



# BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## EDUCATION CENTER

**Safety & Well-Being   Acceptance & Respect   Communication & Collaboration   Learning & Growth**  
*To cultivate an exceptional, innovative learning community that enables all students to succeed in a changing world.*

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Friday, September 11, 2020

Dear BASD Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to share with you our plans for a soft/hybrid/AB model return to in-person, face-to-face learning. As promised, we will start with our children with special needs and then move to our newest/youngest students, the schedule is as follows:

Special Education Students – September 14, 2020  
Kindergarten – September 21, 2020  
1st Grade – September 28, 2020  
2<sup>nd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grades – October 5, 2020

Due to COVID-related issues, it is important to note that teacher assignments may change prior to any of the return to school dates listed above and throughout the year.

What does a soft/hybrid/AB model return to in-person learning mean? It means that our students can move to two days per week of in-person, face-to-face learning on the dates listed above if your family so chooses. For our kindergartners, the two in-person sessions per week will be half day sessions based upon your child's AM or PM assignment. For all other students, the two days of in-person learning per week will be normal, full days of school.

Our AB model has some students coming to their physical building on Monday and Tuesday (Group A). Those same students will learn remotely Wednesday through Friday. Other students will come to their physical building on Thursday and Friday (Group B). Those same students will learn remotely Monday through Wednesday. ALL students will learn remotely on Wednesdays to allow for cleaning between groups.

Our student data system randomly divided our students in half to determine which students will attend on which days. In other words, the days were not determined by the first letter of your last name, but rather by systematically looking at a more equitable split based upon households, schedules, and more. Our goal is to have siblings attend in-person learning on the same two days of the week. Due to the hybrid model in place at BCTC, all BCTC students and their siblings living in the same household will be in Group A and attend in-person learning on Mondays and Tuesdays.



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If you were set up for in-person learning, we will plan on seeing your child on the appropriate days as outlined above.

If you have a **KINDERGARTNER** who was enrolled in BASD Virtual Learning prior to our announcement on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, they will be scheduled for five days of virtual learning **unless you contact his or her elementary building prior to Thursday, September 17, 2020 to change to our hybrid instructional model.**

If you have a **FIRST GRADER** who was enrolled in BASD Virtual Learning prior to our announcement on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, they will be scheduled for five days of virtual learning **unless you contact his or her elementary building prior to Thursday, September 24, 2020 to change to our hybrid instructional model.**

If you have a **SECOND THROUGH TWELFTH GRADER** who was enrolled in BASD Virtual Learning prior to our announcement on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, they will be scheduled for five days of virtual learning **unless you contact his or her building prior to Thursday, October 1, 2020 to change to our hybrid instructional model.**

**KINDERGARTEN PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** You will receive an email on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 with your child's group assignment.

**ALL OTHER PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** You will receive an email with your child's group assignment in the coming weeks. ***Group assignments for students in grades 1 through 12 are NOT finalized in Infinite Campus at this time. Please do NOT use the group assignment information for 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders to make plans, as we are continuing to make adjustments. Parents and guardians of students in grades 1 through 12 will be emailed when group assignments are completed.***

**ELEMENTARY PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** As we continue to prepare for the return of students to the buildings, teachers will be adjusting their weekly schedule to model the A/B schedule we will follow once students return. You will see that beginning next week, Wednesday, September 16, will be set up as an asynchronous day. Students will start their day with a morning meeting in homeroom and then will be assigned asynchronous work for the remainder of the day. There will also be a live afternoon check in with students. This time will be used for teachers to set up virtual individual or small group conferencing time.

This return to our in-person learning model allows us to bring back approximately 50% of our students at one time – down from our original plan of approximately 75%. It allows for greater social distancing and honors our Health & Safety Plan while adhering to our commitment to the social, emotional, and academic health and well-being of our faculty and students.



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Based upon current state mandates, **students MUST wear a mask/face covering while in the building**, with minimal exceptions. *There will be scheduled mask breaks throughout their session.* The timing and location of those breaks will vary from building to building and teacher to teacher.

BASD will provide transportation for all eligible students. **You will receive notification regarding your child's pick-up and drop-off times and locations next week. Please remember that all students using BASD provided transportation MUST also wear a mask/face covering while riding our buses and vans.**

Additional information will be forwarded to you via email, texts, and/or phone calls throughout the coming days and weeks. We recognize that we are currently sending many, many communications to our families and will do our best to target specific audiences whenever feasible. (In order to avoid misinformation, we ask that you please NOT share communications with others – as the information contained in your messages may not apply to all families.)

It is important to watch for information on all the following applicable items: Food Services information, orientations, final classroom assignments and group assignments, parent drop-off and pick-up procedures, and more. General supply lists and more can be found on our [Return to School 2020 – 2021 web page](#). We appreciate your patience and understanding as the messages keep coming.

We are so grateful to each one of you for your continued flexibility, adaptability, and support! None of this would be possible without your support.

Kindly,

Mrs. Marybeth Torchia  
Substitute Superintendent