Joint Message from Mayor Jim Schlegel and KU President Ken Hawkinson

Dear Students,

On behalf of Kutztown University and the Borough of Kutztown, we are both excited to welcome you back to campus and the community. We are poised to join with you in support of a healthy and successful living and learning environment. Our number one priority remains the health and safety of you and the entire Kutztown community and the successful opening of the university and the many businesses in the community. Please visit https://www.kutztown.edu/fall2020 and read our daily updates to stay current on important details and for answers to frequently asked questions.

The spread of COVID-19 remains a public health emergency, not only throughout the country, but also here in our community. As is the case with countless other universities in our state, our ability to maintain in-person, on-campus instruction throughout this academic year is critically dependent on your cooperation in joining the rest of our community to slow the spread of the virus. Throughout this semester, please abide by the following guidelines:

1. Always wear your face mask when on campus. This includes public areas, common spaces, and classrooms.
2. Always wear your face covering properly (covering your mouth and nose), and wash reusable masks frequently.
3. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
4. Practice good health habits. Clean surfaces frequently, cover coughs, and sneezes.
5. Stay at least 6 feet apart. Maintain physical distancing to mitigate the spread of the virus.
7. Have questions? Contact Student Health and Wellness Center.

These guidelines are not only mandated on campus but also throughout the Kutztown community. All members of the KU community are strongly encouraged to monitor their health each day to effectively guide their health and social interaction decisions. For our students, we will have testing capacity at our health center for symptomatic students. Employees with symptoms should contact their personal care physician to go to a testing facility in the area.

Both the Borough of Kutztown and KU will be strictly enforcing Governor Wolf’s orders and restrictions for indoor and outdoor social gatherings. Furthermore, the Borough of Kutztown is drafting an Ordinance that will stipulate:
1. Masks are required when within 6 feet of anyone who is not a member of your household.
2. No housing property may have a gathering of 10 people indoor and outdoor combined.
3. Gatherings of more than 100 are prohibited at Borough Parks and properties.
4. Violations are punishable by a fine of $300

Please note that any students convicted of citations from any law enforcement within the community may also face disciplinary sanctions under Kutztown University’s Student Code of Conduct.

Returning to campus is a privilege that comes with responsibility. Wearing face masks, social distancing, and refraining from large gatherings (on and off-campus) are requirements for each of us. Adherence to and respect for the Governor’s orders, Town ordinances, and University policies will be strictly enforced on and off campus. To that end, we both have full faith in our expectation that KU students will partner with the residents of Kutztown during this national health crisis, and we look forward to a productive and healthy academic year.