

Dear Burlington Catholic School Families!

I hope that you are having a wonderful and relaxing summer! The BCS Board, staff, and I have been working on a plan for the 2020-2021 school year. I wanted to update you on where we are at BCS - please know that this is subject to change depending on how the rest of summer goes.

Our number one priority is keeping our students and staff safe and healthy while continuing to provide our students with a strong, faith-based education.

With guidance from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and the Department of Public Instruction ([DPI's Education Forward Plan \(Link\)](#)) as well as collaborating with Thomas Bus, Burlington Area School District, and Catholic Central High School, BCS came up with the following 3 scenarios for the Fall:

In Person Five Day, Full Day - Main Model

The staff and I are committed to helping get all of our students back in the classroom, face to face in the fall. However, as we plan to bring everyone back August 20th, our day to day operations will have to look a little different, and since new information on the Coronavirus seems to come out daily, know that our policies and procedures may have to change as the year progresses and sometimes, with very little notice.

Hybrid Model (as needed in a case by case basis)

If families are uncomfortable with their child attending on a given school day or if a family needs to be quarantined for a given time period, teachers are working to be able to teach in their classrooms while students learn from home for that period of time. This model is only when needed - this is not an option a family can choose for the entire school year.

Full Virtual Plan (as whole school only if needed)

The model will be a school-wide model used when and if we need to close for a given period of time. Teachers would teach remotely as we did last spring during the period of closure. This model will not be an option for families to choose on an individual basis.

As previously mentioned, having all students and staff back in the buildings 100% of the time requires some extra precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone.

Below is a list of safety precautions we plan to implement at BCS, but are not limited to:

- Staff at both campuses will be wearing masks and / or face shields indoors unless eating or drinking and outdoors when social distancing six feet apart is not possible.
- Students at both campuses will be wearing masks and / or face shields indoors unless eating or drinking and outdoors when social distancing six feet apart is not possible.
 - BCS has purchased masks and face shields for each student, but we encourage families to purchase additional masks.
 - We also encourage families to begin having students wear masks more often throughout the summer to get used to wearing them
- Classroom set up will be very spread out (removing non-essential furniture) to allow for as much social distancing as possible
 - Outdoors - we plan to utilize the outdoor spaces as often as we can throughout the day. This will allow for students to spread out more and take masks / face shields off.
- We will not have shared supplies in the classroom unless absolutely necessary (see your class supply list for more details)
 - Teachers and maintenance will assist in ensuring any shared toys, etc. are sanitized each day
- Cafeteria schedule will be more spread out to allow for less students in the cafeteria at one time; organization of seating and tables will also be adjusted as well as serving procedures
 - Salad option will still be available at the St. Mary campus, but no longer in a self-serve setting
- Extra cleaning will occur throughout the day, and hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in every classroom, bathrooms, entrances, etc. Students are also welcome to bring their personal hand sanitizers as they have done in the past
- Stricter rules regarding fevers - the CDC encourages and our policy states that a student must be fever free without medicine for 24 hours - we will be enforcing this more than in the past, so if your child does have a fever, please plan for being out of school for at least the next day following leaving school.
 - We have new thermometers at school, but we do not plan on taking everyones temperature each day. However, we strongly encourage you to be checking temperatures at home more regularly.
- Visitors / Volunteers - for the foreseeable future, we will not be allowing outside visitors / volunteers in the classrooms or cafeterias (this includes guest speakers). If something needs to be dropped off, it can be given to the office and they will deliver it.

- Recess Volunteers - this year, we will have a sign up for parents that wish to volunteer at lunch recess. Please contact Mrs. Berg if you are interested.
- Transportation - busing will still be provided for families (most likely assigned seats), however, whenever possible, we do encourage parent transportation
 - More information on bus procedures soon.
- Fields trips are still being evaluated
- Chromebooks will go home each day to ensure technology is available if needed - students will be responsible for charging them each night and bringing them back each day
 - We encourage students to keep the charging cords at home as well as encourage parents to wipe down the key boards and screens each day
 - More information on technology soon.

BCS completely understands that there may be mixed emotions for the Fall as well as lots of questions. We know that the Fall will be far from “normal”, but we truly believe a face-to-face environment is a more effective way for students to learn. As a result, we need to have these protocols in place to keep everyone safe and healthy! We will continue to re-evaluate all of these protocols throughout the year and adjust where needed!

Thank you for your continued support, patience, and flexibility as we navigate the new “normal” for the fall. Please keep an eye on your email for more details coming at the end of July / early August regarding our “Comeback Plan”.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me via email - eberg@ourbcs.org or call the offices.

Thank you, and God bless.

Mrs. Berg and the BCS Board of Directors