



## BCS Family Guide to Fall 2020

### Student Learning Options – Fall 2020

#### Traditional Learning

BCS will offer an option of traditional, face to face instruction for all students, K-12. Students will experience a traditional school day in accordance with applicable health and safety protocols.  
*Prior to choosing in-person learning, please review safety protocols outlined below.*

#### Digital Learning

BCS will also offer a digital learning option for all students, K-12, including tuition students. The digital learning option will require a significant commitment from students and parents, as it will be a full semester commitment (90 instructional days). In order for students to be successful with digital learning, parents must be willing to provide adequate support at home. Digital learning will NOT look the same as the digital learning experience this past spring. Attendance, grading and accountability expectations will be consistent for students participating in either digital learning or traditional, face to face instruction. Digital learning will be taught by BCS teachers, and instruction will parallel face to face instruction provided in BCS classrooms. Specials/connections/elective courses may be limited for those students choosing the digital option. A separate digital learning request form must be completed for each student wishing to participate in digital learning by July 15.

### Safety Protocols for In-person Learning

#### Collective Responsibility

Returning to in-person learning requires collective responsibility for every BCS family. Failure to do such significantly compromises the health and safety of all students and staff. It is imperative, now more than ever, that families do not send their sick child to school out of convenience or medicate the child before school in order to reduce a fever. We all share a collective responsibility to monitor our child and do the right thing. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 the parent should contact the principal.

## Face Coverings

**Students:** We **strongly recommend** that students wear a cloth face covering when they are at school. Students will be **required** to wear cloth face coverings on BCS school buses. *Face coverings should be a solid color or one that has the BCS logo on it.*

**Staff:** BCS staff will be **required** to wear cloth face coverings when they are in the school common areas, such as halls, media centers, etc. and when social distancing is not possible.

## Guidelines for Returning After COVID-19 Symptoms or Positive Test

We will use guidance from the Department of Public Health to determine the protocols for staff and students to return to school after they have experienced COVID-19 symptoms, a COVID-19 positive test result, or has had close contact with a person who has COVID-19. At this time that information is changing so rapidly that we have chosen to wait until closer to the start of school to determine those protocols for our district to avoid any confusion.

## Classroom Protocols

To provide the greatest degree of social distancing and safety protocols, teachers will adhere to the following classroom guidelines:

To the greatest degree possible, separate student desks.

Students will be responsible to bring their own school supplies to each class. There will be no community supplies to avoid cross contamination.

Hand sanitizer stands and wall mounted dispensers will be located throughout the building.

All bathrooms will have paper towel dispensers.

Significant efforts to keep students grouped by class (and not mix or commingle students from different classes).

## Outdoor Activities/Recess (K-5)

Students will be permitted to use the playground equipment. There will be a limited number of classes at recess together, and they will utilize different areas of the playground. Students will wash/sanitize their hands before and after recess.

## School Meals (Breakfast/Lunch)

Breakfast and lunch will be served in the cafeteria. Students will be socially distanced based on school layout.

School Nutrition staff will wear masks and follow the DPH Food Employee Agreement. All items will be plated by staff or individually wrapped to avoid cross contamination. The pin pads and tables will be sanitized between each class. Students will be expected to wash their hands before coming into the cafeteria. Parents are encouraged to pay for meals through My Payments Plus.

## School Signage

Age- and developmentally appropriate signage will be placed throughout each school to remind students of personal hygiene (hand washing, coughing into arm, etc.) and social distancing from others.

## Safety Protocols for Transportation

### Social Distancing

Social distancing is most challenging on a school bus due to the limited space available. Strict physical distancing between riders of 6 feet is not practical as it would require as few as 12 riders per bus. It is required that **all students wear a cloth face covering while riding the bus** to and from school.

### Bus Windows

In an effort to increase ventilation on the bus, bus windows may be opened (weather permitting) while students are on the school bus.

### School Bus Cleaning and Disinfecting

Between the morning and afternoon bus routes, and at the end of the day, BCS staff will disinfect the buses.

## General School Considerations and Safety Protocols

### District Calendar / Breaks

Due to our beginning the 2020-2021 school year on Wednesday, August 5 as scheduled, we will not need to alter our district calendar.

### Attendance Incentives

Attendance requirements for awards, exam exemption, and Spirit Wear Fridays will be **discontinued** for this academic year. Tuition students will not have attendance requirements for this school year.

### Wolf Pack

Wolf Pack will continue to be offered for K-8.

## Limit Non-essential School Visitors

To protect our students and staff, BCS will limit non-essential school visitors to school campuses. All essential visitors will be subject to a temperature check and answering the following COVID-related screening questions:

- Do you have a **fever** (temperature over 100.4°F or 38°C) without having taken any fever-reducing medications?
- Do you have a **loss of smell or taste**?
- Do you have a **cough**?
- Do you have **muscle aches**?
- Do you have a **sore throat**?
- Do you have **congestion or a runny nose**?
- Do you have **shortness of breath**?
- Do you have **chills**?
- Do you have a **headache**?
- Have you experienced the new onset of any **gastrointestinal symptoms** such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite in the last few days?
- Have you, or anyone you have been in close contact with, been **diagnosed with COVID-19 or placed in quarantine** for possible exposure to COVID-19 within the last two weeks?
- Have you been **asked to self-isolate or quarantine** by a medical professional or a local public health official in the last two weeks?

## After-school Extracurricular Clubs and Activities

Students at all grade levels (in-person instruction and digital learning) will have the opportunity to participate in after-school extracurricular clubs and activities, based on ability to implement appropriate safety protocols and social distancing guidelines.

## GHSA-Sanctioned Athletics

BMS and BHS is working in collaboration with the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) to develop and adhere to appropriate guidelines for athletic practices and competitions in middle grades. We expect these guidelines to continue to evolve; each coach will provide updates to our student-athletes and their families, as appropriate.

## Student Field Trips

During Fall 2020, student field trips will be limited; consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis for field trips that achieve appropriate degrees of social distance and avoid comingling of students.