



# BURGETTSTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 Bavington Road Burgettstown, PA 15021  
724-947-8136 Fax: 724-947-8143

July 30, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The summer days are passing quickly, and many of you have already started back to school shopping. That's right, "back to school." While the building principals will be communicating more specifics as the beginning of the school year draws near, we want to take a few moments to provide important information about our overall plans:

- Beginning with the first student day of the new school year, all students will report for in-person learning, five days per week, and follow their regular schedule.
- BASD will consider all PDE, DOH, and CDC guidance as well as follow all orders from the Governor's office as we navigate the return to school and the upcoming school year.
- Currently, there is no statewide requirement to wear masks. Therefore, BASD will recommend, but no longer require, students and staff to wear face coverings on school grounds.
- While face coverings are recommended but not required, we support an individual's personal decision to wear a mask while in school.
- Unlike the various immunization requirements that already exist, there is currently no requirement that students be vaccinated for Covid-19.
- Federal rules require masks on school busses as they are considered public transportation. Therefore, all who ride school buses are required to wear a mask when doing so.
- Required social distancing in schools has been reduced, and every effort will be made to keep the distancing within the recommendations.
- The school meal program will provide a free breakfast and free lunch to every student this year. We encourage all students to take advantage of this service.
- The use of desk shields, attention to cleaning, and sanitizing of surfaces will continue as needed and necessary.
- With information sharing so vital in these pandemic times, we encourage you to keep your contact information (address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.) up-to-date with your child's school.

There is no denying that the pandemic has been hard on everyone. This summer has given us a glimpse of "normal" as we have set aside our masks, resumed gathering with friends and family, and attempted to be a bit more carefree. While this is great, if we want our children to remain in school for the entire school year, and we want to continue the journey toward life after Covid, we must all do our part. Thank you, in advance, for cooperating with us as we prepare to embark upon the best school year yet, the 2021-2022 school year!

Best,

Stephen P. Puskar  
Superintendent