



# BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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July 31, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On July 17, 2020, we shared with you the Berlin Public Schools Reopening Plan DRAFT for the fall of 2020. This document was submitted to the State Department of Education (CSDE) on Friday, July 24. We emphasize that this is a DRAFT due to the ever-changing information district superintendents are receiving on a daily basis. The content of the document will change as we receive new guidance and information from the CSDE and Governor Lamont's office as took place during the Monday press conference. The Governor and Commissioner of Education announced that districts may have flexibility in how to open schools which is a shift from the original plan requiring all school districts to open K-12. This announcement has caused us to reevaluate our current plan as additional options are now available. Regardless of the model, we will continue to reevaluate our plan keeping safety at the forefront of all of our decisions.

This is a challenging time for parents and we are working to provide relevant information that will assist you in better understanding the safety measures that have been put in place and how a typical student's day has changed. Please know that we will make every effort to share information in a timely manner as we recognize that families need to make appropriate plans that are contingent on the options available for students receiving their education. It is important to note that remote learning is an available option for all students regardless of the model selected for reopening school. Parents can select this option by notifying the school district either by survey or contacting the Board of Education.

Last week, you were asked to complete the [Family Return to School Survey](#). The survey asks questions about whether you intend to send your child to school for in-person learning or will be choosing remote learning, bus transportation, as well as questions about food service. If you have not submitted a response for each of your children already, we ask that you do so as soon as possible.

Below are several links that you may find helpful. The first is a list of questions and answers that have been grouped by level. The second is a memo regarding the cleaning procedures and products that will be used and the third is a memo addressing how the air handling systems will be operating. If you have additional questions, I encourage you to call the Board of Education or your respective building principal as we will do our best to answer them.

[Parent Question and Answer Regarding Reopening](#)

[Cleaning and Disinfecting Our Schools](#)

[Ventilation of Our Schools](#)

We recognize that these are difficult decisions for families to make during these uncertain times, but ask that you complete the required information based on your intent given the present reopening plan and current health conditions. It is expected and acceptable for parents to change their selection for transportation and schooling (remote/live) at any time. As we prepare for the August 31 start of school, please know we are committed to the safety and well-being of all students, staff and members of the Berlin Community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Benigni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "B" and "J".

Brian J. Benigni  
Superintendent of Schools