

Beckwith Middle School

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Ryan Shea
Principal

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Assistant Principal

October 5, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

According to a recent School Committee meeting Dr. Azar, in collaboration with our School Committee and the Phase IV Superintendent Advisory Committee, indicated that the target date to begin our hybrid model will be on the following dates for Beckwith Middle School students to return live to school:

Tuesday, October 13: Cohort A for grades 5 and 6

Thursday, October 15: Cohort B for grades 5 and 6

Monday-Tuesday, October 19-20: Cohort A for grades 5, 6, 7, 8

Thursday-Friday, October 22-23: Cohort B for grades 5, 6, 7, 8

Bus information and additional important details will be forthcoming. If you are driving your child to school, ***do not*** drop them off before 7:45 am. Please remember to screen your child before coming to school. We recommend that you view the screening steps [here](#).

If you are choosing to keep your child in full remote and not participate in the hybrid model, please email Amy Abrams at aabrams@drregional.org with your child's name and grade. **This includes families that previously completed the survey over the summer.**

Here are some important details to keep in mind, for now, as we return to in-person learning:

- Families are responsible for providing masks for their student(s) and ensuring proper care of the mask (e.g. daily washing or disposing of the mask after use). These should adhere to district regulations (e.g. no masks with valves, face shields, etc.). It is recommended that students bring multiple masks/face coverings to follow appropriate mask-wearing protocol (e.g. disposing of single-use masks after meal times). Students may also want to consider bringing an option for personal mask storage during removal to keep the mask in

sanitary condition (e.g. a lanyard, etc.). **Gators are not** considered an acceptable substitute.

- BMS will have a supply of masks available in case of emergency, in cases of a student wearing an inappropriate mask, or to provide for families with financial hardships.

At Beckwith Middle School, teachers will facilitate stretch breaks during class time using the following procedures:

- Whole class stretch breaks may be offered by taking students outside where social distances of greater than six feet can be achieved.
- If space allows, it may be possible for breaks to occur individually in hallways. These breaks will be at teacher discretion.
- When taking a stretch break, students should utilize hand washing/sanitizing and safe mask removal procedures.

To help maintain a safe learning environment, students should keep in mind the following advice for materials and practices. Each day, students should bring the following items:

- District-issued or personal Chromebook, fully charged: (more information regarding distribution will be sent by the district)
- Headphones
- USB Mouse (optional)
- School supplies such as pen/pencil, notebooks/paper, etc.

Students are also advised of the following:

- Personal belongings will be kept with them throughout the day, so they may want to minimize the items brought with them. Lockers will not be issued for the 2020-2021 school year and items should not be stored in classrooms or other school spaces.
- Students will not have access to the locker room. For those students who are enrolled in a physical education class, they should come to school prepared to participate in the clothing worn that day.
- Students will not be able borrow or share items with other peers.
- School water fountains will not be in operation. Instead, however, BMS has installed touch-less bottle filling stations that will be operational.

Also, please find the links to Dr. Azar's communications from October 1 [here](#).

Lastly, Chromebooks will be provided for 5th and 6th grade students at this time. Due to the pandemic, we are working diligently to supply 7th and 8th grade students with Chromebooks as soon as possible. All students will not receive a Chromebook unless they have completed the [Device Contract](#).

We are excited to welcome our students back to in-person learning and look forward to the continuation of a successful school year. Please watch for additional information via email including "A Day in the Life at Beckwith" slideshow.

Sincerely,

Ryan Shea, Principal

Amy Abrams, Assistant Principal