

Bakersfield Elementary Middle School

COVID-19 REOPENING HANDBOOK

UPDATED: August 26th, 2020



This handbook will be posted the BEMS Website: <http://www.bakersfieldschool.net/>

The following information contains revisions and additions to our handbook outlining procedures necessary to respond to health and safety guidelines. COVID-related handbook additions are subject to change based on new or revised guidelines released by the Vermont Agency of Education, Vermont Department of Health, and state or local government mandates.

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Student Learning Options:

Option 1: Hybrid Learning (a mix of in-person and virtual learning)

Students are assigned to one of two groups with each student attending in-person classes two days a week and learning virtually three days a week. The district is making every effort to group families together whenever possible. To do this, we begin by assigning high school students to groups alphabetically by last name and will provide exceptions to families in the same household with different last names.

Option 2: Full-Time Virtual Learning

FNESU virtual learning academy

<https://sites.google.com/fnesu.org/fnesuvirtuallearningacademy/home>



Remote Learning Program

2020-2021

HIGH SCHOOL

High School students electing a fully remote learning option will be enrolled in the Vermont Virtual Learning Collaborative (VTVLC). Classes will be taught by Licensed Educators throughout Vermont. Two of our FNESU teachers will be teaching full-time in the VTVLC Collaborative for the 2020-2021 school year. Eligible students will receive special education services by our FNESU special educators.



FNESU K-8 VIRTUAL LEARNING ACADEMY

Families wanting a fully remote learning experience for their children can choose to enroll their children in the FNESU Virtual Learning Academy. FNESU teachers will be assigned to teach in the Virtual Learning Academy. This Academy will be considered a fully virtual K-8 school. Students will also be enrolled in elective classes through the virtual learning academy.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle school students will be taught by appropriately licensed FNESU teachers assigned to the Virtual Learning Academy. The learning will be aligned with the FNESU Priority Standards. Students will participate in elective classes taught by FNESU teachers. Students will also have access to student services through collaboration between the Virtual Learning staff and the home school.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Elementary students will be assigned to a cohort of same grade, or multi-grade, peers and will be taught by appropriately licensed FNESU elementary teachers. The learning will be aligned to the FNESU Priority Standards. Elective classes will be taught by FNESU teachers. Students will have access to student services through a collaboration between the Academy Teacher and the support staff at the home school.

For more information visit our [Virtual Learning website](#).

If you would like a fully Virtual experience for your child, and you have not already completed the survey or communicated that to your child's school, please complete [this survey](#) by August 21, 2020.
If you have already completed this survey, you are all set and will be hearing from our Coordinator. If you no longer want your child to be enrolled in the fully remote option, please contact your school's administrative assistant.

For more information, contact our Remote Learning Coordinator -
 Gabriela Lombra - gabrielal.lombra@fnesu.org

Details About Option #1: Hybrid Learning (mix of in-person and virtual learning environments)

Students will be assigned to one of two groups (Cohort A: Monday/Tuesday or Cohort B: Thursday/Friday) with each student attending in-person classes two days a week and learning virtually three days a week.

[The Vermont Agency of Education released A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools on June 17, 2020](#), and subsequently released [Hybrid Learning During the 2020 - 2021 School Year on July 15, 2020](#). In both of those documents, they strongly encourage schools to focus on the return to in-person instruction stating that it, "...is the optimal approach to address both student learning needs and the larger social, emotional and health needs of students."

FNESU Sample Hybrid Learning Schedule

- **Remote learning** includes videos and activities to complete on and offline.
- **Synchronous options** are live meetings that students may attend from home through their computer. They are scheduled for a specific time in advance and provide social-emotional and enrichment activities.
- **Asynchronous options** include pre recorded videos, links, and activities students can access and complete at their own pace throughout the three remote days.
- **Specific schedule** for office hours and remote learning activities will be provided directly to students

Cohort A

****Students & Families can build a personalized schedule to complete remote learning assignments by Monday***

Monday In Person <i>Instruction in school</i>	Tuesday In Person <i>Instruction in school</i>	Wednesday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>	Thursday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>	Friday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>
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Cohort B

****Students & Families can build a personalized schedule to complete remote learning assignments by Monday***

Monday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>	Tuesday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>	Wednesday Remote <i>Instructional videos and offline learning activities completed at home</i>	Thursday In Person <i>Instruction in school</i>	Friday In Person <i>Instruction in school</i>
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Daily Arrival

Doors will open at 7:30 every morning. We have identified 3 dropoff areas:

- Bus riders will use the main entrance
- Walkers and Parent Drop-Offs will use the gym door entrance
- PreSchool/PlaySchool students will arrive at 8:30 and be dropped off at the Pre/Play school door.

Students will not be permitted into the building without having their temperature taken. If a student has a temperature of over 100.4 they will not be allowed into the building. Staff members will be stationed at the four entrances to do daily screenings:

- Bus Riders: A bus monitor will conduct a screening and check students' temperatures BEFORE they get on the school bus each day. Masks will be required on the school bus. Once students get to school, they will enter through the main entrance.
- Parent Drop-Offs: When dropping off or picking up students parents will pull up to the gym entrance. Be mindful of each other and make a safe car line. **STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST REMAIN IN THE VEHICLE.** A school screener will come to the car and screen your child before they get out of the car. Then they may enter the school through the gym doors and go straight to their homeroom.
- Walkers/Bikers: Students who walk also enter through the gym door entrance. A screener will be outside meeting students as they arrive, screening them, and then they may enter school and go straight to their homeroom.
- Parents will be able to sign a one time agreement that says they will not send their child to school if they have symptoms or have been in a red state.
- Students will still need to have their temperature taken before boarding the bus or entering the building, even if the family signs this agreement.
- Students who do not pass the screening will not be permitted to board the bus and/or enter the school building. Bus drivers and school screeners may need to turn students away.
- Parents must fill out a plan for their child before school starts that the school will keep on file.

