

BBSD Frequently Asked Questions
October 26, 2020

What is the current status of school and in person instruction?

As of October 23, 2020 we have completed 39 days of in person instruction! We are approaching the end of marking period one on November 2 at which time we will have completed 45 days of in person instruction!! The entire student body and staff have been doing what is necessary to keep each other safe. Everyone is doing a great job wearing a face covering of some sort and we have begun temperature checks each morning for all students and staff. We continue to be vigilant in monitoring the health of our students and staff each day.

What is the status of the technology which is to be provided for each student in the district?

We are still waiting for our Chromebook delivery which was originally scheduled for arrival on July 20, 2020. Due to COVID-19 issues, the ability of manufacturers to complete orders has resulted in a delay in receiving this technology. Each week we contact the supplier and sales office to reinforce the importance of delivering these Chromebooks to the Berlin Brothersvalley School District as soon as possible. The supplier has informed the district that the order should be shipped in December 2020. We will keep our fingers crossed!

If the district needed to close facilities for any reason (waterline break, snow, COVID-19, etc.) what would that mean for continuing instruction?

If the district buildings need to be closed for any reason, instruction will continue at home using technology and our new learning management system, Schoology, to manage the learning environment for students and parents. Based on the technology survey we conducted, 80% of our students/families are able to access their instruction using technology and internet service at their homes with no issues. We are working to supply the remaining 20% with technology and/or more reliable broadband services to be able to function from home. If needed, we will provide learning packets similar to what we did during marking period four last year to continue instruction. Our goal is to stay in our buildings for instruction for the entire school year but be prepared for any situation which might require remote learning.

What should parents know about Schoology in order to maximize learning whether in person or virtually?

Our teachers have been utilizing Schoology to manage the learning process while in school which will extend to out of school instruction if needed. Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 students have been using their iPads and Schoology during the entire first marking period. Teachers have been providing parents with information to manage their children's learning both in school and at home.

Teachers in Grades 3-8 have been utilizing Schoology to develop their learning platforms and continue to communicate with parents on how to access and utilize Schoology to monitor their children's progress.

Our Grades 9-12 students have already had a virtual day due to a water main break and the experience was successful for students and staff.

Important: Parents should contact teachers for information regarding Schoology and how to maximize its potential to manage the learning environment. Communication is critical to success!!

How will parent/teacher conferences be handled this year?

Parent/teacher conferences will be held in November. Due to the COVID-19 issues, a variety of formats will be used at various grade levels to engage in discussions regarding student performance. Teachers and administrators will provide information regarding the process this year.

How does the district handle COVID-19 cases when reported?

The Department of Health (DOH) or County/Municipal Health Departments (CMHD) will notify the school immediately upon learning that a person with a confirmed case or probable case of COVID-19 was present at the school, school event, or community function while infectious. A school team including Mrs. Roxanna Ritchey, School Nurse and administrators will work with DOH or CMHD staff on risk assessment, isolation and quarantine recommendations and other infection control recommendations. The district will take every measure to maintain the confidentiality of the affected individual.

What are the main things we should do to be able to stay in school for in person instruction?

1. Wash your hands and sanitize frequently.
2. Wear a face covering which covers your mouth and nose.
3. Maintain a safe distance from others (social distancing)
4. Stay at home if you are ill and/or have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher.
5. Bring labeled bottled water in order to fill up from water stations.