

Brentwood Borough School District:

This is the FAQ list created from the Monday, July 13, 2020 webinar. Please listen to the webinar and then read these questions.

Kindergarten

Will there be a kindergarten orientation this up-coming school year?

Answer: We are looking into ways to have an orientation for this school year. Both in person and virtual methods are being examined. If in-person orientation cannot be accomplished, then a virtual orientation will be scheduled.

What are the options for kindergarten students?

Answer: Kindergarten students have the same options as other students in the district, either in-person or remote. Kindergarten class sizes will be determined after rosters have been balanced for in-person to remote ratios.

Will kindergarten students receive laptops?

Answer: All students regardless of in-person or online will be issued a district device. The new 1:1 devices are on backorder until the end of October. There are approximately 500 devices in the District inventory that are ready for use. Families that select the Brentwood Canvas Online program will be issued these devices to begin the school year.

What is the structure for families who choose to attend kindergarten in person?

Answer: Kindergarten students who choose to attend in person will arrive at school at 8:15 am and be dismissed a few minutes before 1:35 pm. Our goal is to be in school for 5 days, but this will depend on the number of students who choose in-person option on the survey.

Questions Related Directly to Elroy

What is Elroy's arrival and dismissal schedule?

What is the time frame of the staggered arrival and dismissal? Will we be assigned times for our child?

At Elroy, we are using multiple entrances and exits doors. A detailed list of entrances and exits will be posted in the upcoming weeks. The arrival time will be 8:15 a.m. for all students, except third grade will enter at

8:10 a.m. Dismissal time is 1:35 p.m. for all grades, except for third grade who will exit at 1:30 p.m.

Are there extra-curricular activities for kindergarten students?

Extra-curricular activities are scheduled for students in grades 3-5. These activities include intramurals, band and chorus.

Is there air conditioning at Elroy? Are there any heating issues with Elroy?

Answer: There is not air conditioning at Elroy. Classrooms are equipped with ceiling fans. In addition, every room has a fan coil unit that bring a certain amount of outside air into the room. The fan coils have economizers on them that control outside air. The rooms are heated by a boiler system in the winter.

Questions Related Directly to Moore

What is Moore’s arrival and dismissal schedule?

Please see below for Moore’s arrival and dismissal times.

			Office Doors	Upper Doors	Playground Doors
Arrival	7:45: - 8:15	Students who pre-ordered breakfast are admitted	Breakfast Entrance		
	8:10 - 8:15	Students admitted to classrooms		K, 1, 2	3, 4, 5
Tardy					
Lunch	11:29 - 11:59	K, 1, 2			
	11:59 - 12:29	3, 4, 5			
Dismissal	1:20		K		
	1:25				5
	1:30		2		4
	1:35		1		3
	2:15	Students meeting ms/hs siblings; students will wait outside of main office	Sibling exit		

Questions Related Directly to the MS/HS

Will there be a sixth-grade orientation?

Yes, there will be 6th grade orientation, but a decision of in-person or virtual orientation has not been decided. From our experience, one of the main concerns for the students each year is learning to open their lockers. If we orientation is held virtually, our teachers will build in time on the first couple days of school to teach the students how to work the combination locks that are on the lockers. If your child has a specific concern about transitioning to the middle school, we are willing to work with the family on an individual level. Please reach out to Mr. Radcliffe at david.radcliffe@bb-sd.com.

What is the MS/HS's arrival and dismissal schedule? If the Middle School starting at 9AM, when is the earliest the students will be admitted?

The doors will open at 8:45 and students will be able to use multiple entrances to avoid congestion. A detailed map of entrances and exits will be posted in the upcoming weeks.

How will you plan for cohorts at the MS/HS?

Answer: The "cohort" model will be used primarily at the elementary schools. Since not all students take the same classes at the MS/HS, the "cohort" model is not as practical.

Will students still be able to take electives? Can my child take band but not march in the Band?

Answer: Elective courses will be offered at the middle/high school. There will need to be modifications made to meet distancing requirements.

We recognize that not all families are ready to reintroduce activities and athletics to their children. Participation for the 2020-2021 school year is optional and based on the families' decision. Students will remain members of the band and athletic teams, but participation will be left to the families to decide based on each family circumstance. So, if you do not wish for your child to participate in the marching band, they will still be part of the program, will be able to participate in concert band, and may resume participation when you are comfortable that it is safe for your child to participate.

How will the temperature of classrooms be regulated?

Answer: Thanks to the Middle School PTSS ceiling fans have already been installed in classrooms without air-conditioning at Brentwood Middle/High

School. Heat in the buildings and the necessity of wearing masks or face coverings is being considered. On days with excessive heat, it may be necessary for in-person learning students to work remotely for health and safety reasons. A heat plan is being developed.

How are dealing with classrooms that don't have air conditioning at the high school?

Answer: In the high school all classrooms are equipped with ceiling fans. There is also consideration being given for days with excessive heat. If the temperatures are extreme all students may be required to attend school remotely on those days for health and safety reasons.

Questions Related Directly to Mon Valley

Have any decisions been made about students returning Mon Valley?

Mon Valley School is run by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3. AIU3 has yet to provide information to the feeding school districts on how they will be re-opening their programs.

