



**BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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September 25, 2020

Dear Bristol Public Schools Community,

The warmer weather this week allowed our students in grades Prek-8 to use their outdoor classroom spaces and engage in learning in the great outdoors. Our scholars at all levels are settling into their classes and are adjusting to the hybrid schedule. After visiting all of our schools and witnessing the connections being made between the staff and scholars and seeing the joy on our scholars' faces to be back in school, it is clear our BPS community is stronger than ever!

**District Updates:**

**Positive COVID-19 Cases and Communication:**

This week there were no school-related COVID-19 cases within the Bristol Public Schools. As you may have seen or heard through media reports, many other school districts throughout the state are experiencing positive cases due to the pandemic. We will continue to communicate with the school community and the district at large if we experience positive COVID-19 cases within the school district.

As another reminder, please remember to:

- Avoid large gatherings and please socially distance (6 feet apart) from others both within and outside of school;
- If your child is exhibiting any symptoms or a temperature, please keep your child home and consult with your child's pediatrician;
- Keep your child's school informed of illness and make sure to call your school nurse if someone your child has been in direct contact with has tested positive for COVID-19;
- Wear masks to protect yourselves and others;
- Practice regular hand washing and hand sanitizing routines; and
- Clean and sanitize frequently touched surfaces.

Together, we can *all* create better health outcomes for our school district community as well as the Bristol community if we continue to follow these important health and safety mitigation practices.

For some families, the frequency of our district communication is comforting and helpful, while for others the number of calls and messages feels overwhelming. While we work to strike a balance between the two, please know that our frequent communication is meant to keep our community members informed and connected to their school and larger BPS family.

**Tentative Transition to Full In-Person Learning Model by Grade Band**

As we continue to monitor health trends and work collaboratively with the BBHD, we are planning to return scholars to Full In-Person Learning by Monday, October 5, 2020. We had originally targeted grades K-5 for a

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Full In-Person return by October 5, 2020, however, due to the number of students in each cohort choosing in-person learning and guidelines for social distancing, BPS will transition **only grades K, 1, 2, and 3** back to Full In-Person Learning on October 5, 2020. Students in Grades 4-12 ***will continue to follow our Hybrid Learning Model*** and attend school on their cohort day outlined below. I know this is an adjustment to our intended phase-in plan, however, out of an abundance of caution and to acclimate students into a full in-person classroom setting we will only bring in our K-3 scholars during this first phase. Families that are not comfortable with full in-person learning, you may switch your child to remote only instruction. If that is your plan, please contact your child's school at your earliest convenience.

**Learning Schedule for the week of September 28, 2020:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9/28 A Last Name A-K in-person All Grades	9/29 B Last Name L-Z in-person All Grades	9/30  REMOTE LEARNING	10/1 C Last Name A-K in-person All Grades	10/2 D Last Name L-Z in-person All Grades

**Learning Schedule for October 5 - October 16, 2020:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10/5 A All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name A-K In-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	10/6 B All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name L-Z in-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	10/7  REMOTE LEARNING	10/8 C All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name A-K In-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	10/9 D All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name L-Z in-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
10/12  NO SCHOOL	10/13 A All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name A-K In-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	10/14  REMOTE LEARNING	10/15 B All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name L-Z in-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	10/16 C All students in grades K, 1, 2, 3 Last Name A-K In-person Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

It is still our goal to begin the transition for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 to full in-person instruction during the week of October 19, 2020. *Please know that dates of the staggered return to Full In-Person Learning are subject to change dependent on health metrics, COVID-19 trends, and social distancing requirements.*

Thank you for the support of our staff and your scholars with each change in our academic calendar, we know that the lack of predictability for families is taxing. We continue to monitor our class sections, numbers of students in remote only instruction and are working to ensure our learning spaces are safe and healthy for all adults and scholars.

**High School Athletics and Spectator Guidelines:**

Guidelines have been established for spectators to attend athletic competitions. Please be sure to follow these guidelines as we support our scholar athletes and keep all those involved safe and healthy.

**Home Spectators Only** - Two family passes will be assigned per athlete for home contests only by the Athletic Director. Households that have smaller children and other unique circumstances must seek prior approval from the administration for an exemption of this rule. No spectators are allowed in the Aquatic Center.

**Away Spectators** - Spectators from the opposing team will not be permitted to attend any away contests at this time.

**Maintain Social Distancing** - Spectators are expected to maintain a distance of six feet from non-family members and follow the instructions from the event staff.

**Masks and Face Coverings** - All spectators must wear a mask per Executive Order No. 7NNN, which states that masks or cloth face coverings that cover a person's nose and mouth are required to be worn when in public and a six-foot distance is unavoidable, whether indoors or outdoors. Any home spectator will not be permitted entry to any event if they do not have a mask on. This rule is in effect for both indoor and outdoor events.

**Self-Assessment** - All spectators should perform a self-assessment prior to attending any athletic event to identify fever and other possible COVID-19 symptoms outlined by the CDC. Any spectator who feels they have these symptoms or don't feel well should stay home

**2020 Census**

There is still time to complete the 2020 Census. The census asks a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1, 2020. Please take a moment to complete your form online, by phone, or by mail. Visit [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) to begin.

As always, we will move forward together and be better together as we create a legacy of love learning for our scholars.

Best,



Catherine M. Carbone, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools