

MESSAGE TITLE: Preparing Options for Fall

SOURCE: Email

DATE: Tuesday, June 2, 2020

AUDIENCE: Staff

As we wrap up the school year, there are still many unknowns about returning to school this fall. We don't anticipate receiving further guidance from MDE until mid-summer. At this time we are planning and preparing for traditional school, hybrid instruction, distance learning 2.0 and a new fully online option, Bloomington Online School.

As a district, we're preparing to begin in one of these three models in the fall:

1. Traditional school

Students attend school every day, with additional precautions and cleaning.

2. Hybrid instruction

Students attend school in small cohorts, with alternating schedules to physically spread out students and limit the number of students in a classroom at a time. Instruction is a combination of in-person and teacher-assigned work completed independently. Workgroups have evaluated and narrowed the models to 3 rank ordered models as described in the surveys below. Please take a few minutes to provide input on hybrid cohort model options for the level(s) at which you work.

- [Elementary hybrid model survey](#)
- [Middle school hybrid model survey](#)
- [High school hybrid model survey](#)

Additional implementation planning for each level and expansion beyond this initial k-12 scope will begin in the upcoming weeks. If you are interested in working on an implementation team over the summer, please fill out this [interest form](#).

3. Distance Learning 2.0

Emergency instruction plan if students and staff are unable to be in buildings (as directed by MDE). DL 2.0 improvements based on staff, parent and student feedback:

- Simplified attendance
- Streamlined communications
- Predictable schedule for synchronous learning
- More rigor in assessments, better defined content expectations

Plans for early childhood and preschool students are currently being developed.

Bloomington Online School

In addition, BPS is preparing an option we're calling Bloomington Online School. It's designed for parents and students who cannot, or choose not to return physically to school in the fall. This will be an option regardless of which of the above three models are implemented at any time for

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the rest of the district.

Bloomington Online School is a fully online option for grades K-12. Content will be developed and taught by BPS teachers, using BPS standards and supports. Course development is in progress.

Teachers interested in joining online summer development teams, please fill out the respective interest form below. Respondents will hear back with more information by Friday, June 12.

- **K-5:** [K-5 interest form](#).
- **6-8:** [Middle School interest form](#).
- **9-12:** [High School interest form](#).

All models are being developed with advisory teams of teachers, administrators, and representatives from other staff and program areas. We will also seek feedback through surveys and focus groups of parents and students. Watch your email for information on joining additional groups as they are formed to continue detailing each of these plans over the summer.

Summer Communications

We will continue to share updates as we have new information, and will resume weekly staff communications on Wednesdays starting July 15. Staff are encouraged to check their district email or [update your personal information in Skyward](#) to receive phone or text notifications.