MODEL LABORATORY SCHOOLS
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Parent Newsletter

Thursday, August 28, 2025





A Message from Superintendent John R Williamson

Dear Model Families,

What a fantastic first week of school! It has been a joy to see our hallways buzzing with energy once again. One of my favorite moments was watching the excitement and surprise on our students' faces as members of EKU Athletics lined the sidewalks to cheer them on during arrival. We're incredibly thankful for our **partnership with Eastern Kentucky University**, which helps create one-of-a-kind experiences for our students both inside and outside the classroom.

Today, we wrapped up the week with our annual MPO Back to School Pizza Party —**thank you to our parent volunteers** who made it possible!

We encourage all families to stay informed and engaged throughout the year. Visit our **Live Feed on the school website (model.eku.edu)** and **school app** for updates and announcements. For more frequent photos and video content highlighting student activities and school events, follow us on **Facebook and Instagram**.

As a reminder, starting tomorrow, there is **no school:**

- **Friday, August 29**
- **Monday, September 1** *(in observance of Labor Day)*

All Model offices will be closed during this time. We hope you enjoy the long weekend and return refreshed for another great week on Tuesday, September 2.

Thank you for choosing Model for your child's education.

Sincerely,



John R. Williamson
Superintendent & Dean of P-12 Programs

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Arrival & Dismissal Reminders

We appreciate everyone's cooperation so far at the start of the school year. Here are a few key reminders:

- Front doors (Entry 1) open at 7:15 a.m. for K-12 early drop-off.
- All other entries (3, 7, 8, 34, and 35) and the back/water tower drop-off will not open until 7:35 a.m.
- Drop-off for all students begins at 7:35 a.m.
- For arrival, **all parents must stay in vehicles.**
- For dismissal, **ECDC parents only** may exit vehicles at designated spots.

Please carefully review and follow the updated pick-up and drop-off procedures and maps in more detail on our designated webpage: **model.eku.edu/page/traffic**.

Complete Online Registration (OLR)

Please remember to complete the required Annual Census & Student Information Update, also known as Online Registration (OLR), through the **Infinite Campus Parent Portal**. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to **Beverly.Dyehouse@eku.edu**. For help with logging into Infinite Campus, contact Model Counseling (**modelcounseling@eku.edu**).

Important Note

Please ensure the contact information entered in your OLR is updated and accurate. The contact information submitted will be used for emergency alerts, your Rooms account in the Model Lab app, and any communication sent from any Model department.

Elementary Class Shirts + New Patriot Shoppe Merch!

Don't miss your chance to order your student's Elementary Class Shirt from The Patriot Shoppe! Each class has its own design—perfect for class events, field trips, and school spirit days. **Orders are due by Friday, September 5.**

Order here: **The Patriot Shoppe**

Plus, **check out our all-new Patriot Shoppe merchandise**! From shirts and hoodies to water bottles and hats, there's something for every member of your Model family.

Handbook Highlights to Remember

The 2025-26 Handbook for Students and Parents, which includes Model's updated policies and procedures, is available online at **model.eku.edu/handbook**.

Please review the **Dress Code** with your child, located on pages 45-46.

Model's **attendance policy** starts on page 35 in the handbook. Remember,

- All absences should be followed up with a doctor's excuse or parent note.

- Students returning to school following an absence must submit a parent/guardian or physician note within the first three (3) days of their return.

School Safety & Check-Outs

Reminder: Proof of ID is required for all student check-outs during the day or from Extended Learning. See more detail in the **Student/Parent Handbook** on page 37.

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As we begin the semester, you may notice that our school is conducting several safety drills. These drills are essential in ensuring our students and staff are well-prepared for any situation that might arise. We encourage you to take this opportunity to discuss and develop a safety plan at home with your family.

It's also important to speak with your children about the drills they are participating in at school. Reassure them that these drills are simply a way for everyone to be ready and safe, just like practicing for a big game or a performance. By talking openly about the drills and answering any questions they might have, you can help your child feel more comfortable and confident.

Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe and prepared!

Installing Canon Printers on Student MacBooks

Need to print from your Model-issued MacBook? Follow these steps:

- Open the ‘Launchpad’ app found at the bottom on the dock
- Type ‘Self Service’ in the search bar at the top and open the app
- Click on ‘All’ found below the Browse option in the Self Service menu on the left
- Click on ‘Install Canon Printers on Model Student Assigned Machines’

After installi, the following printers will be available for use:

- Model rm. 1102 (Library)
- Model rm. 2113 (Lower HS copier)

- Model rm. 2207 (Upper HS copier)
- Model rm. 4123 (Annex Classroom)

Iowa Assessment for Grades 1-7 Coming Soon

Mark your calendars! **Iowa Assessments for students in grades 1-7 will take place the week of September 22-26, 2025.**

Please help your child do their best by encouraging a positive mindset, ensuring they get a good night's sleep, and providing a healthy breakfast on testing days.

Secondary Class Shirts

Class shirts for secondary students will be handed out throughout next week (September 2-5). Stay tuned!

Chicken Minis Are Back!

Starting **Thursday, September 4,** members of the 7th-8th Grade Student Council will be selling Chick-fil-A Chicken Minis before school. Grab a 4-count box for $5 outside Mrs. Catron's door or next to the Music Room.

All proceeds support events like the Veterans Day Program and other student-led initiatives.

Model Cheer Clinic

K-6 female students are invited to attend the Model Cheer Clinic on September 30-October 2, 2025. Each day lasts from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Model Gym.

Register by September 10 at this link! All girls will receive a t-shirt with registration.

Contact: Coach Ryan (Ryan.Smith@eku.edu) or Coach Spears (Jessica.Holmes@eku.edu)

The Model Lab App & Rooms

You can access the majority of classroom, athletics, school, and district information in **one convenient place: the Model Lab app** (**iOS** | **Android**).

Rooms is Model's official communication tool, built to make it easy to stay informed and connected, located right inside the Model Lab app. Rooms is also accessible through a browser at **rooms.thrillshare.com**.

Rooms Features:

- Receive **messages** from your child's teacher, coaches, and other staff members, directly in one place. Messages are easy to read, reply to, and send. The centralized inbox makes it easy to stay organized, even if you have multiple children.
- Teachers can share class announcements, reminders, and materials. View all announcements, or filter by child or class to always stay informed.
- Rooms, now gives you the flexibility to choose how and when you receive messages and announcements. You can be notified by
    - **Push Notifications** from your school app
    - **Email Notifications** sent to your inbox
    - **SMS Text Messages** sent to your phone
- Rooms will automatically translate messages based on your preferred language. Making it easy to communicate, no matter the language.
- Rooms includes built-in safety and moderation tools that helps

  ensure all communication stays safe and secure.

Use the helpful links below for more information or help with Rooms.

- Model's Rooms Support Webpage: **model.eku.edu/rooms**
- **Parent Packet to Get Started with Rooms**
- **One-Stop-Shop Rooms Resources**
- **Rooms Support for Parents/Guardians & Students**

Tips: Make sure to **keep your app updated** or turn on automatic app updates within your phone's settings. Also, **allow notifications** in your app and phone

settings.

If you have any issues or need assistance, email **Rachel.Cornelius@eku.edu**.

KY Transportation Press Release, I-75 Roadwork

Update – Roadway Improvements Progressing On I-75 in Madison County

Pavement work shifts to northern section, mile markers 92-98, after Labor Day

LEXINGTON, Ky. (August 28, 2025) – Work is progressing on the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's $13.5 million Interstate 75 safety and pavement improvement project in Madison County, with construction now shifting from the southern section to the northern section of the project.

Contractors remain restricted to only single-lane closures during daytime hours to alleviate traffic impacts on area travelers. While one lane has remained closed during construction for safety reasons, crews have worked extended hours and at night, when possible, to reduce further traffic impacts.

Contractors also have used enhanced signage, adjusted merge areas, and taken steps to improve work zone traffic flow – including breaking the 12-mile project into two 6-mile sections.

Motorists should watch for the following traffic impacts now through the project's late-October completion:

- **For the Labor Day holiday** – 6 a.m. Friday, Aug. 29, until 6 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2 – barrels will be moved back and there will be no lane closures throughout the project.
- **After the holiday,** construction will shift to the northern section (mile marker 92 to near 98 at the Clays Ferry bridge), with only single lane closures permitted in that area during 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daytime work hours.
- **In the southern section** of the project (mile markers 86 to 92), including Exit 90 (US 25) and Exit 87 (Eastern Bypass) all three lanes will reopen each direction, and there will be no more full-time lane closures. Motorists should still watch for occasional lane closures for striping or pavement marker installation.

This important project requires substantial construction to enhance safety and improve the ride for interstate travelers. The project includes repaving all six interstate lanes between mile marker 86 and the Clays Ferry bridge, making slide repairs, safety-focused exit ramp pavement upgrades, adding barrier walls at bridges, restriping lanes, replacing pavement markers, and adding radar traffic detection at interchange signals to improve traffic flow, and other upgrades.

School and Community Events

Friday, August 29

- No School (Offices Closed)

Monday, September 1

- No School - Labor Day (Offices Closed)

Tuesday, September 2

- Instrument Rental Night (Band), Model Library, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10

- KMEA District 11 Fall Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, September 12

- Secondary Club Rush

Click Here for Full Events Calendar

Athletic Events

Friday, August 29

- Varsity Volleyball vs. Oneida Baptist, 7:00 p.m.
- Middle School Soccer vs. Foley, 5:30 / 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 2

- Middle School Girls Basketball @ Caudill, 5:30 / 6:30 / 7:30 p.m.
- Varsity Volleyball @ Lee County, 6:00 p.m.
- Varsity Girls Soccer @ Madison Southern, 6:00 p.m.
- Varsity Boys Soccer @ Madison Southern, 8:00 p.m.
- Middle School Soccer vs. Garrard County, 5:30 / 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 4

- Middle School Girls Basketball vs. Science Hill, 5:30 / 6:30 p.m.
- Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Berea, 5:30 p.m.
- Varsity Girls Soccer @ Berea, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, September 5

- Middle School Soccer vs. Madison Middle, 5:30 / 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 6

- Varsity Volleyball @ Sayre, 1:00 p.m. (All A Regionals)
- Varsity Boys Soccer @ Bryan Station, 12:00 p.m.
- Varsity Girls Soccer @ Harrison County, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, September 8

- Middle School Girls Basketball vs. Berea, 5:30 / 6:30 / 7:30 p.m. (8th Grade Night)
- Varsity Girls Soccer vs. Rockcastle County, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 9

- Middle School Girls Basketball @ Somerset Christian, 5:30 / 6:30 / 7:30 p.m.
- Middle School Soccer @ Clark Moores, 5:30 / 7:00 p.m.
- Varsity Volleyball vs. Ky. School f/t Deaf, 7:00 p.m.
- Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Madison Central, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10

- Varsity Girls Soccer vs. Powell County, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, September 12

- Middle School Soccer @ Farristown, 5:30 / 7:00 p.m.
- Varsity Volleyball @ Oneida Baptist, 7:00 p.m.

Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination

Students, their families, employees, and potential employees are hereby notified of Eastern Kentucky University's (and by extension, Model Laboratory Schools') Non-Discrimination policy, which can be accessed in full here.

Annual Notice Regarding Terroristic Threatening

Terroristic Threatening in the second degree is defined in Kentucky state law (KRS 508.078). School district officials (in coordination with responding law enforcement agencies) will pursue immediate legal charges for felony terroristic threatening in the second degree, to the absolute fullest extent of the law, against anyone who makes such threats, including students.

Contact Us

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