

# Bayonne Board of Education

## **Hybrid Instruction Plan**

*May 3, 2021*



**John J. Niesz**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

April 20, 2021

Dear Bayonne Community,

The goal of the Bayonne School district is to return to a hybrid learning platform with two (2) Cohorts and a remote instruction only option. Our goal is to return smartly, strongly, and safely. This plan offers options - we have included a plan as well as common questions that have been asked recently.

COVID-19 has created many challenges. We are confident in our plan and confident in our ability to keep our schools safe.

We will follow the same school hours that we have been using since September 2020. The district will offer Cohort A in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays. Cohort B will be offered in-person instruction on Thursdays and Fridays. The entire district will be remote every Wednesday. All those parents and guardians who have chosen the remote-only option will continue learning as they have since September 2020.

If you have not completed the survey for your child's return we have placed your student in our remote only option.

School hours will be the same as they have been. Faculty, secretaries, and support staff will be available virtually to assist students after each student's school day. Our goal will be to have our buildings dismissed after students leave so that we can maintain social distancing and cleaning can take place.

While we have prepared and planned for a multitude of scenarios, we understand you may have questions. If after reviewing this document you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's building principal, or if you are an employee contact your immediate supervisor.

I would like to thank all of our teachers, staff, administrators, parent-teacher organizations, parents, community members, Board of Education, Mayor Davis, and the City of Bayonne as we work as a team to open our vital schools for all of our learners.

Sincerely,  
John J. Niesz  
Superintendent

# May 3, 2021 Hybrid Instruction Plan

## Health and Safety Procedures

### Entrance Procedure

Screenings are intended to determine if an individual has COVID-19 related symptoms. Prior to entering any of our facilities or district grounds everyone must wear a mask and undergo a two-step process which includes the following:

Step 1: Symptoms Screening – Employees and students will be asked a series of questions regarding their health.

Step 2: Temperature Check – Employees and students will have their temperature checked using a noncontact thermometer/thermal imaging. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will not be permitted into the building.

## Social Distancing

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, we must ensure social distancing. This may include limiting group sizes, creating cohorts, keeping students six feet apart, restricting non-essential visitors, and closing communal spaces. The following procedures will be in place across the district:

- Students will sit at desks that are in classrooms at least 6 feet apart to maximize space between students.
- 3-sided clear desk partitions will be used on student desks to help maintain social distancing.
- Signage, floor decals, and colored tape may be utilized to provide visual cues and ensure procedures are followed.
- No more than 2 people may occupy an elevator at a time.
- Staff break rooms will be closed or limited to use of single person at a time.
- Schools may consider the use of alternative spaces to accommodate in-person learning.
- Schools will assign entry and exit doors to reduce the number of students within a space.
- Breakfasts and snacks can be eaten in classrooms. We encourage single-use items.
- Water fountains will be turned off; staff and students should bring their own water.
- Movement of students around the building will be limited. Assemblies, meetings, and other large group gatherings will be canceled or held virtually.
- Classes of students in community schools will be kept together throughout the school day.

## **Face Masks**

The use of face coverings are mandated by the State of New Jersey as a strategy to reduce the risk of transmission. All employees, students, visitors, and anyone entering school or district buildings/grounds will be required to wear a face mask covering the mouth and nose. Protocol for wearing face masks include:

- Wearing a face mask is required for everyone while on school or district grounds.
- Wearing a face mask is required for everyone on school buses.
- Students and staff must arrive at school and work with a mask. No one will be allowed to enter the building without a mask.
- Face mask may be removed when using the restroom or during meal times as long as social distancing is maintained.
- Face mask may be removed if alone and the room is closed.
- Acceptable masks include disposable surgical masks or cloth masks.
- Exemptions:

Students, staff, or visitors for whom a face covering would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age. An alternative method is the use of a face shield.

Communication with someone who is hearing impaired and needs to see the person's mouth to communicate. A mask with a clear mouthpiece is available by the district.

### Hybrid Schedule

All students will attend their scheduled classes every day, whether the students are in school or at home. We will use the partial day bell schedule. Students at home will attend classes on the partial day bell schedule via Schoology. Students will have an additional opportunity to meet with teachers remotely during designated times after the partial-day schedule ends (within the regularly scheduled school day).

Schools will work with families to ensure that children in the same household will be assigned to the same cohort.

|                           | Monday                                | Tuesday                               | Wednesday                                 | Thursday                              | Friday                                |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Learning in person</b> | Cohort A                              | Cohort A                              | All Students Remote                       | Cohort B                              | Cohort B                              |
| <b>Learning from home</b> | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort B | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort B | Full-time Remote Students<br>ALL Students | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort A | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort A |

### Academics

#### Grading

The district’s grading practices remain the same in the 2020-2021 school year. The marking period calendar will be published on the district’s website.

