



BETHEL PARK

SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 7, 2020

Dear Families,

Re: Bethel Park School District to remain in remote learning with the anticipated return to hybrid in-person instruction on Jan. 11

Due to the significant increases in COVID-19 cases throughout the school district, region, and state, for the safety of our students and staff, Bethel Park School District **will remain in a full remote instructional model through Friday, Jan. 8, with students in the A/B hybrid model scheduled to return to in-person instruction beginning on Monday, Jan. 11**; depending on the best available data as well as the guidance we receive from and the local and state authorities over the next several weeks.

We plan to start repopulating our buildings beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, Dec. 8, with the return of extracurricular activities and clubs, including athletics. However, no tournament play will be permitted and teams and coaches will be monitored to ensure that they are complying with the Pennsylvania Department of Health's recommended health and safety guidelines (masks, social distancing, carpooling discouraged, etc.).

Beginning on Monday, Jan. 4, should conditions permit, students who receive life skills or autistic support will return to in-person instruction up to four days per week with asynchronous instruction on Fridays.

Though we remain committed to delivering in-person instruction to our students whenever we can safely do so, our primary responsibility must be to preserve the health and well-being of our students and staff. That is why we continue to follow the best available data as well as the guidance we are receiving from infectious disease experts at the local, state, and federal levels.

In addition to the District case data, we continue to closely monitor the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) statewide data, Allegheny County data, and Bethel Park community data. Unfortunately, those data points continue to be alarming. We are also experiencing an increase in student and staff quarantines.

Additionally, the following will take place:

- **All Kindergarten and Preschool programs will be held virtually through Jan. 8.** Starting on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, Bethel Park School District Kindergarteners will return to in-person instruction up to four days per week with asynchronous instruction on Fridays.
- The District will continue to provide transportation to students who have approved outside placements (vocational schools, private schools, etc.) if those schools continue to offer in-person instruction.



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- Parents/Guardians of students in all grades can sign up for free “Grab ‘N Go” meal pickup by clicking on the [Bethel Park Cyber Breakfast and Lunch Order Form](#) found on our website.
- Meal pickups will continue to occur at the high school daily on weekdays from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Please remember to place your order by Friday morning, for the following week’s order.

Mitigation strategies at home and in public settings continue to be of the utmost importance and could ultimately provide schools more opportunity to offer in-person instruction. Going forward, our families will have an even greater level of responsibility to help mitigate the spread of coronavirus in Bethel Park schools. As we move through this critical time, we once again ask that everyone please heed the warnings/advisories medical experts are sharing with regard to social gatherings and out of state travel. [More information on this can be found at the PADOH link.](#)

We continue to strongly encourage all Bethel Park families to follow our health and safety protocols, which include all mandated social distancing and personal safety practices, including wearing proper and approved face-coverings, maintaining at least six-feet of personal distance from others whenever possible, proper hand-washing for at least 20 seconds each time, and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently-used or shared spaces, items, and surfaces.

As a reminder, all of these numbers and trends can be found on website: <https://www.bpsd.org/COVID-19Information.aspx>. The administration and school board will continue to monitor school and community COVID-19 numbers daily, and additional communications will be sent as needed.

As always, we appreciate your continued support, patience and understanding during this unprecedented crisis. We are all in this together and will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Dimperio, Ph.D.
Acting Superintendent, Bethel Park School District