Seven Rumors, Facts, and Unknowns about Reopening School on September 9th

Q1: Because King County is in Phase 2 of the Governor’s order, students cannot return to campus for in-person learning.
A1: False. Schools operate in an entirely different lane than the Governor’s Phases and students will return on September 9th.

Q2: I heard students will not have recess or PE when students return to school on September 9th.
A2: False. Students will return to a regular schedule and enjoy identical offerings as before. The activities may look different, but students will follow a full schedule.

Q3: When K-12 students return on September 9th, students will attend classes every other day.
A3: False. Students will return to classes with their teachers and peers for five days a week of in-class learning.

Q4: Student must wear a face mask when returning to school.
A4: False. Students have the option to wear a face shield, be exempt according to special conditions*, or wear a mask. The mask rule is likely to change between now and September 9th. During vigorous activities like PE, students will adhere to the social-distancing rule and not wear a mask. One creative, face-covering option for classroom learning is shown at right.

*The current exemptions for student-face coverings appear in the box at right.
Source: OSPI

Q5: If students are socially distancing themselves in the classroom, they do not need to wear a mask.
A5: False. However, there is growing pressure from LEAs to make an adjustment.

Q6: I heard when Rainier Christian opens on September 9th they will follow the State’s new Sex-Education curriculum.
A6: False. Please review RCS’ adopted learning standards and the For Parents section on our website.

Q7: I heard athletic teams are not allowed to play when schools reopen.
A7: Unknown. What is known is athletics adhere to WIAA guidance that is indexed to the Governor’s Phases. Currently, squads in King County can practice together in groups of five. For a full explanation of WIAA’s guidance, click here.