



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF BRENTWOOD

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Dear Brentwood Families,

On Monday, August 10, 2020, the PA Department of Education (PDE) released a matrix to guide PA school districts on the safe return of students to school. The matrix uses medical data from the PA Department of Health to classify each county in PA into a category of “Low”, “Moderate”, or “High” risk regarding opening schools for the 2020-2021 school year. This [link](#) connects to the Department of Education’s (PDE) website that provides the measures that are used to develop the matrix. The page can also be accessed at <https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/Pages/DeterminingInstructionalModels.aspx>.

Currently, Allegheny County data places us in the “Moderate” risk range. As a result, the recommendation from PDE is that schools in Allegheny County should reopen with either a hybrid model or a fully remote model. This recommendation from PDE along with the results from the most recent parent survey has forced the Brentwood Borough School district to modify our plans for the return of students to school. Families who **chose to return to school fully online** will continue to work from home 5 days per week. Online students will receive specific information regarding the distribution of devices at a later time.

Families who chose to return to school in-person will now follow a rotational schedule:

Students with **LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH A-L** WILL ATTEND SCHOOL IN-PERSON ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS. These students will work from home on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Students with **LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH M-Z** WILL ATTEND SCHOOL IN-PERSON ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS. These students will work from home on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursday.

Any students from the same household with different last names that fall into different rotational schedules, (i.e. Jones and Smith), will be permitted to attend school in-person on the same days. If your family is in this situation, please contact your building principal(s) to be assigned a rotational day.

Students who are attending school in-person on the rotational schedule will still follow the revised times that were discussed in the Return to School webinar on Monday, July 27. The elementary (Grades K-5) school day will run from 8:15am-1:35pm. The secondary (Grades 6-12) school day will run from 9:00am-2:15pm.

We understand that this modification may cause challenges for our families. However, in order to keep our students and staff safe and follow guidelines, this hybrid schedule is the best option currently. It is our goal to get all of our students back in the building as quickly as possible and taking these steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 will give us the best opportunity to accomplish this goal.

As per the information that you were provided in a previous communication, the first day of school for students will be Monday, August 31. We look forward to working with all our students and families this year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Burch', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amy M. Burch, D.Ed.
Superintendent of the Brentwood Borough School District