

BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

First, I would like to thank all of the parents/guardians who completed the <u>Return to School-Enrollment</u> <u>Options</u> form this week. As we are planning for the return to school and for staffing elementary schools for remote learning, your partnership in providing the requested information is critical and much appreciated.

As you know from my previous communications, the district has been ordering furniture and protective equipment, such as plexiglass shields, to assist us in safeguarding the health and safety of students and staff. Because of the demand for such equipment across the entire country, the delivery of some furniture and protective equipment has been delayed. While all equipment is currently scheduled to arrive prior to the start of school, and we anticipate opening on August 31st as planned, we want to alert you that we will not open schools without the necessary equipment. If equipment is not available for the start of school, it may be necessary for the district to delay the opening or to implement a distance learning model.

We understand that any delay will be a challenge to our families. However, we must prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff. Thank you in advance for your understanding in this very difficult situation.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Benigni

Superintendent of Schools

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P.S. In another matter, the link in the August 11 to the reopening schools plan linked to a version without the addenda. This <u>link</u> will take you to the correct plan.