Questions Related Directly to Steel Center

What will the day look like for students attending Steel Center?

Steel Center is working with all member schools based on their needs for re-opening. As of Friday, July 31, Steel Center released a survey to gather information about reopening. There are two options for returning to Steel Center online and in-person. As of today, if your child is attending Steel Center CTE they will report at their regular time for bus transportation to Steel Center. The adjusted schedule is such that the students will arrive back to Brentwood High School for their fourth period class. This will all be dependent on the ability of both schools to be re-opened for face to face instruction. Please respond to the survey listed on the Steel Center Website.

Is bussing still available for Steel Center? Do students have to take the bus?

Busing will be provided by the Brentwood Borough School District. If you are uncomfortable with your child or children being transported by bus you are welcome to provide your own transportation to and from Steel Center CTE. However, you are responsible for all arrangements and costs being that transportation is being provided and an available option.

Is there a deadline for students to opt out of Steel Center and schedule classes at the high school?

Answer: There is not a deadline set for this decision. However, it is to your advantage to make the decision as early as you can to provide the best opportunity to run a schedule for your child.

Questions Related to Option 1: In-Person Instruction Students and Teachers

How will students change classes?

Answer: Students at the Middle High School will be required to move due to the required certifications needed to teach the class as well as the fact that not all students take the same classes. At the elementary level students will stay in their classroom and teachers, including specials, will rotate into the classroom. Students who receive supplemental services may be pulled out to small group or individual sessions to receive those services.

If students have to change classrooms will the rooms be sanitized in-between each class?

Answer: Students will be required to change classrooms. During the transition, the cleaning of desks will take place with school approved cleaning products.

With teachers moving at the elementary level, how will they be protected and how will they minimize the spread between "pods"?

Answer: The CDC and the Allegheny County Department of Health recommended moving teachers rather than students to decrease the potential spread of the virus. Teachers will be required to wear masks or face coverings. Proper hygiene procedures will be enforced. Physical distancing will be stressed.

Will in-person students have additional work to do as a result of the shortened day?

Answer: While the physical school day schedule has been shortened, the amount of instructional time will not be shortened. At the elementary level 180 days of instruction or 900 hours must be met. At the secondary level 180 days or 990 hours of instruction must be met. Teachers will introduce new concepts during in-person instruction, and students will work independently during the virtual instructional time. The workload will be balanced for in-person and online work.

Why are elementary students getting out earlier than ms/hs students?

Answer: The decision was made to assign the teachers office hours for virtual instruction to the elementary students in the afternoon which meant that the in-person classes would begin earlier. Recognizing that our elementary students are picked up by older siblings, elementary students will be assigned to rooms to work on independent assignments until the older siblings are released from school.

Will siblings at the elementary schools be starting at the same time?

Answer: All elementary students will begin at approximately the same time. The difference will be staggering how the students enter the buildings. This will allow for elementary siblings to walk to school together.

How will students be grouped for in-person instruction?

Answer: We recognize that students' abilities can vary drastically. The survey results will assist in determining how the students are grouped. If students require enrichment or remediation, these services will be provided during the school day. This may include pull-out services.

Are there be school supply lists?

Answer: School supply lists are posted on the elementary school websites. Students at the MS/HS will be informed of any supplies they will need by their teachers during the first week of school.

How many days a week will students attend if they choose in-person?

Answer: The answer to this question depends on the number of families that opt for in-person instruction. Class sizes are limited to accommodate between 3 and 6 feet of physical distancing. If more families request in-person and the 3 to 6 feet cannot be maintained, then a rotating/hybrid schedule would be utilized.

[Questions Related Directly to Food and Drink](#)

Will students be able to bring water bottles to school?

Answer: Students will be able to bring water bottles to school that can be filled by the touchless water bottle fountains. The preference would be for bottles to be, no sweat, plastic or metal water bottles.

How do you sign up for the lunch program?

Answer: To apply for the Free or Reduced lunch program, an application must be completed. The application will be posted on the each of the school's

website. If students attend the in-person option, they will order lunch in the classroom. If students are participating in the Brentwood Canvas Online program, an order form will be created and parents will have access to it through the Canvas program.

Are students permitted to bring a lunch from home?

Answer: Students may bring a lunch from home. Please do not pack items that require refrigeration.

Is there a breakfast program?

Answer: Yes, breakfast will be served at the Middle High School from 8:45-9:00am. At the elementary school breakfasts can be pre-ordered and students can start to come in for breakfast at 7:45 am.

[Questions Related to Masks & Physical Distancing](#)

What are the rules for wearing masks at school? Will masks be provided? Are face shields acceptable?

Answer: Updated guidance on July 16, 2020 states: All students must wear a face covering (cloth mask or face shield) that covers their nose and mouth inside the school and while outside when physical distancing is not feasible. Children two years and older are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team. If you are adamant that you do not want your child to wear a mask the in-person option may not be the right decision for you and your child. We would suggest you choose the remote learning Canvas option.

Heat will be taken into consideration and a plan is being constructed to address this concern. On days with excessive heat, there may be a need for all students to be remote for safety reasons. However, we are expecting all students to wear masks while in the building to comply state and local safety guidance. Parents/guardians choosing the in-person option should consider masks or face coverings as part of their decision. Masks and face coverings are an additional layer of protection to safeguard students, teachers, and staff from the potential of spreading COVID-19.

