



BETHEL PARK

SCHOOL DISTRICT

August 8, 2021

Dear Families,

Re: Plans for 2021-2022 School Year

We hope everyone is enjoying the last few weeks of a well-earned summer break and we wanted to take this opportunity to update all of our stakeholders on our plans for the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Schedules and homeroom assignments will be available via eSchoolPlus starting at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, August 10, a full two weeks ahead of the first day of classes. Students at IMS and the High School will have brand new electronic learning devices this year while students at the elementary schools will be introduced to our Hands-On Science program. Also, the District is partnering with the National Math & Science Initiative (NMSI) to enhance our Advanced Placement (AP) courses in math, science and the humanities.

Bethel Park School District remains focused on returning to a traditional five-days per week safe return-to-school plan. However, we understand that some District families may still have some concerns regarding COVID-19 and its variants that continue to threaten our region. Therefore, we are offering two **asynchronous remote learning alternatives** to the traditional in-person program.

- One alternative option is to enroll your child in Bethel Park Online Academy (BPOA). That program, now in its 11th year, is our fully online cyber school using a **non-Bethel Park curriculum** in an asynchronous environment. It is designed primarily for students with more flexible learning needs.
- The second alternative available to District families is to enroll your child in our newly redesigned Remote School, which features **mostly Bethel Park teachers** delivering the District's curriculum. Unlike last year, rather than logging in live to their classroom, this year's Remote School students will access all of their instructional videos and assignments via Schoology, while their teachers make themselves available to provide academic support and answer the students' questions after the regular school day.

Please note that we are requiring a **minimum nine-week commitment** to your chosen program. Any necessary changes will be made at the end of each academic quarter.

- If you intend to enroll your child in the Bethel Park Online Academy cyber program, please reach out to that program's director, Principal Brian Lenosky at 412-854-8522; or lenosky.brian@bphawks.org.
- If Remote School is your family's preferred choice, please communicate that intention to your child's school.



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- If your intention is for your child to return to live, in-person instruction when classes resume, you do not need to contact anyone.

We are very excited about the upcoming school year and we cannot wait to take the next steps in our shared journey when classes resume on August 24.

Sincerely,

James Walsh, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Bethel Park School District