#### Attendance

The district’s attendance policy remains the same in the 2020-2021 school year. Whether choosing an in-person hybrid or remote learning, students are expected to attend school each day that school is in session. Parents must notify the teacher or principal if their child is unable to attend or participate in the lessons/assignments on any given day.

We are moving our attendance officers to our community schools to offer more support to our community. Attendance officers will continue to collaborate with the school community and families to provide support.

### **COVID-19 Testing**

COVID-19 Testing is available for all students, families, employees on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Veterans Stadium located at the Bayonne High School. This testing is free and available to all. We encourage all to take advantage of this testing if you suspect you have been exposed to COVID-19. All employees have been offered the COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 Testing will be available on an as-needed basis and is available at all schools.

### **Contact Tracing**

The City of Bayonne Department of Health and the Bayonne Board of Education work in conjunction to conduct contact tracing. Upon notification of a positive case, the employee or student should notify the school nurse or Office of Health Services. The Office of Student/Employee Health Services will communicate with school and district level administration, as appropriate, to track the movement of the person who tested positive. Impacted individuals will be notified. Central Administration will also be notified to determine whether to close any school or any portion thereof.

All affected areas will be cleaned and sanitized prior to reopening. In-person students will engage in remote learning during the closure so that instruction continues without disruption.

### **Hand Washing/Sanitizing**

One of the most effective practices for preventing exposure and reducing transmission of the infection is regular hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer. The district is implementing the following procedures:

- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the district and in every classroom.
- Limited school supplies will be supplied, and each student will have their own school supplies.
- School-wide reminders for staff and students throughout the day to wash their hands.
- There will be a disinfecting schedule for restrooms and all high touch surfaces - such as - doorknobs, counters, tables, desks, and school surfaces.

### **Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols**

Schools and district buildings will be cleaned frequently throughout the day. Custodial staff will provide ongoing disinfecting to high contact surfaces such as student desks and chairs, doorknobs, hand rails, elevator buttons, light switches, soap dispensers, and faucet knobs using hospital grade disinfectant and electrostatic sprayers.

Wednesdays will be devoted to disinfect buildings for the next cohort

- Custodial staff will complete a cleaning/sanitizing checklist.
- All schools will receive electrostatic disinfecting machines and backpack misting machines.
- Custodial staff will routinely clean, and disinfect high contact areas.
- Custodial staff will maintain supplies such as soap, hand sanitizer and paper towels.
- Teachers and students will work together with custodial staff to promote a clean and healthy environment for everyone within each building. Each classroom will have sanitation kits that will include gloves and one use disinfectant wipes.
- Facilities will routinely replace air filters as needed to ensure proper ventilation

### **Transportation**

#### **Bus Transportation**

To protect our students and staff during travel to and from school the following strategies will be implemented during school bus transportation:

- Students and staff must wear a face mask while on the bus.
- The number of students on a bus will be limited to promote social distancing.
- All buses will be cleaned after each route, specifically high-touch areas such as entry handrail, front/back of seats, window handles, seat belts, door opener, etc.
- Students will be encouraged to stay socially distanced while at the bus stop. This must be a joint effort between families and school personnel.
- Students will load the bus from back to front in order to encourage social distancing throughout the bus ride.
- Students may be seated one per row.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus, and students will be encouraged to use it upon entry and exit.

### **Food Service**

- Mondays and Thursdays, 1pm-3pm will be breakfast and lunch pick-up
- Monday's pick up will include meals for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.
- Thursday's pick-up will include meals for Thursday and Friday.
- An adult should accompany their child to pick up meals at any one of the schools nearest to their home or current location.

### **Visitors**

To protect everyone's safety, visitors will not be allowed in our district or school buildings. In the event that a non-employee must enter the building, a face mask covering the mouth and nose is required and the visitor will be screened for temperature and complete the health screening tool available online and at all school entrances. .

Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms Upon Arrival: Fever, Chills, Shortness of breath. The district will follow to CDC Guidelines/ City of Bayonne Department of Health and the State of New Jersey executive orders when responding to students or staff presenting symptoms.

### **Field trips**

Students will experience virtual field trips, whenever possible.

### **Technology and Connectivity**

The district will continue to use Schoology to facilitate remote learning. The district will continue to provide devices.

### **Early Childhood**

Structures for safe in-person learning

- Physical Environment: Arrangement of classroom furniture and Interest Areas will be organized strategically to allow social distancing of students while minimizing the use of shared materials.
- Limited Choice: With Limited Choice, individual containers of materials/manipulatives for students to work with will be utilized.
- Large Group: This may occur while adhering to social distancing and/or including physical barriers on tables, turning tables to face the same direction, and having students sit on one side of the table.
- Choice Time/Interest Areas: Interest Areas will be reconfigured to maintain social distancing and cleaning guidelines.
- Small Group (Teacher and Teacher Assistant): Keeping to the social distancing guidelines and utilizing individual materials for students, small group instruction will occur daily.
- Gross Motor: When planning gross motor activities, the following may occur:  
Procedures will be established for disinfecting materials during and after outdoor activities and between each group's use.  
Individual baskets/buckets of equipment (e.g. hula hoops, beanbags) will be



used for students to play with per classroom.

The number of students engaged in group play will be limited to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after activities.

- Nap Time: During nap time, social distancing will be maintained between students.

### **Supports for Special Populations**

#### **Exceptional Learners**

The Bayonne Board of Education is committed to providing appropriate educational programs and related services for students with disabilities, to the extent possible in alignment with public health guidelines. To address the unique needs of students with disabilities staff will continue the work with families to collaboratively identify the services for each student that can be provided. Our district will provide training, resources, and tools to support IEP teams in determining the needed services.

- All special education services for students will occur in-person or remotely.
- General education/special education teachers and related service providers will work with families to discuss students' individual needs and access to the curriculum and progress toward IEP goals.
- General education/special education teachers will meet with students in person and virtually using online platforms through synchronous and asynchronous methods.
- The Office of Special Education will utilize various resources and tools to enhance learning for special education students.
- IEP team will have consistent data collection and service logs for use across all learning environments.
- The district will continue to identify, locate, and evaluate students suspected of having a disability and needing special education services.
- The district will complete evaluations in-person and remotely per public health guidelines.
- All IEP meetings will be held in-person or alternative format. The district will work with families to determine the most practical format to conduct IEP meetings.
- Case Managers and IEP team members will continue to contact parents and monitor special education services to determine progress toward a student's IEP goals.
- Family outreach and education will be provided to support families' understanding of remote learning and how to support their children.
- Equity in the provision of technology devices and internet access for special education students will be ensured.

### **English Language Learners**

The Bayonne Board of Education is committed to continuing to serve our English Language Learners. Whether in-person or during remote learning, staff will continue to implement instructional strategies to address the academic and language needs of ELL students. Also, district leaders and school support staff will continue to partner with families to provide resources and tools to ensure the academic success of ELL students.

- Bilingual and ESL services will continue to be provided to students.
- Bilingual and ESL teachers will meet with students in person and virtually using online platforms through synchronous and asynchronous methods.
- Bilingual and ESL teachers will collaborate and plan tailored lessons to meet the needs of English Language Learners. They will work to make the curriculum context comprehensible to students.
- Executed lessons will focus on helping students develop in the areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing with specific focus placed on developing speaking skills.
- The district's website will continue to offer parents information on school reopening, as well as tools to support at-home learning. Information on the webpage is made available in multiple languages by using the translation icon.
- Family outreach and education will be provided to support families' understanding of remote learning and how to support their children.
- Equity in the provision of technology devices and internet access for ELLs will be ensured.

### **Social-Emotional Learning and School Climate and Culture**

The Bayonne School District understands the stress and anxiety caused by long-term school closure and social isolation. All of these strategies will continue as the district returns to in-person learning.

- Daily check-ins by school social workers and school counselors.
- Individual and Group counseling sessions facilitated by school counselors.
- Counseling and mental health resources provided to families, as needed.
- Support staff including school counselors, psychologists, and social workers working flexibly across the school to address student needs.
- Social Emotional Learning interventions will be available
- Social Workers and School Counselors will continue to reach out to students and families who have not been fully engaged.

### **Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities**

Athletics and other co-curricular activities are an important part of our student's physical, social and emotional development and well-being. Please see our Athletic Departments website for further information each athletic team's season has been modified due to COVID-19.

Opportunities to participate in face-to-face co-curricular activities, as well as virtual activities, will be made available to students following public health and safety guidance. Where possible, we will continue to find ways to deliver these valuable services to our students.

### **Physical Education/Physical Activity**

We will provide an environment for safe and supportive instruction in physical education/physical activity.

