



BPS Remote Learning Update

School Committee Meeting
April 28, 2020



School Closure Timeline

- March 20 Online Enrichment & Support (Phase I)
- March 25 Schools closed through May 4
- April 6 Remote Learning (Phase II)
- April 21 Schools closed through June 17
- April 24 DESE updates guidelines

BPS Remote Learning Phase II will continue through June 17.

Updated Guidelines April 24, 2020

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

To do this, we recommend that districts and schools take the following steps:

Strengthen the remote learning program for all students. We recommend that districts and schools focus on the following elements to ensure a strong baseline remote learning program. Please note, the only area where we are materially modifying our initial recommendations is the focus on covering the prerequisite content standards (#2 below):

1. **Prioritize meaningful connections with educators and peers.**
2. **Provide engaging core instruction focused on the prerequisite content standards that are most critical for student success in the next grade.**
3. **Offer opportunities for enrichment, exercise, and play.**
4. **Ensure programming is accessible and secure and communication is streamlined for students and their families.**

This began on April 6 in Belmont.

Key Components of Phase II, preK-12

During remote learning, the educator will create and direct learning that includes:

- Social and emotional learning
- Maintenance of previously learned skills and content
- Meaningful and productive learning opportunities
- Curriculum advancement (skills and content)

We are reviewing the list of “critical standards” created by DESE to ensure all have been or will be taught.

Key Components of Phase II, preK-12

- Learning activities for 50% of the time of a regular school day (3 hours)
- Google Meet for all virtual gatherings
- Educators monitor student engagement and follow engagement protocols to check on and support students who are not participating

Key Components of Phase II, preK-12

- Asynchronous instruction
 - Teacher-created/recorded videos
 - Curated online videos, instructional software
 - Learning activities / assignments
- Synchronous gatherings
 - Social emotional well-being, connections
 - Office hours to support learning

Updated Guidelines

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Develop a system for identifying and supporting students not effectively engaged in remote learning. We recommend that districts and schools:

- 1. Collect information to understand each student's level of engagement in remote learning.**
- 2. Provide supports to further engage all students, with a focus on meeting foundational student needs.**

We have protocols in place in all schools to track student engagement and enact a tiered system of support as needed.

Our Amazing Educators

We are so proud of Belmont educators who are:

- Learning new technology to transfer their practice to the virtual classroom
- Engaging their students in creative ways
- Collaborating with colleagues and supporting each other as they learn and grow

Continuing to Plan for:

- 2019-20 end-of-year transition events & tasks
- Summer professional development for educators
 - Social emotional learning/trauma-informed teaching
 - Technology
- Summer work to adjust 2020-21 curriculum in light of current situation
- 2020-21 School Operations

2020-21 School Year Planning

- Opportunity to return to previous year teachers for closure / social emotional well-being
- Options for physical distancing / fewer students
 - Staggered schedules
 - Alternating days or weeks
- Options for intermittent / rolling closures

THANK YOU

To all Belmont Public Schools educators and staff for their dedication and commitment to their students and teaching and learning

To all District Leaders for their tireless support of educators and staff and commitment to working together to find solutions to problems we never imagined we would face

To our school nurses supporting the Belmont Health Department and the contact tracing initiative

To our food services staff providing meals to children

To our custodial staff keeping the buildings ready for our return

To our School Committee and Belmont Community for your support