

## The Brooklyn Public Schools

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**COVID Updated 12/14/2020**  
**Connecticut COVID-19 Response**  
**Northeast District Department of Health**  
**Free Priority Testing Sites**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to thank you for your feedback and make sure that you understand that we heard you. This week we were too short staffed to start any hybrid and in fact we will not be offering one of the related arts classes at BES because we do not have a teacher or a substitute teacher. While we are not sure if we will be open to full in person classes on January 4, 2021, I want you to know that we have adjusted the hybrid model based on your feedback about our half-day model. We will plan to return to a hybrid model as needed consisting of a remote day, A,B,A,B.

This is slightly different than what we had for one month in September. During the in person days we will focus on core academics and have a blended model on the off day. For example: If a student is in cohort A they will focus only on academics during that day, and when it is a B day, they will be given some Google classroom work, some independent work and will have one related arts class in the morning and one in the afternoon. Related arts teachers will take attendance on days when students are home. Our **remote day will be on Mondays** and **cohort A will come to school on Tuesday and Thursday** while **cohort B will attend school all day on Wednesday and Friday**. We will continue to monitor cases in our community and school. Preschool and high needs classes will follow the regular five day/week schedule.

We will bring all students back to school as soon as we are able to and we will cancel a class or two if necessary but I wanted to be sure you understand that the hybrid model, should we need to use that, has been changed to a full day hybrid model. There is also discussion and decisions in many communities to delay bringing students into schools following the winter break. At this time we are planning on the hybrid model of the week of January 4, 2021 but will communicate with you if that should change.

**Supports:** Social workers are also available to respond to students and families who need emotional support.

**Food service:** We will continue to offer meal distribution to families. **\*If you need special arrangements to receive meals, feel free to contact Heather Plourde at [hplourde@eastconn.org](mailto:hplourde@eastconn.org) or call 860-455-1552.** Food services have been running since 3/13/2020 with only three days off at Thanksgiving. They are phenomenal and need a well deserved break! On December 18 & 22 we will distribute 6 days of meals. We will be shutting down the food services from Dec. 25-Jan. 4th. Meal distribution will resume on January 5th.

**SNOW DAYS:** this week we may end up having an "old fashioned snow day closure". If we get the large amounts of snow predicted, it might be best to cancel and give everyone a chance to play, and shovel, the snow. Stay tuned. Be well and continue to take every precaution to reduce the spread of COVID! We are getting closer to seeing the light at the end of this tunnel! Thank you for all of your hard work during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Buell  
Superintendent

**Mission:** The Brooklyn Schools will foster a drive for learning within each student to reach his/her greatest potential. To achieve this mission, the school will continually improve its educational programs and services to meet this community's expectations for a quality education for all.