In Physical Education:

- Students will be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and safe footwear to school that allows for safe movement and is appropriate for the weather to participate without the use of a locker room.
- Lessons will focus more on individual pursuits and skills rather than team sports or activities.
- Games or activities will not include the use of shared equipment.
- If gymnasiums or multipurpose rooms are used for instruction, doors, and windows will be kept open to maximize ventilation.
- Social distancing protocols will be in place.
- When possible, outdoor spaces will be utilized for instruction.
- When students are at home, activities that focus on motor skill development (self-toss and catch, catching with a parent or a sibling) will be provided.
- Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after physical education classes.

### **Additional Support**

We are confident that our teachers provided high-quality instruction via remote learning, but we also understand that some students will require additional support to catch up quickly. We will focus on a summer learning program that will help our learners close achievement gaps. We will also offer assessments in the summer and fall to focus on what each student needs to be successful in school.

### **Professional Development**

#### **Staff**

Professional Development provides staff with the information, guidance, and professional learning necessary to support in-person and remote learning instructional practices, new health and safety protocols, and strategies to identify and support students coping with trauma or grief. A calendar of summer professional learning opportunities will be available soon. A sample of topics include:

- Curriculum and Assessments
- Schoology
- Social and Emotional Strategies
- Special Education Resources
- Health and Safety Protocols

#### **Families**

The district is planning to host a Parent Academy in the summer of 2021 and in the fall of 2021 and will continue to engage parents throughout the school year. Our topics will be driven by parental requests as we work as partners to provide a great education to our learners.

The Bayonne Board of Education is committed to making this a safe, smart and strong learning experience for our students. As you are all aware COVID-19 changes, rules change, protocols change so we must inform you - that this plan may change as new information becomes available from the President of the United States, Center for Disease Control, State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education, County of Hudson, and/or the City of Bayonne. We thank you for your support during this difficult time and ask that you visit our district's website or call your child's school for the latest updates and information regarding the plan. We hope the next pages help you navigate some questions you may have about our opening -

# May 3, 2021 Hybrid Instruction

## Questions and Answers

### A. Glossary of Terminology

1. **Cohort:** a group of students based on their last name or specified school program
2. **Full-time Remote Learning Choice:** students who select to attend school remotely from home every day till the end of the school year
3. **Hybrid Schedule:** a schedule where some students are in a cohort attending school in person and/or at home
4. **Students Remote Schedule:** a schedule where all students are learning remotely; no students are reporting to school in person. This will occur every Wednesday or this may be necessary due to the public health situation or local circumstances.

### B. Health and Safety

1. **Why are students attending school on a Hybrid Schedule instead of attending school on a daily basis?**

New Jersey public schools must allow for social distancing to the maximum extent practicable in physical spaces such as classrooms, offices, buses, and hallways to ensure the safety of the entire school community. In order to maintain social distancing, schools are required to reduce the capacity of students physically attending school.

2. **Will students be required to provide their own face covering?**

Families should send students to school with an appropriate face covering. The Bayonne school district will issue one if they do not have an appropriate face covering or if they do not have access to one. [Face coverings](#) should cover one's mouth, nose, and fit properly. T-shirts, bandanas, gaiters, and masks with valves or vents are not acceptable face coverings in accordance with the [CDC](#).

3. **How will the school enforce wearing a face covering and social distancing?**

Face coverings are mandated for the entire school day. It is important that parents build a student's capacity to wear face coverings for extended periods of time. All staff and students have a responsibility to maintain social distance, to the maximum extent practicable. Students who fail to comply with these requirements may be removed from in-person learning and placed on full-time remote learning. If you have specific questions please contact your building principal or our special education department.

**4. Will parents be required to complete a daily COVID-19 Self Evaluation Checklist for their child?**

Parents must complete the daily COVID-19 Self Evaluation Self Checklist for their child every day their child attends school in person. The checklist will be available on our website prior to sending the student to school. The checklist will also be sent to all via email every day.

**5. Will there be temperature checks? If so, when will the temperature check take place?**

Yes, temperature check machines will scan each individual's temperature as they enter the building. This process will be supervised by security. Parents will be asked to take their child's temperature to complete the daily COVID-19 Self Evaluation Checklist prior to sending their child to school.

**6. How will social distancing be maintained in the hallways during arrival, transition and dismissal?**

With reduced capacity, designated hallways and stairwells may be limited to one way with social distancing signage and floor decals. Administrators will work to ensure social distancing.

**7. Will students change classrooms for each block?**

Yes, high school students will follow the schedule which limits hallway movement per day. In Community Schools all students will remain in class for the day and teachers will rotate into the classroom. There may be expectations for specific programs (i.e. special education or services a student needs)

**8. What precautions are taken to make sure the facility is well ventilated and sanitized?**

The nightly cleaning and disinfecting plan in accordance with CDC guidance and other industry best practices.

