



BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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September 18, 2020

Dear Parents,

Please see the brief, three item update below. Thank you for all your support in helping to make the first two weeks of school successful. I hope you have a nice weekend and enjoy the fall weather!

Brian J. Benigni, Superintendent of Schools

FREE Breakfast and Lunch Approved for ALL Students

Good news for all Berlin families! Due to a change in the U.S. Department of Agriculture regulation, **ALL students are now eligible for FREE breakfast and lunch**. There are no income requirements, and all students of the Berlin Public Schools (BPS) are eligible to receive free meals between now and December 31, 2020.

All of our school cafeterias are offering free breakfast and lunch to all students at this time. Remote learners are encouraged to pick up meals at **McGee Middle School, 899 Norton Road** (please drive around to the back of the school on the left hand side) from 8:00-10:00 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Health Room Protocol

As students and staff have returned to school, our nursing staff are working diligently to ensure the health and safety of our school community. In order to maintain consistent practices across schools and to ensure compliance with Department of Health and CDC guidelines, we have created a document clarifying the protocols that will be used in the event that students or staff members present symptoms of COVID or have been in close contact with an individual who is positive for COVID.

Please click here to review the protocol: [BPS Health Room Protocol](#) Please note that this document was updated on September 18, 2020 and will be updated as necessary in the coming weeks. Any updates will be posted on the district website.

Transportation Update

We appreciate the efforts made by families to drive students to school to reduce the number of students riding the buses. We know that some schools have had traffic issues as a result, and we have been working with school administrators and the Berlin Police Department to try to resolve the concerns.

Due to low ridership on the buses, students who are riding the buses have easily been able to social distance. At this time, we are not hiring bus monitors but will be assigning seats. Should contact tracing be necessary, it is important that we are able to determine where each student sat on the bus. Students and drivers continue to wear masks and bus seats are being disinfected between runs.