Masks breaks will be established by teachers in daily routines and must account for the additional requirements of physical distancing by a minimum of six feet. Face masks and coverings are permitted to be removed in the cafeteria for the purpose of eating and drinking. Face masks and coverings

are critical in preventing airborne particles from being spread. We must do everything we can as a school community (handwashing, reduction of contact, social distancing, and wearing facemasks) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 which will keep in-person learning as an option.

On July 30, 2020, the Allegheny County Health Department confirmed that a face mask or face covering may be used to be compliant with the Secretary of Health's order issued on July 1, 2020.

Are students required to bring a mask/face covering from home?

Answer: Students will be expected to bring a mask or face covering to school. A parent will be called to bring a mask or face covering to school, if a student forgets to bring one. Students that are unable to wear a mask or face covering or take their masks or face coverings off will need to maintain 6 feet of distance between them and other people, including staff members.

How will the district instruction staff, students and families about procedures related to wearing face masks or coverings?

Answer: Instruction and training will be provided to teachers and students for all aspects of safety in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Handwashing, physical distancing, and the proper wearing of masks will be addressed. In order to maintain in-person instruction and prevent the loss of students, teachers and staff due to exposure safety procedures being followed is critical. When violations are observed students will be redirected and reminded of proper protocol. Cooperation and adherence for all health and safety recommendations are critical for in-person learning to be able to take place and be maintained throughout the school year. We also request that parents and families review the proper protocols for handwashing, mask/face coverings, and physical distancing.

How will bullying be handled? Will students who remove their masks and cough and breath on my child be punished? How will things like this be monitored and enforced?

Answer: Student behavior issues are addressed as outlined by District policy, student code of conduct as listed in the student handbook and at administrator discretion. Parents and families are a critical part of students' success. Parents and families can assist by modeling kindness and tolerance.

Are face shields acceptable over masks for the younger kids?

Answer: Face masks are the recommended method to prevent the spread of airborne particles over face shields. The Brentwood Borough School district

is recommending face masks as opposed to face shields. However, face shields are permissible.

Will physical distance be monitored?

Answer: Yes, provisions for physical distancing have been considered in the planning for the classroom, hallways, common areas and cafeteria. Signs, distance markers, and reminders will be posted throughout the building. Cooperation and compliance to these recommendations are paramount to the success and safety of in-person learning.

When students are in the hallways, how will social distancing be accomplished?

Hallways will be one of the challenges at the MS/HS in terms of physical distancing. Students will be required to wear masks while traveling through the hallways. In addition, adjustments such as “up” and “down” stairwells are being considered to avoid face to face contact as much as possible. At the elementary level bathroom breaks will be coordinated with teachers and student travel will be limited. Students will be reminded to maintain 6 feet of distance while transition into the building, to lunch, and during exiting the building.

What is the maximum number of students in each classroom? How is this determined?

Answer: The classroom measurement will determine the number of students in a classroom. Another factor will be how many families choose in-person verses online instruction.

Please clarify the 3ft and 6ft distancing in the classrooms.

Answer: The in-person classes will be kept to a minimum of 3ft. When possible, six feet will be used for physical distancing. The number of students that choose in-person will determine whether the class is physical distanced by 3ft or 6ft.

[Questions Related Directly to Classes](#)

What will gym class look like this up-coming school year?

Answer: Gym classes will take place with modifications. Locker rooms at the middle/high school will not be available. Changing for physical education will not be required. Modifications will be made to activities that will exercise social distancing and reduce student contact.

At the Elementary level, all special classes will be held in the homeroom classroom. The Special Area teacher will come to the classroom for the lessons.

Are AP and elective courses such as foreign language available remotely?

Answer: All in-person classes will be made available online. This includes AP courses.

Learning a language can be quite tricky initially. How will foreign language classes be handled via Canvas? How much instruction or hands-on learning?

Answer: Foreign language classes will be offered in the remote Canvas format as well as in-person instruction. The on-line Canvas format is being designed to match the in-person class as much as possible. Teachers will have the ability to post videos and link supplementary resources to Canvas as well.

How will classes that use shared equipment be handled?

The on-line format will have to be modified. For example, it will not be possible to run a CNC remotely. However, the concepts and the processes can be modified for on-line students to understand the same content without using the physical machines. Canvas offers the teachers the ability to post video and offer supplementary resources to assist on-line students. The teachers will design the on-line courses to match the physical course as best as possible. Some courses, like in this example, will need to be modified.

How will any class that requires equipment (chemistry, biology, TED, band) be handled for online learning?

Answer: Under the in-person format sanitation and disinfecting will be necessary for any touch surfaces for shared equipment. Wipes and other items to accomplish this will be provided in the classroom. Modifications will be made to the curriculum and instruction to address areas that may be at risk to transmit COVID-19. The band has structured their halftime show in a manner to maintain social distancing and instruments that could produce airborne particles have been placed in such a way to avoid contact towards participants. There are other items that are being addressed by our personnel to enhance safety in performance areas. All activities in these areas will be analyzed and modifications will be implemented to protect students and teachers within the recommended guidelines.

With students remotely completing the end of the 2019 - 2020 school year, how will curriculum be adjusted?

