



BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. Box 450 • 129 Church Street
BRISTOL, CT 06011-0450
860-584-7000 • Fax (860) 584-7611

April 17, 2020

Good Afternoon Bristol Public School Families:

I hope you and your scholar(s) have enjoyed this past week of vacationing at home and had ample time to replenish your energies and regain balance. Today's update will include a reminder about the Phase III Continuous Learning Plan which begins on Monday, April 20, 2020; information about planning for the remainder of the school year, an update on kindergarten registration, and resources shared with us from Hartford Health Care and CVC by the Bristol Burlington Health District.

Phase III Continuous Learning Plan

Beginning April 20, 2020, we will expand the ways in which our teachers interact with our scholars. Our pre-K through grade 2 teachers will begin using SeeSaw, an on-line platform that supports early elementary learning through video, photos, and greater interactivity with the teacher. Grade three through grade twelve teachers will utilize Google Classroom to provide instruction. This platform will allow teachers to provide direct instruction, increase the interaction among students, and streamline collection and feedback of learning tasks.

What are our objectives for Phase III?

- to promote student and family well-being
- to make a connection with every student and provide support based on student needs
- to offer students feedback on their learning
- to expand the use of interactive online learning tools and resources that engage students' hearts and minds

How will my child begin?

Teachers will email students directly to their Bristol Public Schools email accounts with the information they will need to log into Clever/Seesaw and Google Classroom. Between Monday, April 20, 2020, and Wednesday, April 22, 2020, teachers will provide an orientation to SeeSaw or Google Classroom for both students and families. Teachers will also post their first lessons or assignments on April 20th. The presentation below is a helpful introduction to Google Classroom: [Google Classroom Parent Presentation](#).

How will attendance be tracked?

Students will be considered "in school" or attending school, if they have completed the daily check out for their teacher once per day **or** if they have completed their assignment.

How will students be graded?

Student learning in this phase for grades 6-12 will be graded based on success criteria or rubrics created by teachers for each assignment. We understand that this learning environment may present challenges that could impact student performance. Teachers will continue to employ best practices to ensure that students are clear on the expectations for the assignment, are provided the instruction necessary to complete the task, and were given formative feedback about their progress before a grade is assigned for any assessment. Teachers will communicate regularly with students about their progress to ensure students are successful and demonstrate academic growth.

I am sharing a quote I read this week that I feel reflects the approach BPS is taking to virtual/distance learning while being mindful of the stress and anxiety that this extended school closure has caused many of our families and staff. ***“Relationships before rigor. Grace before grades. Patience before programs. Love before lessons.”***

While we are committed to continuing educational opportunities and engagement for our scholars it should not come at the cost of their social and emotional well-being. Until we can be together under one roof, we are together as one Bristol School District community, we are committed to supporting our scholars, families, and staff.

Planning for the Remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year

Our administrators and staff will work together during the next few weeks to address and plan for all eventualities for the remainder of the school year. This includes resuming school operations if deemed safe for all students and staff after May 20, 2020, and also planning for the possible closure of schools for the remainder of the school year. Other topics include: Celebrating the Class of 2020, Social Emotional and Academic Learning For All, Transitions Planning, Conducting PPT's, Meeting the Learning Needs of All Learners, ESY and Summer School, Resuming In-School Learning, Wellness for All, and Welcoming New Families to the School/District Community. We will create mechanisms for you and your scholar to provide feedback and input to many of these topics. Next week, we will communicate a discussion forum and process to engage with the parents and guardians of our 2020 graduates allowing them to share their opinions and ideas on ways to ensure our scholars receive formal recognition of their academic, athletic and artistic talents.

Registration and Kindergarten Registration

The Bristol Public Schools Central Registration Department has made substantive changes to the registration process in response to our remote working environment. The registration process will be a two-step process. All registration documents can be accessed on the Central Registration link located in the *Departments Area* of the Bristol Board of Education website.

In step one, you will be able to upload student, parent/guardian, and residency documentation, to our registrars' for review. Completed registration packets will then be sent to the school your child will attend. The school will contact you concerning class and course assignments, and any other school related information.

In the second step, you will submit your child's medical records. Medical records will be reviewed by our School Health Services Coordinator. Your child will be placed in a school by completing step one while we are teaching and learning remotely. ***However, all students must be medically cleared before they can attend school when we resume in-person instruction.***

STEP ONE

- A. Take clear pictures of **or** scan the following documents to your electronic device:
 - a. student's birth certificate
 - b. student's current physical
 - c. student's current immunization record
 - d. parent picture ID
 - e. current lease or mortgage statement
 - f. back page of current Eversource bill showing service address
- B. Go to BOE website (<https://www.bristol.k12.ct.us>) department/ central registration/ choose your child's grade level
- C. Complete online registration form and upload above documents

STEP TWO

Medical clearance must be obtained prior to the first day of in-person instruction. Please submit your medical information to the Bristol-Burlington Health District via email or fax care of Catherine Plourde, RN-School Health Services Coordinator at catherineplourde@bristolct.gov. Fax (860) 584-3814. Your health care provider may send medical information via fax to the attention of Catherine Plourde.

The following documents are required to obtain medical clearance:

- a. Current Physical Current
- b. Immunization Record
- c. Health Assessment Form
- d. Health History Form
- e. Dental Form

If you should need assistance please contact Isabel Brady, at 860-584-7033 isabelbrady@bristol12.org or Jessica Cervantes, at 860-587-7057 jessicacervantes@bristol12.org.

A hard copy of the registration packet will be available at the food distribution sites starting on April 20th.

We are Bristol Public Schools! We are Bristol All Heart! We are all in this together!

In partnership,



Catherine M. Carbone, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools