



Burlington County Special Services School District
www.burloschools.org

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Potential**

Dr. Christopher Nagy
Superintendent of Schools
cnagy@burloschools.org

Dr. Lisa J. English
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction
lenglish@burloschools.org

Dr. Ashanti Holley
Assistant Superintendent
Equity and Diversity
aholley@burloschools.org

Mr. Andrew C. Willmott
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary
awillmott@burloschools.org

July 18, 2020

Dear BCSSSD Community,

The road taken over the past few months has been nothing less than unprecedented. This has been a challenging environment for you as the parents and guardians of your child as well as our students and staff. All have been pushed to the extremes, but we have worked closely together through it all. We have heard from a number of you via our teachers, staff and administrators as well as through surveys you completed that have allowed the administration to make some progressive changes to running a virtual environment while having an eye on September.

Whether your child is participating in ESY and/or our summer social outreach sessions, we have been working behind the scenes to create an opportunity for all of our students and staff to return in September. Based on the work of the District Re-Opening Task Force and Task Force Subcommittees comprised of educators, administrators, Board members, union leadership, Freeholders, Department of Health, Police Chiefs and parents among others and in collaboration with fellow Special Services School Districts in New Jersey, we are moving forward with arrangements to be ready for a full day and every day student and staff schedule commencing in September 2020.

That being said, we have looked extensively at ***The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education for New Jersey*** as well as other key documents to assist us in the creation of plans to provide an environment which is safe and reflective of the social distancing guidelines while addressing the educational and social and emotional needs of our students and you. Our Task Force has been charged to look at the day in the life of a student in an in-person environment from the bus stop to dismissal and the bus ride home and all that takes place in between and beyond the school day.

We have spent significant time on addressing the 10 critical areas identified in ***The Road Back*** document noted above. We are also working on appropriate professional development for our staff and students to migrate through the new environment and what to expect when retuning to campus in person. I am grateful to your association leaders, representatives, the Board, Freeholders, community members, Department of Health, Office of Emergency Management and local Police Chiefs, administration among others for the tireless hours and conference calls resulting in the creation of action plans to address the reopening of schools in September. Contingency plans are also being considered if upon the return in person, a student or staff member comes down with Covid-19 or if we are required by the Governor to open school virtually. In short, we are prepared for all options.

Westampton Campus
20 Pioneer Boulevard
Westampton, NJ 08060
(609) 261-5600, ext. 2218

Alternative School
1020 Briggs Road
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054
(609) 261-5600, ext. 2501

Lumberton Campus
71 Ark Road
Lumberton, NJ 08048
(609) 261-5600, ext. 4430

Transition Campus
20 Pioneer Boulevard
Westampton, NJ 08060
(609) 261-5600, ext. 3100



Some key changes you should expect to experience will be the screening that our students and staff will undergo prior to entering the building, namely having a temperature taken. Parents will be asked to complete questionnaires relative to standard CDC questions regarding your child's symptoms that morning which adds an additional layer of protection to students and staff. If a student is found to have a temperature before entering a building, the student will be held in a designated supervised area and the parent or guardian will be called to pick up the student. This is why it will be important for parents to assess their child's vital signs prior to boarding the bus or driving to school.

To assure the maximum precautions, the District is requiring all staff and students to wear masks. We will be looking to provide each student and staff member five masks with a clear see-through area around the mouth. We hope to have the masks in time so that parents and guardians can assist their child in the practice of wearing masks prior to the start of school. In addition, we have identified areas where there is a need for splash guards and will have them in place as well as schedules for ongoing sanitization and deep cleaning throughout the day and evenings. The administration is working on the maximization of space in buildings including gyms, cafeterias, and all-purpose areas and across various buildings to assure social distancing, traffic flow and continuity of services and instruction. Expect to see sanitizing stations throughout the building. Expect that breakfast will be prepared and served in your child's classroom and lunches will be served in the same manner.

We are working on a series of policies and regulations in the Covid-19 environment inclusive of contact tracing and contingencies in a building if a student or staff member comes down with Covid -19. We will be working closely with the local Burlington County Department of Health as we have since March.

As developments occur, we will be providing additional updates to you concerning our September reopening. Thanks so much for your continued assistance and support.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Christopher Nagy
Superintendent

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