

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
BRIDESBURG SCHOOL
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Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I'm so excited to share that as of August 2, 2021, we are scheduled to return to full IN-PERSON learning for all Bridesburg School students beginning on Tuesday, August 31, 2021!

As shared before, I am so proud of the efforts of our amazing staff, dedicated students and committed families who have worked so hard to maintain teaching and learning throughout this challenging pandemic. It is our hope that the educational, social and emotional well being of all members of our Bridesburg family was able to thrive.

With that said, we all know that we still face some challenges. Most importantly, we need to provide a safe and healthy environment for everyone. To that end, the following safeguards will be in place:

- Masking - Everyone must wear a mask or other approved facial covering while indoors, whether they are vaccinated or unvaccinated.
- COVID-19 Testing for Staff - We will continue our mandatory weekly testing for all employees and may adapt during the year.
- COVID-19 Testing for Students - We will make onsite testing available for students who have COVID-like symptoms during the day. We will also follow a Test to Stay model. Positive cases must isolate for at least 10 days.
- Continuity of Learning - Students who are quarantining or isolating will receive instructional support while at home.
- Physical Distancing - while 3 feet distancing is recommended and will be encouraged where possible, the priority from both the CDC and PDPH is the full return of students to school with multiple layers of safety in place.

Also, every school will also have air and surface purifiers and touchless hand sanitizer stations.

Additionally, students and families with extenuating circumstances will have the option to remain virtual by enrolling in the School District of Philadelphia Virtual Academy (PVA). If you are considering this option, please know that the two-week PVA enrollment window

for the 2021-2022 school year is Monday, August 2nd through Friday, August 13. You can visit philasd.org/pva to learn more and inform the best decision for your family.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon! We are available at school beginning August 9, 2021. You will receive further information shortly with details regarding the first days of school, our uniform policy, and our new time schedule, with a start time of 9:00 am for all students!

We are excited and ready to safely welcome children back to school for in-person learning, some for the first time in more than 18 months. Having them back and surrounding them with caring educators and supporting them is the best way to help them begin to heal, grow and re-engage in the social environments that are critical to their development.

With appreciation,

James Serpiello, Principal

Dr. John Reese, Assistant Principal