Electrostatic specialized sprayers will be used after the school day for disinfecting high-touch areas and they will be used in our school buses after students have left the bus.

Building systems are adjusted to provide enhanced ventilation before, during, and after building occupancy. Every room has a 24-hour 7 day a week 365 days a year air purifier filter to ensure proper safe air movement. HVAC modifications include a two-hour pre-and post-occupancy building flush (provides three full air changes), doubling the amount of fresh air intake during occupancy, and upgrading filters where the equipment is compatible.

**9. How will sanitary conditions be maintained in the bathroom and all rooms?**

Bathrooms will be converted to reduced capacity. Bathrooms will be sanitized with higher frequency during the school day. All rooms will be sanitized with greater frequency. Hand sanitizer will be available in all buildings in all rooms and bathrooms.

**10. For classes, in which equipment, machinery, art supplies, etc. are required, what additional procedures will be in place in order for students to utilize it safely?**

Equipment machinery, art supplies, etc. identified as needed to deliver the curriculum critical content will not be shared without students wiping them with a sanitizing wipe before and after use, and as designated by the teacher. In some instances, gloves will be expected to be worn when utilizing specific pieces of equipment.

**11. What is the procedure if a student exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 in class?**

A student presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be directed to the isolation area near the school's Health Office. The school nurse will conduct a health assessment of the student. The student's parent and/or emergency contact will be called to pick up the student. The student will remain in the isolation area under the supervision of the nurse or designated staff member until a parent or emergency contact can arrive. The school nurse will notify the Local Health Department. The school nurse and administration will support the Local Health Department with Contact Tracing efforts. Parents of students must obtain clearance from a medical doctor and submit the medical documentation to the school nurse. The school nurse will inform the principal who may consult with the school physician prior to granting permission for a return to school.

**12. What happens if a student has been in contact with a student that tests positive?**

Contact tracing and notification to necessary parties will be handled by the Local Health Department. The school will collaborate with the Local Health Department to ensure that contact tracing measures are successful and timely.

**13. Will there be testing for COVID-19 in class?**

A student presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be directed to the isolation area near the school's Health Office. The school nurse may give a COVID-19 test and or may refer the student to be tested by the parent guardian if needed. The City of Bayonne will have available testing at Veterans Field at the Bayonne High School on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Please see our website or the city website for details.

**C. School Schedule and Educational Program**

**1. What online platform will be used for instruction?**

Students and teachers will continue to use Schoology.

All students will attend their scheduled classes every day, either in school or from home via Schoology.

**2. Will there be an interaction between students and teachers during remote learning?**

Yes. In both the Hybrid and All Students Remote schedules, all students will attend their scheduled classes every day following the partial day bell schedule either in school or from home via Schoology. After the partial-day schedule ends, teachers will support students during designated times until the end of the full-day bell schedule.

**3. What is the Educational Program?**

Remote learning will differ from last spring due to feedback and recommendations from students, staff, parents, and community members. Expectations for teachers and students in a Hybrid or All Students Remote schedule are consistent.

| Components  | Hybrid | All Students Remote |
|---|--------|---------------------|
| All students attend their scheduled classes every day on the Partial Day bell schedule, following the rotating block schedule                   | X      | X                   |
| Students attend classes in person with their charged laptop, Chromebook or tablet, according to a cohort rotation                               | X      |                     |
| Students at home attend classes on the bell schedule via Google Meet and Google Classroom   | X      | X                   |
| Synchronous schedule for class attendance and teacher contact/support   | X      | X                   |
| Daily instruction with the teacher on “live” Schoology  | X      | X                   |
| Daily assignments with deadlines/time to submit   | X      | X                   |
| The BBOED Grading System and Realtime will be used to measure and communicate student progress and to determine Marking Period and Final Grades | X      | X                   |
| The district attendance policy will be in effect  | X      | X                   |



**4. What is the Hybrid Schedule?**

**Hybrid Schedule**

All students will attend their scheduled classes every day, whether the students are in school or at home. We will use the partial day bell schedule. Students at home will attend classes on the partial day bell schedule via Schoology. Students will have an additional opportunity to meet with teachers remotely during designated times after the partial-day schedule ends (within the regularly scheduled school day).

