EBR Schools Reopening Plans for 2020-2021

EBR Schools Family,

The start of the 2020-2021 school year is approaching quickly and August 6th will be here before we know it! Please rest assured that the East Baton Rouge Parish School System is prepared to welcome your children back, in-person or virtually, with open arms – metaphorically speaking of course. 😊

We will remain flexible in our planning efforts so that we may be able to adapt to any changes caused by the health pandemic; however, our top priority is to safely reopen schools on August 6, and provide your children with the best education possible. Based on the initial feedback collected in our Back-to-School Parent Survey, we have outlined three possible school return models: face-to-face model, 100% virtual model, and a hybrid model (a blend of face-to-face and virtual learning). These plans were designed with the most recent guidance from local and national education and health officials in mind.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face-to-Face Model</th>
<th>Virtual Model</th>
<th>Hybrid Model</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Students attend school five days a week using additional safety precautions</td>
<td>• Students do not report to school and receive instruction 100% virtually</td>
<td>• Students attend school 2-3 days of the week and receive live and/or recorded virtual instruction the other days of the week</td>
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<td>• Staff report to school daily</td>
<td>• District will support families to meet their technology needs</td>
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<td>• Staff report to school on predetermined days</td>
<td>• Staff report to school daily and provide in-person and virtual instruction and support</td>
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<td>• Staff provide support and teacher-led instruction via district approved education platforms.</td>
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*The district will be prepared to immediately shift to virtual instruction should school closure become necessary during the school year.

Any scenario that involves students attending school in-person will follow all safety precautions as designated by the CDC, Louisiana Department of Education and the Louisiana Department of Health:

- Students and staff will be required to follow all phased guidance safety precautions as ordered by the governor’s office.
- Social distancing protocols will be established and communicated with all stakeholders
- Teachers and staff members will work with students to ensure all COVID-19 safety measures are followed
- Students may follow altered routines for lunch, restroom breaks, bus un/loading, and other travel patterns
- Bus capacity may be limited when necessary to ensure all students can arrive at school safely, on time, and follow all health protocols for bus cleanings, etc.
Increased cleaning procedures and more frequent cleanings of commonly touched surfaces

We recognize that parents and employees have many questions about how all of this will be executed and we will continue to communicate important updates with you throughout the summer regarding:

- Summer learning opportunities [EBR Strong Start 2020 begins July 7. Contact your school for details.]
- Updated safety measures
- Attendance requirements
- Student recovery for unfinished learning
- Preparing students and teachers for various learning methods
- Social/emotional learning and support structures
- Staff and student policies and procedures
- Professional development opportunities for staff

We are working tirelessly to identify solutions to provide a safe and nurturing learning environment that can meet the needs of all students. The district is seeking input on these planning efforts from a wide variety of stakeholders including parents, staff, business leaders, and community partners. To get involved, please take the Back-to-School Parent Survey. It is essential that we understand our families’ needs in order to provide them with the best conditions possible. Our school-based plans will be periodically modified to reflect updates to national, state, and local guidance. As always, the safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

We are committed to working together to make decisions in the best interest of our families, students, and community. We will not allow this obstacle to hinder student growth in the upcoming year. Brick by brick, we are Building the Future of Baton Rouge!

Sincerely,

EBR Schools