

The Brooklyn Public Schools

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COVID Updated 1/1/2021
Connecticut COVID-19 Response
Northeast District Department of Health
Free Priority Testing Sites

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

Happy New Year! I hope that each of you has enjoyed time with your family and has high hopes for 2021! We will begin the hybrid model of instruction on January 4, 2021. This hybrid model will be as follows: **Monday remote learning, like it is now; Tuesday and Thursday: Cohort A in person all day; Wednesday and Friday Cohort B in person all day.** We will follow this schedule as long as we need to. Instruction during the in person days we will focus on core academics and when students are at home they will have follow up work, independent work and related arts. Related arts teachers will take attendance on days when students are home. We will continue to monitor cases in our community and school. Preschool and high needs classes will follow the regular five day/week schedule beginning 1/4/2021. Students still have a choice to remain in distance learning.

Positive cases in Brooklyn continue to rise. As you know, there is no simple answer to what type of instruction is the best. Based on the guidance from DPH and the State Department of Education, we are reducing the number of people in each classroom and on the buses through the hybrid model. We will continue to follow our mitigation strategies. There is no "risk free" option, but we know that our cleaning and other mitigation efforts have been successful in school. We are happy to have students back for in-person learning and will adjust the learning model as soon as it is possible. **We need your help to monitor students EVERY DAY to ensure that if someone has symptoms or is exposed to someone who has tested positive they remain in quarantine and communicate with the school nurse.**

****As a result of the holidays, if you need to quarantine due to travel or symptoms, I would ask that you contact the school nurse before sending your child to school. Monday, January 4th could be a busy day so if you do not reach them by phone, please send an email with information or questions you may have about quarantining.**

School Nurses: Please continue to call to inform the nurses if you or your child are not feeling well. We have been assisting NDDH by communicating with families of school aged children. [BES nurse's email](#) or 860-774-4618. [BMS nurse's email](#) or 860-774-1498.

Travel advisory remains in effect and anyone who travels out of state for 24 hours to an affected state. You must quarantine or follow testing guidelines and provide test results for reentry to school. See the link for guidelines.

Food service: We will continue to offer meal distribution to families. We bundle food and put multiple servings in one serving container and try to make the meals easy to reheat. **You do not need to sign up, please feel free to pick up 3 meals on Tuesdays and 4 meals on Fridays. Please stay in your cars and open the trunk for safe distribution. *If you need special arrangements to receive meals, feel free to contact Heather Plourde at hplourde@eastconn.org or call 860-455-1552.**

Happy, healthy and hopeful new year!

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.

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Sincerely, Patricia L. Buell, Superintendent

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