Town Hall for Students with Disabilities School Year 2020-21 BCMS

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Format of the Town Hall

All of the questions from the survey I will address in the presentation.

> Please remain muted for the entirety of the presentation.

If you have further questions, please type them in the comments box. As the meeting goes on I will address as many as I can, If I cannot get to your specific question I will email you the response. Please refrain from putting personal student information in the comments.

The 6-8 Model

All students programmed in special education classes including will attend on their cohort days either A or B with the exception of the LLD program at BCMS.

Sept 8-18 will be all early release days for all students.

Starting Sept. 21st and on LLD students have an extended day as outlined in the letter.

Students in RCR or ICR will still leave on each buildings early release schedule.

BCMS schedule

			7th One de	Oth One de
Arrival	7:52-8:06	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
HR	8:07-8:10	HR		
1	8:10-8:45	Core	Encore/PE	Core
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
2	8:48-9:23	Core	Core	Encore/PE
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
3	9:27-10:02	Encore/PE	Core	Core
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
4	10:05-10:40	Core	Core	Core
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
5	10:43-11:18	Core	Encore/PE	Core
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
6	11:21-11:56	Core	Core	Encore/PE
3 minute passing - teams decide which groups dismisses first				
7	11:59-12:34	Encore/PE	Core	Core
Dismissal	12:34-12:50	Dismissal		
Lunch	12:50-1:20	Lunch		
Prep	1:20-2:00	Prep		
Virtual	Virtual 2:00-2:30 Resource Part 1			
Instruction	2:30-3:00	Resource Part 2		

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Why isn't BCMS opening on both cohort days like WES and SBS? Do to regulations on spacing set by the state we are unable to offer BCMS special education students both cohort days.

Will my child's IEP be met if they are 100% virtual? Yes, we will be in compliance with all IEPS.

How will related services be delivered?

Related services will be delivered to the best of our ability in person. In some cases virtual instruction will need to occur. You will know your delivery model by your service provider.

How do I know who my child's special education teacher is?

If you child has small group classes the primary teacher listed is the special education teacher.

If you child has inclusion classes the primary teacher listed is the general education teacher.

Most situations your child has the same special education teacher all day. There are some instances where your child will have more than one special educator throughout the day. You will know that on the first day of students return. How will small group or pull out sessions work?

Special education teachers have classrooms aside from the general education teachers to provide small group instruction. This can happen live or virtually.

How many students are in a classroom?

Class sizes across the district on any given day range from 5-13 students. All of the classrooms are spaced with appropriate social distancing. The average is 10 in- person students in large group classrooms.

When is my child pulled out for instruction?

At BCMS the RCR or pull out classes are already placed in the schedule. They encompass a whole period unlike schedules at SBS and WES.

How will students be supported by their special education teacher?

Teachers will be a part of large group instruction in inclusion classes. They will hold break out support sessions to assist students who are struggling. There will also be times where special educators are meeting with small groups of students for greater support in the afternoon.

Can students remove masks?

The district protocol is that all students and staff wear masks. This can be difficult for some students. In any instance where it is health concern a doctor's note will be required. If a child struggles with mask stamina, such as a preschooler, we will work to enhance this stamina.

Some students are unable to sustain wearing a mask, IEP accommodations or health plans will be developed for these students.

Will students ever be able to remove masks?

Students will have mask breaks throughout the day, this will likely occur outside. If the weather is inclement safe arrangements will be made in the classrooms.

What type of social distancing measures are in place on the bus, in the halls, in the bathrooms? Etc?

Please review your buildings protocols sent last week.

How will meetings be held? All parent meetings will be held virtually.

How will educational assessments be completed?

All assessments for the triennial need to be completed in person. Arrangements can be made for virtual learners to come in to meet 1:1 with our team for evaluations. If the child is in school testing will occur as usual.

Virtual learning is not adequate for my child.

We have worked hard to enhance our model from the spring. Live teaching will deliver new instruction and support to students. Your student will be informally and formally assessed to ensure current program supports continued growth. If growth is not evident an IEP meeting will be held to determine updated programmatic needs. Will special education teachers be pulled out of class to cover other classes if teachers are absent?

No, there are 3 permanent subs hired at BCMS to cover absences.

How will staff and students be more understanding of individualized needs of our more complex students during this time with accommodations they may need to be made?

Staff is aware of accommodations necessary for each child's individual needs.

During Peer Advisory students are taught to understand treat all students with kindness and compassion.

How will speech be delivered?

Speech will be delivered both in person and at times virtually. We can appropriately deliver speech in small groups or individually with plexiglass barriers, and face shields. Students may also be provided clear mouth masks if necessary for articulation goals.

How will objectives be assessed on days where students are virtual? Objectives are easily assessed on virtual days similarly to in - person days. There will be small group breakout sessions with special educators and work will be monitored and feedback will be provided.

How and when will students take assessments?

The students will be assigned varied assessments, some will be able to be taken in school and some virtually. The teacher will determine the best delivery model for your child. How can parents help their child stay focused during virtual learning? Routine and schedule is particularly important is setting a strong foundation to virtual learning.

Ensure good sleep good sleep and diet

Set a specific virtual school area with no distractions

Have the child dressed as if they were going to school, no pajamas or too comfy of clothes.

Know the child's daily schedule and have a checklist next to their computer so they can check off what they have accomplished

Celebrate their independence

Schedule a meeting the the teacher or Case Manager if you are having further difficulties. Remember set up the expectation from the start. The Branchburg School District want you to know we worked hard to get our students with disabilities in person for the maximum time possible remaining in compliance with all of our health and safety regulations.

We ALL would prefer to be pandemic free and back to normal! Hopefully we are there soon!

Thank you for attending and your on-going patience, kindness and support!

