

2020-21 School Year Plan to Reopen the Buildings
Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 8.4.20

If I can drive my children a few times a week, or only in the mornings, should I put that on the response card?

No – only if you can do it every day. We need to account for the number of seats we need on the bus, even if it is only a few days or times in the week.

Will students be following a rotation throughout the day to various classrooms or remaining in one classroom at one desk throughout the day?

They will rotate at the M/HS. Students at the elementary will stay in the room for most of the day except for lunch, some specials and if their teachers switch for math & reading.

How will desks be cleaned between students (since they're not wearing masks in the classroom).

Teachers will have a sanitizing product in the rooms, so students can wipe their own desks. We do not have the capacity to have custodians wiping every desk after every period. The larger concern is not transmission on surfaces, but by air. Some students are uncomfortable about the masks. Everything we read in preparing our plan leads us to focus on the six feet of separation to allow no masks in class. Some rooms are not big enough, so students will have to wear masks in those rooms.

Where will students be eating lunch? If eating in the cafeteria, how will social distancing be handled - students getting and eating their food? Will masks be worn (except for eating)?

At the High School, we added a third lunch shift and added tables, so students can sit easily six feet apart. For the elementary cafeteria, we purchased dividers to put down the middle of the table to provide the protection needed where we cannot achieve six feet of separation naturally. Both cafeterias will offer limited menu and the food will be prepackaged so there is no waiting or time spent in line or touching serving tools. Masks will not be required while eating.

If the remote learning option is chosen, how will the students interact with their teacher? I read that there will be recorded and live interaction and the last hour of the day is a designated remote learning time. I just wondered what would happen if the students have a question not in the designated time.

The remote learners will be one day behind the school-based learners. Teachers will post instructional videos and presentations from today's lesson at the end of the day. The students at home will watch the videos and do the same work the next day. We expect teachers to have some synchronous interaction with students, but not necessarily every day. If the remote students have troubles, the teachers will connect with them during the hour at the end of the day. It is possible some teachers may have periods during the day assigned to them for remote learners, which will help. No guarantees that all teachers get those periods. It all depends on the number of remote learners we end up with.

Grading Scale -Will remote learning students be given an actual grade or pass/fail (like the final 9 weeks of last school year)?

Everyone at school and at home will have the traditional grading scale.

Will teachers and support staff have the ability or right to make students go to the nurse if they appear to be ill? I know parents are supposed to do a Coronavirus check before the children leave the house.

Yes, we expect to do our best to control that.

I would like to know about the sanitation process after each day for the children in-school?

All high touch surfaces will be sanitized multiple times throughout the day. There will be a supply of sanitizing wipes in each classroom, so students or teachers can wipe desks as needed. The evening crew will use a hospital grade disinfectant on desks and high touch surfaces as well as an electrostatic sprayer to reach all surfaces in the rooms.

Are the buses going to be sanitized after each run? Will they be clean for the HS students in the morning and afternoons? Will they be cleaned after the HS bus run for the elementary students in both afternoon and morning? If so, who will be doing the cleaning?

The bus drivers have the same hospital grade disinfectant to use on their bus between runs and at the end of the day.

Will the janitors be the individuals who will be in charge of cleaning the facility each day/night?
Yes.

Will there be additional air filtration systems in each classroom?

No additional systems will be in the rooms. The settings on our systems will be increased to obtain fresh air exchanges in the amount of 6 times per hour. For comparison, a hospital operating room exchanges the air 12 times per hour. A typical house gets about one exchange per hour.

For the elementary, will recess require masks and will the equipment be cleaned after each use? Will the playground be shut down completely?

We are still working on that. We are not sure how much we can do yet. We think we can get some of it done, like the swings, and close equipment we cannot safely clean, like the slides.

How will our HS students "change classrooms" without being 6ft apart? Will masks need to be worn during the classroom change?

Masks will be worn during class changes. We plan to keep students moving in the same direction by keeping to the right.

If I choose to go with virtual learning is that at 100% or can I choose a rotation between both? For instance, I would like to do a mixture of both for both of my students. I really love the idea of rotating M,W (Wednesday is not on the BASD flyer) and F and TUE Thur. Can that still be an option for our family?

We are not sure how we could manage the various rotations like the one you described. If we are following a hybrid model, we would have students in two cohorts. One cohort comes in on Mondays and Tuesdays. Everyone is remote on Wednesdays. The other cohort is on campus Thursdays and Fridays. We also are allowing flexibility for students to be fully remote but come to campus for one or two classes per day, like science lab or an elective.

If we go back to school and there are students/teachers/faculty/staff who test positive for COVID, will the school be shut down?

We will have to follow the directions of the PA Department of Health when we have a positive case. I am told they will provide specific directions on how to handle each case.

Will parents be notified immediately?

Yes, within the laws of HIPPA.

How will BASD handle a potential positive COVID case?

Call the PA Department of Health and follow their directions.

I want to know about my children's progress in school and feel that the communication between teacher and parent was lacking.

Communication was an issue; we are working on some tools to make that better.