*Students arriving late to school, after 8:00 should enter at the Main Entrance (#1)

- **PARENTS MUST ESCORT THEIR CHILD TO THE DOOR AND WAIT FOR THE SCREENING.** A screener will come outside to conduct a screening before your child can enter the building.

**Students leaving early; parents must call the school & speak to Michele Plouff (Admin. Assistant) then come to the Main Entrance and buzz for their student, but you will not be permitted to enter the building.

Facial Coverings

Behavioral concerns related to the COVID safety guidelines (for example, student mask refusal) must be taken very seriously by our school system. This is for the health and safety of everyone. Students who refuse to comply with school safety protocols will be removed from the bus and/or moved to a fully remote learning option. We will do our best to work with families to solve this problem, including educating students and providing supports. However, we are unable to allow students who cannot follow guidelines to remain in the school or on the bus.

Acceptable facial coverings / masks



Update on acceptable face coverings / masks

- Surgical mask
- KN95 (Each educator provided with some)
- Double ply material masks (shown above)



No longer acceptable for a face covering

- Bandana
- One layer gaiter
- Vented mask



* Neck Gaiters: Neck Gaiters are acceptable only if they have 2 or more layers and are worn above the ears.

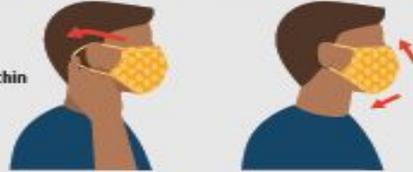
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How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering

Accessible: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



USE THE FACE COVERING TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain
- Don't put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the face covering, and, if you do, clean your hands

FOLLOW EVERYDAY HEALTH HABITS

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTH FACE COVERING CAREFULLY, WHEN YOU'RE HOME

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine
- Wash your hands with soap and water



Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators, both of which should be saved for health care workers and other medical first responders.

For instructions on making a cloth face covering, see:

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Behavioral concerns related to the COVID safety guidelines (for example, student mask refusal) must be taken very seriously by our school system. This is for the health and safety of everyone. 4 Students who refuse to comply with school safety protocols will be removed from the bus and/or moved to a fully remote learning option. We will do our best to work with families to solve this problem, including educating students and providing supports. However, we are unable to allow students who cannot follow guidelines to remain in the school or on the bus.

Hybrid Attendance

Purpose:

The purpose of tracking attendance is to ensure students have access to and engage in learning even in a remote setting. This system will help us track students who need additional supports for access.

- BEMS teachers will report absences per class on a weekly basis in Powerschool on Mondays for Cohort A and Thursdays for Cohort B.
 - The default is that all students are counted present each day.
- Teachers will reach out to families if students are not participating appropriately in remote learning

Two days per week, in person attendance will be taken at school.

On Wednesday and the two remote days attendance will be verified by the following:

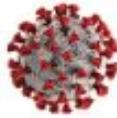
- Did the student successfully complete assigned remote learning tasks by the end of the next in-person day?
- Did the student attend office hours to seek assistance, if needed?
- Did the student initiate or respond to calls, emails, or video calls in order to seek or accept assistance?
- Did the student show up for synchronous learning support as scheduled?
- If the answer YES, the student is present for the day.

COVID ABSENCES -- If a student is required to quarantine, they will be able continue to access their learning through the Learning Management System, if physically able, and those days will not be counted as absences.

Daily Attendance and Participation in Extracurricular Activities and Sports:

Students absent from school may not participate in practices or games that day without permission from the principal and/or athletic director. Permission will be granted if extenuating circumstances are approved. If the sports program is able to operate, the expectation is that student-athletes will actively be engaged during their remote learning days in order to participate.

What you should know about COVID-19 to protect yourself and others



Know about COVID-19

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.
- COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness.



Know how COVID-19 is spread

- You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person.
- You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
- You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.



Protect yourself and others from COVID-19

- There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Stay home as much as possible and avoid close contact with others.
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



Practice social distancing

- Buy groceries and medicine, go to the doctor, and complete banking activities online when possible.
- If you must go in person, stay at least 6 feet away from others and disinfect items you must touch.
- Get deliveries and takeout, and limit in-person contact as much as possible.



Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.
- Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.
- There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but you can seek medical care to help relieve your symptoms.
- If you need medical attention, call ahead.



Know your risk for severe illness

- Everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19.
- Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more severe illness.



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School Safety Daily Symptom Checklist



Red Light Symptoms & Conditions (do not go to school)

Close contact with someone with known or suspected COVID
Shortness of breath or Difficulty breathing
Cough
Fever (Temperature 100.4 F or higher on morning check)
Chills
New loss of taste or smell
Vomiting or Diarrhea

Yellow Light Symptoms & Conditions (ask your doctor or school nurse if it is safe for you to attend school)

Fatigue
Muscle or Body aches
Headache
Sore Throat
Congestion or Runny nose
Nausea or Poor appetite
Red eyes
Rash or Purple toes

Green Light = No symptoms
See you at school!

Parent Meetings: It is part of our school culture to encourage parent involvement in school activities and events. Parents are our most important partners in the education system. We are saddened that this year, health and safety guidelines related to COVID greatly limit our ability to welcome visitors into our schools. Parents and visitors (including guest speakers, community members, etc...) will not be able to visit us in-person. All meetings will need to happen virtually. Whole School celebrations and meetings, School Open Houses and Parent Conferences will still take place; those events will look a little different this year! Stay Tuned!

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