Answer: All teachers are aware that content may have been impacted by the end of the 2019 - 2020 school year. As such, teachers will continue to use formative and benchmark assessments for students to determine their instructional levels and to provide differentiated instruction to address individual learners' needs.

Questions Related Directly to Health and Safety

What symptoms should I look for in the morning to determine if my child should attend school?

Answer: Communication with the school nurses and teaching staff will be critical. If your child has documented history of a runny nose due to allergies, then we recommend contacting your child's teacher to inform him/her of the condition. If your child begins to display symptoms that are not typical, then it is requested that your child remain at home until his/her pediatrician is able to provide medical guidance.

Will students be screened by school staff prior to their admission to school?

Answer: Each building has a nurse scheduled 5 days a week. The latest guidelines released by the CDC on July 23, 2020 discourage universal screenings by schools. The reason is that most students are asymptomatic for COVID-19. The temperature screenings will only inform the school if a fever is present. Parents are so important in the home screening process. School staff will recommend students to the school nurse if a student displays symptoms while at school. The school nurse would evaluate the student and contact the family to arrange pick-up of the child.

Will temperature screenings be conducted as students enter the buildings?

Answer: The CDC's most recent guidance discourages this from taking place.

Will staff temperature screenings be conducted every day?

Answer: Staff members will be asked to self-report daily. A COVID-19 checklist will be provided to staff members to be completed daily.

Are there full-time nurses in each school?

Answer: Yes, full time nurses are scheduled for each building.

How will families be notified of possible exposure to a COVID-19 positive person?

Answer: Yes, a flow chart for informing families of a positive case or a suspected positive case was created. We will follow the steps of notification and medical intervention that is requested. There is a step-by-step process for a positive report or a person who may be exhibiting symptoms. The flow chart will be posted prior to the beginning of school.

How is it going to be determined whether a child is sick with covid? If yes, how will you determine whether and how many other people may have been infected by that child?

The only true method to know if a person is infected with COVID-19 is a test administered by health professionals. If a student, teacher, or staff member are experiencing symptoms they will be sent home and asked to contact their primary physician. Only the health professionals can order a test or recommend actions on behalf of the individual. Under current protocols if there is a positive test the Allegheny County Health Department will notify the people directly in contact with the individual.

If a student tests positive, when can they return to school? Please explain when students can return for a general illness?

If there is a positive test and contact tracing has been conducted, all potentially exposed individuals will be asked to quarantine under the recommended timelines. Any non-related COVID-19 symptoms or illnesses may return as soon as the individual is healthy enough to return. Parents are to contact their child's pediatrician for guidance on returning to school after an illness.

Where can I find information on cleaning and sanitizing procedures?

Answer: The Health and Safety plan includes the cleaning and sanitizing procedures. Mandatory trainings for cleaning and sanitization sessions are continuously being scheduled to educate faculty and staff about COVID-19.

What specific cleaning products will be used?

Answer: We have a multitude of different products. We will be using the Clorox 360 machine which sanitizes a classroom in 2 minutes. This is a state-of-the-art electrostatic sprayer that sticks to all surfaces. In addition, a product called Re juv nul that is CDC approved along with alcohol wipes in each room. Schools are required to use an approved list of chemicals for cleaning.

Will the school be able to provide accurate amounts of sanitation for all students, as classrooms are changed, will everything be cleaned thoroughly?

Answer: Yes, cleaning schedules have been adapted to account for increased cleaning of the bathrooms and high touch areas.

How often will restrooms be cleaned?

Answer: All high-touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day. This includes restroom knobs. Teachers will build into daily schedules handwashing breaks.

At the elementary level, the bathroom doors will be propped open as well as the classroom doors.

When will students be expected to wash their hands?

Answer: Training must be done to educate students, teachers and staff on practices that are best for preventing COVID-19. Hand washing is highly recommended and will be promoted throughout all schools with reminders. As far as the number of sinks, we do have an appropriate number of sinks and restrooms based on state and county occupancy requirements.

Will hand sanitizer be available to students and staff?

Answer: Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the ALL buildings. The style of dispenser will be in adherence with the manufacturer and the sanitizer being used.

Can I send my child to school with his/her own personal bottle of hand sanitizer?

Answer: Schools must adhere to strict guidelines with regards exposing students to chemicals. Therefore, the district must provide the hand sanitizer used in the buildings. Hand soap will also be available in all bathrooms. If you child has an allergy to hand soap or hand sanitizer, please be sure to notify the school nurse and classroom teacher.

Are the classrooms air conditioned? Are there air purification devices in each room?

Answer: Not all classrooms have air conditioning, therefore, the following mitigation options are recommended, opening windows, doors, using ceiling fans and running univents.

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) stated “for schools to reopen safely, there must be attention to each school building’s physical design (e.g., ventilation systems)....” etc. How is this possible in elementary schools with outdated infrastructure and no A/C.

Answer: The guidance received from the Department of Education states to use the CDC and PA Health Department Guidance to the extent feasible. This is why we are providing the option to families for students to complete this school year online. The latest research indicates that the virus is spreading via the duct work in air-conditioned buildings. This is why the guidance also stresses to hold class outside as much as possible.

Can we have our child bring battery operated small fan for their desk?

