for the continued support of this school community and are committed to continuous reflection, evaluation, and improvement of all aspects of the school experience for the students of the Kutztown Area.

Please enjoy the remainder of the summer, and contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christian Temchatin

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