Schools will work with families to ensure that children in the same household will be assigned to the same cohort.

|                           | Monday                                | Tuesday                               | Wednesday                                 | Thursday                              | Friday                                |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Learning in person</b> | Cohort A                              | Cohort A                              | All Students Remote                       | Cohort B                              | Cohort B                              |
| <b>Learning from home</b> | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort B | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort B | Full-time Remote Students<br>ALL Students | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort A | Full-time Remote Students<br>Cohort A |

**5. Does my child need a device for school?**

When students are attending classes in school, they will bring their charged laptop, Chromebook, or tablet to school. Headphones for their computer will be helpful. When students are attending classes from home, they will need a computer (desktop, laptop, Chromebook, or tablet) for their use during the partial day bell schedule.

**6. What are the procedures and protocols when my child is on Schoology?**

Students participating in a live Schoology class, whether in school or from home, must have their camera on and microphone mute. Teachers may ask students to unmute when appropriate to do so. The Student Code of Conduct is in effect.

**7. What will learning look like if families choose Full-time Remote Choice Learning?**

Students who have selected Full-time Remote Choice Learning will attend their scheduled classes every day on the partial day bell schedule via Schoology. Students attending class from home via Schoology must have their camera on and microphone muted. Teachers may ask students to unmute when appropriate to do so. Students will have an additional opportunity to meet with teachers remotely during designated times after the partial-day schedule ends (within the regularly scheduled school day).

**8. What is the process to select Full-time Remote Choice learning?**

As per Supplemental Guidance provided on July 24, 2020, by the NJ Governor and Commissioner of Education, all students are eligible for full-time remote learning. Families may select the Full-time Remote Choice learning option.

- Students that have selected Full-time Remote Choice learning will attend their scheduled classes every day on the partial day bell schedule via Schoology
- Students will have an additional opportunity to meet with teachers remotely during designated times after the partial-day schedule ends (within the regularly scheduled school day).

**9. Will lunch be served on a partial day?**

Lunch will not be served in school on the partial-day schedule. Families that qualify for food assistance will have meal packages containing both breakfast and lunch for multiple days available on at their school on designated days.

All students, including eligible students, also have access to meal packages containing both breakfast and lunch for multiple days. Please contact your building principal for any questions regarding meals.

**9a. Can my child bring a snack or food?**

Yes, we will permit a lunch bag with throw-away items such as fruit gummies, goldfish, pretzels, water bottles, juice boxes, e.c.t. Please do not use reusable items as we will not be able to wash them or clean them.

**9b. Will meals be available at school in the same way they are now, while we are remote?**

Yes, Food will be picked up on Monday and Thursday of every week. Please note the time will for food pick up at each school will be from 1pm-3pm

**9c. Will water be available at school?**

Yes, we will have water bottles available if needed - we encourage employees and students to bring water bottles to school.

**10. Will there be graded assessments?**

Measuring students' progress in mastering standards is an essential component of teaching and learning. Assessments will be equivalent for Full-time Remote Choice and Hybrid students. The BBOED Grading System will be used to measure and communicate student progress and to determine Marking Period and Final Grades. This system will be the same for all students in all cohorts.

**11. How will Physical Education classes be conducted?**

Physical Education will be conducted outdoors, when possible. Students will not be required to change for physical education. Locker rooms will not be open. Students will be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and safe footwear to school that allows for safe movement and is appropriate for the weather in order to participate in physical education without the use of a locker room. Students must wear or change into safe footwear for class.

**12. If a student is absent because they are in quarantine can they participate remotely?**

Yes, the students can participate remotely. All classes will be facilitated via School

**13. If my child is in need of a Chromebook or wifi access, when will they receive the device(s) from the school?**

Please contact your school principal - all students should have an internet connection (wifi) and a device at this time.

**14. Does my child have to wear a school uniform?**

School uniforms are optional for the remainder of School Year 2020-2021

**15. Do teachers have to remain in the building after students are dismissed?**

All teachers, secretaries and support personnel can switch to a remote mode after the students are dismissed for the day

**16. What happens on Wednesdays?**

All teachers, secretaries, and support personnel will be working remotely so that our custodial and maintenance crews can clean and maintain the buildings to prepare for another cohort of students. This day will also allow for any other COVID-19 related activity that may be needed.

**17. Please describe the indoor air quality criteria a school district must meet in order to satisfy the “adequate ventilation” reopening standard described in k. of paragraph 2 of Executive Order 175 and in the NJDOE’s Checklist for the Re-Opening of School 2020-2021?**

All school buildings are required to satisfy the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) [Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\) standard](#) (N.J.A.C. 12:100-13). No additional ventilation or air quality requirements have been imposed on school buildings as a result of COVID-19. Information regarding the IAQ standard and additional considerations for school districts can be found in NJDOH’s guidance [here](#).