Most classrooms have floor fans and we discourage students from bringing in their own fans and fans attached to water bottles as there is a limited amount of space on each child's desk.

What personal protective equipment will be supplied to staff?

Answers: Teachers and paraprofessionals will be provided with cloth masks or face shields. Teachers also can bring their own masks. Nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, and maintenance crews will have full PPE equipment.

How will substitute teachers be used?

Answer: Each building has two building subs to help when teachers call off. These subs report to the same building each day. Each building is responsible for providing coverage for absent teachers. Although it does happen in some certification areas, it is not often that a substitute teacher moves from building to building.

Are teachers and staff required to test prior to the opening of school?

The Brentwood Borough School District will not "require" testing. Testing is done under care and recommendation of a health care professional or physician. We are recommending that any student, teacher or staff member that experiences any of the symptoms of COVID-19 consult with their health care professional as soon as possible.

Are physical barriers being used in the schools? If so, where?

Answer: Plexiglass will be installed various locations throughout the buildings. It will not be installed in classrooms and cafeterias; however, adjustments are being made to allow for physical distancing such as limiting the number of students sitting at a table and using additional areas during lunch such as gymnasiums.

Are students that are at a higher risk of contracting the virus recommended to attend remotely?

Answer: We request that families consult with their pediatricians when making this decision.

Will the construction on the ms/hs be finished by the start of school?

Answer: The paving project is scheduled for completion at the end of August. This however will depend on factors such as weather. If there is still construction going on that could disrupt entrances or exits, families will be notified on how to proceed.

Can I get a gym excuse for the school year?

Answer: When a student is diagnosed with a medical condition, we request that the treating medical professional submit documentation outlining restrictions (if any).

Option 2: Remote via Canvas

Will the remote option be available for the duration of the 2020 - 2021 school year?

The remote option will be in place for this school year. If there would be an opportunity to return to full in-person instruction free of the risk if COVID-19 this would be ideal. However, we must plan and operate under the assumption that these restrictions will be in place during the 2020-2021 school year. The situation will be monitored throughout the school year and the appropriate recommendations will be made as we progress. Please note that families have the option to review the situation every 4.5 weeks within the quarter and can decide between the remote and in-person options. We encourage families to make the best decision that meets their family needs.

Will we still be using ClassDojo and Microsoft Teams? What is Canvas?

ClassDojo and Microsoft Teams will not be used as instructional interfaces moving forward. Canvas is a learning management system which is used by several universities, colleges, and public schools. It provides an interface that manages all the classes that the student is scheduled for during the school day. It is a place where teachers can communicate with the students through videos, postings and messages. It also manages, in one location, what assignments are due and when they are due. The advantage of using Canvas is that it is a software system that is designed to manage the tasks of teaching and learning for the teacher as well as the student. In Canvas you will be able to send and receive messages to the teachers.

What makes a remote program good?

Answer: A good remote program is expected to streamline the learning process for students by housing all information in one location. Professional development training has begun with the staff and face to face interaction with teachers and support staff will be available. Prior to students

returning to school, a video will be shared so that parents will know what to expect from Canvas.

Do we need internet access?

Answer: There are several outlets such as Comcast who offer free internet services for those who qualify. It is very important that if the on-line option is chosen that there is internet access in the home. The district will assist families in securing internet access.

Who teaches the Canvas classes?

Answer: Brentwood teachers will be teaching the online classes in Canvas.

What are the timelines for submission of work?

Answer: Due dates for assignments will be set by the teachers. Students who are online will have flexibility when to complete their work during the day, but still must meet deadlines posted by the teachers.

Can students still participate in electives and specials?

Answer: The students will be provided with the music and will be able to practice and learn the music that is being taught in the live class. The teacher will also have the option to post instruction and resources that would assist with the instruction of the music. Modifications are needed to adapt between the in-person instruction and the remote Canvas instruction.

What does a typical day in Canvas look like?

Answer: Students will have a lesson for each subject posted into Canvas. Students will be able to complete throughout the day.

From 7:45-8:45 a.m. and 2:15-3:15 p.m., middle and high school teachers will have this time to dedicate to on-line instruction. Canvas will enable the teachers to post videos and instructional materials to the students for review. Communication between the teacher and the student is also facilitated by Canvas. Each course will be posted to Canvas with the instruction and the assignments for each class. The remote option is full day for the students. The teachers will be designing the on-line courses to match the in-person instruction as much as possible.

Would students have online textbooks?

Answer: For textbooks that were purchased with an on-line subscription those will be made available to students.

Would students physically have textbooks working online?

Answer: This will be an individual teacher decision. Textbooks are a resource and a teaching tool, however the teachers may wish to supplement the information in a different format if they feel it is more beneficial for their on-line courses.

Will there be synchronous interactions between students and teachers?

Answer: Students will have the ability to interact with other students, although this will be a teacher decision.

The middle and high school teachers will have from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. to dedicate to on-line instruction. Canvas allows for different avenues of communication which is an improvement from the process implemented in the spring. There will be the ability for the teacher and the student to interact through the Canvas program.

Are teachers holding classes via zoom meetings or some other online platform? If so, why not?

Answer: Teachers will be given the option of holding live sessions, but there are also other avenues for teachers to interact with students in Canvas. Teachers can post lessons and videos relevant to instruction. Teacher also can communicate virtually with the student as well as a video conference option.

