REOPENING OUR SCHOOLS
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Ensure the safety and well-being of all students and employees.

Promote equity and accessibility to learning for all students.

Provide instructional delivery systems to meet the needs of all students.

Foster positive relationships and interactions.
REOPENING
OUR SCHOOLS

What we know

What we considered

What we recommend

What’s next

Foster positive relationships and interactions.
WHAT WE KNOW

“AN UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGE FOR DISTRICTS”

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Resources and Experts

- Georgia Path to Recovery (GADOE)
- CDC Guidance
- Department of Public Health Guidance
- GSBA Re-open plan
- Parent Survey

- BCS Leadership Teams
- School Nurses
- Athletic Director and Fine Arts Director
- Staff input
- GNRDIPH Epidemiologist twice weekly call
- Metro RESA Superintendents
- State DPH
Healthy Behaviors

- Masks are mandatory for staff and students when social distancing isn’t possible
- Additional PPE in clinics
- Hand sanitizing stations installed in school hallways
- Hand-washing and sanitizing throughout the day
- Restricted use of water fountains / encouraged use of water bottles
- Signage throughout schools regarding healthy hygiene
- Reminders regarding prevention and expected behaviors
- Notices - Stay at home if sick
Health Services

• All persons who are sick are expected to stay at home
• All persons who become sick will be sent home immediately
• All persons reporting to the clinic will have their temperatures taken
• Updated response protocols for students and staff who become sick during the school / workday
• Updated guidelines to care for and manage students in clinics
• All schools will have a room to isolate symptomatic persons
Instruction

- Learning Options
  - Face-to-face Instruction
  - Digital Learning
- Social and Emotional Well-Being supports
- Digital content on Canvas can be used when a child is sick or required to quarantine
TEACHING AND LEARNING

Learning Options

Face-to-Face

BCS will offer an option of traditional, face to face instruction for all students, K-12. Students will experience a traditional school day in accordance with applicable health and safety protocols.

Digital Learning

BCS will also offer a digital learning option for all students, K-12, including tuition students. The digital learning option will require a significant commitment from students and parents, as it will be a full semester commitment (90 instructional days). Digital learning will be taught by BCS teachers, and instruction will parallel face to face instruction provided in BCS classrooms.
TEACHING AND LEARNING

Canvas - Learning Management System

- Introduce teachers to Canvas “absolutes”
- Train the Trainers
- Create Professional Learning Modules for teachers
- Social and Emotional Well-Being supports
- Create Training Modules for Parents (“Canvas Boot Camp”)
School Logistics

- Space desks and tables in classrooms to improve social distancing
- Arrival and dismissal procedures will be updated
- Non-essential visitors are restricted
- Significant limitations for student assemblies and large group events/meetings
- Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart (e.g., reception desks).
OPERATIONS

Nutrition/Cafeteria

- School breakfast will be served in a grab-and-go manner and eaten in the classroom
- When students are in the school cafeteria they will maintain social distancing protocols - eat with cohorts at younger grades
- All surfaces are disinfected between each student use
- Parents strongly recommended to pay for meals online
OPERATIONS

Transportation

- Face coverings are required and provided for bus drivers
- Students required to wear face coverings on the bus
- Assigned student seating to improve loading and unloading
- Safe and effective cleaner provided for high touch surfaces to be disinfected after each route
- Buses disinfected after the morning and afternoon routes
- Air flow will be created by opening selected windows
- Parent survey will be issued to determine number of active riders
- Parents may opt to transport students through other methods
Technology

- Distribute Chromebooks to all students, reducing multiple users touching one device
- Canvas Learning Management System deployed for the district
- Provide information for no/low cost internet
Cleaning Protocols

• Increased routine cleaning and disinfecting of facilities by custodians
• Safe and effective cleaner provided to teachers and staff to use on high touch surfaces throughout the day
• Response protocols in place for facilities impacted by COVID-19
• Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
• Keep each child’s belongings separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas.
Self-Quarantine Guidelines

**Staff/Student with Positive COVID Result**

Per the most recent DPH guidelines, any student or staff member who has a Positive COVID-19 test will be required to be absent from school (self-quarantine) for at least 10 calendar days from positive test and/or onset of symptoms. Students and staff must be symptom free before returning to school or work.

**Staff/Student in contact with COVID-19 positive person**

Per the most recent DPH guidelines, any student or staff member who has close contact with a person with a positive COVID-19 test will be required to be absent from school (self-quarantine) for at least 14 calendar days; in this situation, a negative COVID-19 test does not permit one to return to school or work. Contact is defined as less than six feet for at least 15 minutes.

Subject to Change based on DPH and CDC Guidance
**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Information Channels**

- **Town Hall Meetings**
  Separate Town Hall Meetings for parents and staff hosted by Dr. Downs to ask for their input.

- **Email**
  Regular emails to parents and staff providing the most up-to-date information.

- **Surveys**
  Surveys were sent to BCS families and staff asking for their input as we reopen the schools.

- **Website**
  A website page dedicated to information about returning to school.

- **Social Media**
  Social media platforms utilized to share information as it becomes available.

- **Newsletter**
  The 1st of every month a newsletter is sent with information for that month.
Next Steps

- First day of school now August 12, 2020
- Teachers will benefit from delay by giving them additional training time for Canvas
- Parents will have Canvas training available online prior to August 12, 2020