**D. Athletics & Extracurricular Activities**

**1. Will students who participate in the Full-time Remote learning Choice option be eligible to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities?**

Yes, students who elect to participate in the Full-time Remote Learning Choice option will be eligible to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities. All physical and academic eligibility requirements must be met.

**2. How will students participate in athletics or after-school activities with a partial-day schedule in place?**

Students who attend school in the Hybrid Schedule will leave school at the end of the partial day. If students wish to participate in athletics or after-school activities, students will return to school at the start time of the athletic or extra- and co-curricular activities, and transportation back to school must be provided by a parent. Athletic participation will be guided by the NJSIAA, however, BBOED reserves the right to put more protective and restrictive measures in place to ensure the safety of each of its school communities. Athletic participation will require that athletes complete a COVID-19 Self Evaluation Self Checklist and have their temperature checked prior to engaging in any school athletics on a daily basis. After-school clubs and extra- and co-curricular activities may be able to meet; however, these meetings may be held remotely.

## City of Bayonne Public Schools

### COVID-19 Protocol for Returning to In-Person Instruction

The City of Bayonne Public Schools and the City of Bayonne Board of Health are currently utilizing the N.J. Department of Health guidelines titled “COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools” dated December 22, 2020. Please refer to the N.J. Department of Health document referenced below including the COVID-19 Exclusion Table on page 13. N.J. is currently under the high-risk column.

- If a person is symptomatic or asymptomatic and has a COVID-19 test, he/she is advised to remain home until the test results are received.
- If a person receives COVID-19 test results and is confirmed positive (whether or not he/she is symptomatic or asymptomatic), the person is advised to remain home in isolation. The person needs to call the local health department and school main office in order to identify and exclude close contacts for the 14 days from the last exposure.
- If a person has COVID-19 symptoms but has not tested, the person is advised to remain home isolated. The person needs to call the local health department and school main office in order to identify and exclude close contacts for the 14 days from last exposure or the person tests negative for COVID-19.
- If an individual has symptoms of COVID-19 as outlined below, a COVID-19 test should be taken and the result of the test should be emailed to the school nurse for quarantine direction.
- If a person has symptoms and the results are negative for COVID-19, the person is advised to remain home for 24 hours after his/her fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have improved.
- Of interest for those who have tested positive for COVID-19, please read the American Academy of Pediatrics notice as of January 5, 2021, regarding the information on returning to sports at <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/>

**Please note** Siblings of a student who has symptoms and meets COVID-19 would be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the symptomatic individual tests positive, the sibling will need to self-quarantine.

#### COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms:

**At least two of the following symptoms:** chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose;

OR

**At least one of the following symptoms:** fever (measure or subjective), cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder

References:

[https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts\\_K12Schools.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts_K12Schools.pdf)

Student Tests POSITIVE for COVID-19

1. Your child **must isolate for:**

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared or if asymptomatic, 10 days since providing the test sample and
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

2. After having your child evaluated by a Medical Doctor, please call the school nurse to inform the school nurse of your child's status.

3. Before your child will be permitted to return to in-person school after isolation, ***you must provide the school nurse with a note from a Medical Doctor*** stating that your child has been evaluated for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and the student is clear to return to school. This medical note will be reviewed by the principal who may consult with the school physician to determine if/when your child is able to return to school.

Student is SYMPTOMATIC

1. Your child **must isolate for:**

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

2. Have your child evaluated by a Medical Doctor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

- This may require that your child is tested for COVID-19.

3. After having your child evaluated by a Medical Doctor, please call the school nurse to inform the school nurse of your child's status. *A negative PCR test and a note from a medical doctor may be provided to the school nurse which may reduce the required isolation time.*

4. Before your child will be permitted to return to in-person school after the 10 day isolation period, ***you must provide the school nurse with a note from a Medical Doctor*** stating that your child has been evaluated for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and the student is clear to return to school. This medical note will be reviewed by the principal who may consult with the school physician to determine if/when your child is able to return to school.

Student is determined to be a CLOSE CONTACT to a Confirmed COVID-19 Positive Case

1. Your child **must quarantine for 14 days**. Remote learning will be provided.

2. Your child will be permitted to return to school after they have satisfied the 14 day quarantine requirement outlined above provided they do not become symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19 during their quarantine. (no note and no test required)

3. ***If*** your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19 during the quarantine, please have your child isolate and have them evaluated by a Medical Doctor and call the school nurse.