What does the Canvas program look like for students that had difficult time with the program from the spring which lacked a lot of teacher interaction?

Answer: There are more avenues for communication in Canvas for the teacher and the student. Canvas houses all of the courses in one location and provides a dashboard for assignments and due date. This is a marked improvement from what was offered in the spring.

Will the virtual class participants mirror the live classes, or are they being conducted separately?

Answer: They will mirror the in-person classes and will be conducted separately.

Is there any way students can zoom into a classroom and watch the teachers teach live?

Answer: Teachers will be given the option of holding live classes, but this will not be a requirement.

For the zoom meetings with the students to meet with the teachers. How often will this be expected to occur?

The number of interactions and contacts will be determined by the teacher as well as the student. The student may ask for help or contact. Teacher will also have the option to conference or communicate live with the student. This will be determined by both teacher and student needs.

Will parents need to support the teaching from home?

Answer: With any remote learning program, parents play an integral role in a student success. The teachers will have the ability to post instruction and there will be availability for contact. There will be some independent work on the part of the student, but Canvas provides a better format for communication and course management.

Do the schools have the internet bandwidth to be able to live stream all at once?

Answer: District increased the internet bandwidth in order to be able to live stream across the district, if necessary.

Choosing between In-Person v. Brentwood Canvas

Even if the school survey determines students should come on site, can individual families still decide we can keep our children at home. Will we still be supported at home if the majority wants to be onsite?

Answer: Yes, each family can choose “in-person” or remote learning for each of their children. Both options will be serviced.

Are waivers required for the in-person option?

Answer: There are no COVID-19 specific waivers that parents are being asked to complete.

Can there be a mix of in-person some days and on-line other days?

Answer: Mixing the on-line and in-person instruction is not an option at this time. However, you are welcome to choose between the two options every 4.5 weeks if you feel that one is working better than the other for your child/children.

If the amount of people choosing in-person exceeds the safe limits for classrooms how will students be rotated? Will parents get an option for days of attendance?

Answer: The number of students who wish to do in-person instruction will be determined by the survey. If many students want to return in-person then we will need to split the students. This would mean that the two groups would

attend in-person twice a week with the third day being a virtual day for all students. The District would assign which days the students would attend. The assignments would be based on class schedules.

If in-person is not five days, will students be required to complete work remotely?

Answer: Yes, remote work will be required for the in-person model for the five day a week and the hybrid model depending on the survey results and which one of the options is implemented. Students are required to complete 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours at the secondary level.

Can we still meet the teachers in-person if we select the remote option?

Answer: We desperately want our student to connect with teachers in-person, but we must balance this with the current orders. Teachers will be encouraged to schedule individual meetings with their students to foster relationships.

How much advance notice is needed if a child switches from in-person to remote, or remote to in-person?

Answer: We will have timelines established with specific dates. You will have the option every 4.5 weeks.

How do you plan for parents who decide to start online and then at the 4.5 week option want to change to in person learning? What happens to the spacing in each classroom?

The number of students within the classroom will have to be monitored. The student would be placed in the section that have the least amount of student in them and this will be different every 4.5 weeks. We anticipate some fluidity between both options and students will be placed where there is availability.

What are extenuating circumstances to change before the 4.5 weeks?

As an example, if a family had an elderly relative who was immune compromised move in with them, that would be a reason to allow a student to go from in-person to remote. This is just one example of an infinite number of possibilities.

Why are the in-person hours shorter this year?

The adjustment to the schedule allows the teachers time to work with the remote learners. In addition, it provides additional opportunities for the custodial/maintenance staff to clean and disinfect the building more often.

Questions Related Directly to Attendance

Please explain the attendance regulations for the up-coming school year.

Answer: The state requirements for attendance in 2020-2021 school year have not changed or waived as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. All requirements for compulsory attendance set forth in the law are still in place. The tracking and record keeping for attendance may look different, but school districts are still obligated to enforce the law as written. Each building administrator will work with families throughout the year because we understand that unique circumstances will arise.

If my child gets sick and needs to stay home for a day, can they attend the remote option for that day?

Answer: We are not requiring students who attend in person to complete the work in Canvas if they are ill for one or two days. Students who attend in person will need to provide a written excuse when they return to school and will be given time to make-up the missed work.

Will remote students need to login by a specific time each day?

Answer: Students working in Brentwood Canvas online will have flexibility when logging into complete work. However, it is important to note that students will be required to login each day and will be expected to meet deadlines for assignments provided by the teachers.

Questions Related Directly to Technology

Are laptops being provided to all students?

Answer: Yes, the district will move to a 1:1 program, but until the new devices arrive, preference will be given to those starting in Brentwood Canvas Online.

Can we use our own laptops or computers?

Answer: Yes, students who have their own reliable devices are encouraged to use them.
It is important to note that the District will not provide technical support to family owned devices.

Can students use their own laptops or do they have to use the issued Chromebooks?

Answer: Every student will be issued a device. When students are present in the school district for in-person instruction the district issued device is required. Outside of school you are welcome to use any device that suits your needs.

I have heard that the laptops are on back-order. We would like to go remote and we do not need a device to start the year. How do we let you know that?