***In accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health, "close contact" is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.)***

New Jersey Travel Advisory - Out of State Travel

1. Unvaccinated travelers and residents returning from **any U.S. state or territory** beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) should self-quarantine at their home, hotel, or other temporary lodging following recommendations from the CDC:

- Consider getting tested with a viral test (not an antibody test) 1-3 days **before** the trip and **again 3-5** days after the trip.
- If the student tests positive, they should **self-isolate for at least 10 days and should postpone travel during that time.**
- **TESTED:** If the student tests negative, they should **quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.** *\*The negative test must be provided to the school nurse.*
- **NO TEST:** If testing is not available (or if the results are delayed), students should **quarantine for 10 days after travel.**

2. The student may return to school after the quarantine period as long as the student did not become symptomatic.

3. If the student becomes symptomatic during the quarantine period, please follow protocols for “Student is Symptomatic” above.

**\*Travel within the United States:** People who are **fully vaccinated** with an FDA-authorized vaccine OR who **clinically recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months** do not need to be tested for COVID-19 before or after travel to New Jersey and do not need to self-quarantine, but should self-monitor for symptoms and self-isolate if symptoms develop.

**\*International Travel:** **Fully vaccinated** travelers and travelers who **clinically recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months** do not need to quarantine after international travel, although they should self-monitor for symptoms and self-isolate if symptoms develop. Fully vaccinated travelers should get tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after international travel.

Student determined to be a CLOSE CONTACT to a person who was EXHIBITING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

1. Your child **must quarantine for 14 days since exposure/close contact.** Remote learning will be provided.



2. Your child will be permitted to return to school after they have satisfied the 14 day quarantine requirement outlined above provided they do not become symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19 during their quarantine. (no note and no test required)

3. **If** your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19 during the quarantine, please have your child isolate and have them evaluated by a Medical Doctor and call the school nurse.

**\*Return Prior to Quarantine (no MD note required):**

The school nurse or administration will inform you **if** your child will be permitted to return to in-person school prior to completion of the quarantine **if** the person exhibiting symptoms tests negative with a PCR or receives an alternate diagnosis **and** your child does not become symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19.

**\*Fully Vaccinated or Clinically Recovered Persons:**

Fully vaccinated persons or persons who have clinically recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are **not** required to quarantine if deemed a close contact to a person with COVID-19 or to a person with COVID-like symptoms.

\*\* Please be advised the above may change due to changes from the CDC, Department of Health, or executive order of the Governor of New Jersey or President of the United States\*\*

**How will we decide to close the classroom, grade, floor, school(s) district if there is an outbreak of COVID-19?**

We have included some common questions that have been asked as well as resources we will use to determine the length of time a class, grade, school, the district would close if there is an outbreak of COVID-19. Each positive case that may be found or learned about will be dealt with

on a case-by-case basis. Each scenario is different and we will always act with the health and safety of all of our students and employees in mind.

If a student in a specific classroom is positive and through contact tracing it is determined that there may be multiple exposures the classroom may be changed to remote instruction. If the specific teacher is part of that exposure the class may go remote for both cohorts.

Each specific COVID-19 outbreak will be investigated through contact tracing and all suspected people that have been in contact with the affected person (as defined by the board of health, State of New Jersey and Center of Disease Control [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)) may need to be quarantined.

Our succession of closings can follow the below starting with a classroom closing:

1. Classroom
2. Grade level
3. Floor
4. School
5. Multiple schools
6. District

Each of the closings will be determined by the nature of the outbreak and the number of students/employees who are COVID-19 positive and the number exposed. On a side note, we have closed school buildings with 2 positive COVID-19 Cases - however, that was predicated upon the fact that there were only 10 employees in the building. As the example indicates each scenario will be based upon the nature of the exposure and the number of people exposed to a specific case. All of the aforementioned will be determined through contact tracing and the nature of each case.

While it is unlikely that the district would be entirely closed due to an outbreak of COVID-19 at a specific school - it could occur if there were multiple individuals from multiple buildings positive.

We would like to stress that each outbreak of COVID-19 will be fact-specific and will need investigation to learn of the extent of the exposure. As you are aware we may at diverse times of the day, night, or morning will learn of a COVID-19 positive case. Our reaction to these outbreaks will be predicated upon the cooperation of our parents and community so we can make swift decisions. We would like to thank you for your anticipated cooperation. We must share with all of you that all of our decisions to close any part of our facilities will be based

upon the information we know at the time. We will always act to ensure the health and safety of our students, families, and employees.

You may also refer to the attached documents for further information

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html>

\*\*\* This plan can and may be modified as COVID-19 executive orders, laws, rules, policies, and procedures change \*\*\*

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