Answer: All families that are planning on beginning the year remotely are welcome to email Mr. Jim Cassell at james.cassell@bb-sd.com to inform him that a district issued device is NOT required. Please note that the District will NOT be able to assist the family with any technical issues that arise on a family owned device.

Questions Related Directly to the Survey

Where do we access the survey?

Answer: The survey was emailed to each district family and is also available on each building's page of the district website. The survey will close on Sunday, August 2 at 3:00 p.m.

When is the survey due?

Answer: The survey will be open from Wednesday, July 29 at 8:00 a.m. until Sunday, August 2 at 3:00 p.m.

I have a question about the survey, who should I contact?

Answer: Please contact the building principal with any questions.

Questions Related to the YMCA

What are the hours of the YMCA program?

Answer: The YMCA will operate from 1:35 - 6:00 p.m. every day at the elementary schools.

How do we sign up for the YMCA program?

Answer: After the survey results are reviewed the YMCA will release a flyer for parent sign-ups. More information will follow in the next week.

Will the YMCA program run an after-school program if we have an in-person rotating schedule?

Answer: As long as schools are permitted to hold in-person classes the YMCA will provide their services M-F. If schools are ordered to close, then the program would have to be moved outside of the school building. The YMCA is attempting to secure a backup facility if this occurs.

Questions Related Directly to COVID-19 Plans

Will the school alert families if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

Answer: Due to confidentiality and privacy it will depend on what notification you receive. If you are directly impacted by a positive case (i.e. your child was in a classroom where a positive case was reported) you will be notified. If your child was not impacted directly by a report of a positive case then there would be no notification. Students and families who are directly impacted by a positive report would be notified. Please keep in mind that specific details such as names and specific information related to another child cannot be shared.

If a student tests positive for virus, how will that be handled for MS, HS, and elementary schools?

Answer: Due to confidentiality and privacy notification will occur but without names. If your child is directly impacted by a positive case (i.e. your child was in a classroom where a positive case was reported) you will be notified. If your child was not impacted directly by a report of a positive case, then there would be no notification. Students and families who are directly impacted by a positive report would be notified. Please keep in mind that specific details such as names and specific information related to another child cannot be shared.

Will students in class with a student who tests positive have to quarantine?

Answer: If a student may have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive person, families will be notified and asked to quarantine for 14 days prior to returning to school. The Allegheny County Health Department stated that they will work with schools who have a student(s) that tests positive. We will follow their guidance.

When can a student that has tested positive for COVID-19 return to school? Do they need documentation to come back?

Answer: The student's pediatrician will assist with the information to return to school. We request that the family remain in contact with the school nurse during the student's absence and return to school.

If a student has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and is sent home from school, will exposed students need to be quarantined?

Answer: The guidelines state that if a student is in close contact (defined as within 6ft for 15 minutes or longer) then the student will be asked to quarantine for 14 days. If a student develops symptoms during quarantine, then a new set of guidance becomes active. Our school nurses will work with families and their pediatricians throughout the year.

How do I find out the specific statistics for Brentwood?

Answer: Specific statistics for COVID-19 can be found on the Allegheny County Health Department's COVID-19 page.

Could schools be closed, and everyone have to go remote? What if that happens before everyone has a device?

Answer: It is possible that an entire school or school district close due to COVID-19. If this were to occur, all our students would transition to remote learning. Therefore, the District chose to move to Canvas and provide each student with a Chromebook. If this occurs prior to the Chromebooks arriving, teachers will create paper packets for those families that are unable to print information at home.

Questions Related Directly to Special Education

Will students that are gifted continue to receive their services?

Answer: Students will continue to receive educational programming to address all of the goals written into a student's GIEP, regardless of the program in which the student is participating- in In Person or Remote CANVAS programs.

What about curriculum for gifted students?

Answer: The curriculum used for Gifted programming will remain exactly the same as it has been in previous years. Due to COVID 19, we anticipate the cancellation of large group competitions.

What will the GATE program look like? Will there still be opportunity for enrichment? How would this be handled with online learning?

Answer: We expect little to no difference between Gifted programming between In Person and Remote options.

How will IEP's be implemented?

Answer: IEPs will be implemented as written. Special Education teachers will develop instruction geared to the student's needs and goals and will implement specially designed instruction. Special and general education will also continue to collaborate to make sure that the activities, instruction, and tasks presented to students is in compliance with their current IEP. Progress toward the student's IEP goals will be monitored and parents will continue to receive quarterly IEP progress reports (at report card time).

If a child does have IEP will they still be able to have that help like before?

Answer: Yes, the district is bound by Federal regulation to ensure that all student IEPs are followed, regardless of option chosen-In Person or Remote.

How will IEP meetings be conducted?

IEP meetings will be held in manner that promotes the health and safety all attendees. Some families may request to meet in person at the school. Meetings will be held following the district's Health and Safety procedures- participants will be asked to wear face coverings or maintain a six foot distance from other attendees. Some families may opt for virtual IEP meetings. The district will arrange these meetings through Zoom or MS Teams platforms. Other families may opt for a telephonic IEP meeting where all Team members will participate via telephone.

For children with IEP are we still going to hold a meeting to discuss what's going to happen?

Guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education has put out guidance suggesting that IEP Teams be reconvened early in the school year to discuss student progress, determine baseline levels, and to discuss if each student needs any supplemental instruction or services. The need for compensatory education time will be determined by the IEP Team.

A parent has the right to request an IEP Team meeting at any time to discuss any questions or concerns they may have concerning their special needs child. To request an IEP Team meeting, families should call the Special Education Office at 412-881-4940 ext. 2215.

Are children that get pulled from class for one on one still going to get that option?

Answer: The District will continue to implement IEPs as written. If students were pulled from the general education classroom for instruction

with a special education teacher in the past, that option will continue in both the In-Person and Brentwood Canvas Online options.

Can students with IEP's be given the option to attend five days a week if there is a rotational schedule for in-person instruction?

Answer: This is dependent upon the results of the parent survey.

If too many children sign up for in person classes will students with IEP's be considered for a 5 day a week schedule rather than part time?

Answer: Under the current options presented to families, ALL students are being considered for a five day a week schedule.

What services will be provided remotely?

Answer: The school district is required to provide ALL services listed in a student's IEP to students, regardless of option chosen-In Person or Remote. Speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, services for the deaf and hearing impaired, and educational interpreter services are able to be successfully delivered remotely.

Will speech-language services be provided virtually?

Yes, speech therapy services will be provided remotely to students who are not attending the In-Person program. Due to the shortened school day, there may also be the occasion when speech therapy services would be delivered remotely to a student who was attending the In-Person classes.

What about the emotional support/ therapeutic services that some students receive? Will they have access to those programs?

The District is continuing our relationship with Mercy Behavioral Services for school based mental health to students in need. As long as school buildings remain open, mental health therapists will be available to see students on site. Mercy Behavioral Health has also offered Tele-therapy appointments to students who continue to need to be seen but who could not be seen in the school environment due to closure. As Mercy Behavioral Health is a separate entity which functions under medical insurance guidelines, the district cannot mandate that they conduct mental health services remotely.

Have you received guidance from the AIU regarding speech therapy? One would think speech patterns -meaning seeing/hearing the speech pathologist make the sounds- is key to this. With needing to wear a mask, how will this work?

The speech therapists working with students this year are now district employees and will be adhering to the same guidelines and procedures as all other district staff. The district recognizes the fact that children need

to see the speech therapists' face and mouth to model appropriate articulation of sounds. Staff is being given clear face shields as well as face coverings for use when working with students. Speech therapists may remove face mask but utilize the plastic face shield and ensure social distance when conducting In Person speech therapy.

Questions Related Directly to Communications

Will you please send the updates/emails in English language? Most of the Nepali speaking population in Brentwood understand English better than Nepali. Also, the Nepali translated version are not as clear as English.

Answer: Thank you for bringing this to the district's attention. We will continue to investigate methods to make the messages clearer for all families. The district is required by Federal regulation to communicate with families and send out updates/emails/phone calls in the family's native language as parents/guardians have documented on their children's enrollment forms.

Es posible subtítular en español?...

Answer: The Options for Return to School webinar was translated in three languages- Arabi, Spanish, and Nepali. Families can find these recordings on the district website.

Questions Related Directly to Sports and Extra-curricular Activities

Can parents come to events or can they be streamed?

Answer: Guidance released on 7/30 and 7/31 indicate that there are to be no spectators at sports or activity events. As soon as additional guidance is received, we will update this sections.

Can my child still take band class but not march in the band?

Answer: Yes, for this year students can enroll in band class without participating in the marching band. Students will still be members of the band and/or athletic teams and may choose not to attend in person. We are leaving this decision to the families based on their circumstances for high risk people who may be in the home.

Please clarify the differences between the guidelines for outdoors/ sports and in-doors/ school.

Answer: We are following the guidelines for physical distancing gatherings for both indoor and outdoor activities. All sports and activities have adjusted their attendance and participation to meet the social distancing

and gathering guidelines with multiple sessions and limited number groupings of students. We are following state and county guidelines, the athletic and activity safety plan, as well as guidance from the PIAA. Under the current number restrictions, we may not be able to host events based on the numbers. We will comply with state, local and PIAA guidance with regards to proceeding with sporting events. Under the current guidelines we are able to allow teams and activities to practice. We will monitor the situation for games.

Questions Relating to the Start and Interruption to School

Will there be a delay to the start of school?

Answer: Depending on the survey results, school for students may be delayed by one week. Parents and families will be notified by next week if this will occur. As of today, students are to return on August 24,2020.

If there are reduced hours, and remote learning, does this effect total time in school, prolonging the school year?

Answer: The school year will not be prolonged due to the reduced physical hours. The school year will be prolonged if the students start back a week later.

Just out of curiosity, what if you have teachers who have high risk conditions or high-risk family members will they be given the option to teach from home?

Answer: A survey has been released to faculty and staff to determine if there are staff members that fall into the high-risk category. After the results have been examined accommodations may be made for these individuals based on need. This is a personnel matter and as such individual names and positions would not be released.

What happens in a shared custody situation if parents disagree on options for back to school?

Answer: The District would not make the decision for the family. The District would follow the court order issued by a judge.

Can you post the responses from the surveys for all parents to see? I'd be curious what other families are doing.

Answer: Yes, the overall results of the parent and family survey will be posted.