

Briggs School District Family Resource Guide Fall 2021



A Message from the Superintendent



We know that you have many questions about this new school year and what it will look like in terms of COVID protocols. This **Family Resource Guide** will give you most of the information about our COVID health and safety protocols for this coming school year. Our goal is to return to our schools to as close to pre-COVID normal as possible. In order to do this, the District is required to follow the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidelines with regards to COVID protocols.

Some of the major changes for the coming year include:

- Per CDPH guidelines, face coverings are required to be worn by ALL persons indoors (on-campus).
- Students and staff will self-screen for COVID19 symptoms before coming to school.
- We encourage all who can receive COVID vaccinations to do so.
- We will continue to practice the safety and sanitation techniques that started last year. Classrooms will be provided hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment as well.
- Healthy/non-symptomatic vaccinated students and staff will not need to be quarantined if they are exposed to a COVID-positive or symptomatic individual.
- Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or show symptoms commonly associated with COVID, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days (unless they provide documentation of being fully vaccinated, in which case a negative COVID test will be required).
- Physical distance will no longer be required; we do encourage staff and students to practice social distancing when possible.
- Visitors will be limited in schools. In-person meetings may take place for special events and masks will be required if they are indoors and highly recommended outside.

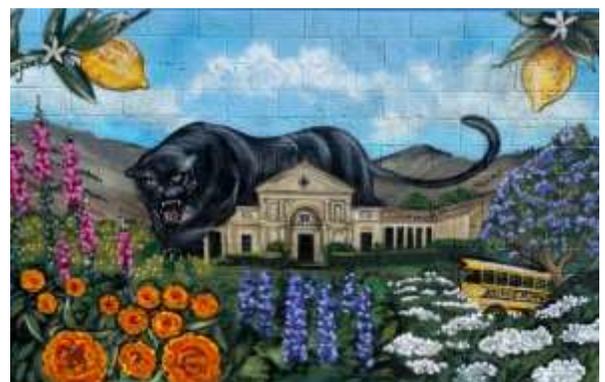


Table of Contents

Welcome Back! 3

Life on Campus 4

Commitment to Safety 5

Student Safety 6

Fall 2021 Student Checklist 7

Frequently Asked Questions 8



Welcome Back!

Briggs School District Schools will return to full in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. We welcome students back to their campuses with enhanced programs and services to best meet the needs of all of our Briggs Students as they return.

Academic Supports & Opportunities

- ❖ Full-time intervention teacher at Olivelihoods School.
- ❖ Intervention teacher at Briggs to support English Learners in 5th – 8th.
- ❖ Technology access including one-to-one devices for every student.

Social Emotional Supports and Opportunities

- ❖ Counseling support and referral services at both school sites.
- ❖ School nurse two days a week.
- ❖ Implementation of school-wide wellness and positive behavior programs.
- ❖ Tools and resources for students and families available on the District website.



Life on Campus

While being mindful of student safety, we are excited that school will return this year to a mostly normal environment in the classrooms and with student activities and peer interactions.



Length of Day

All students will return to a regular full day instructional schedule.

Olivelands School:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:
8:00 AM to 2:15 PM

Wednesday:
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Briggs School:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:
8:00 AM to 2:50 PM

Wednesday:
8:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Lunch/Meals

Students will eat lunch on campus with their peers following the latest public health guidelines.

All students will have access to the Briggs School District meal programs free of charge while on campus.

Recess/Nutrition

Students will participate in recess & PE, including use of shared equipment, and other apparatus following the latest public health guidelines.

Mask wearing is optional when outside, but highly recommended.

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities, including athletics, are expected to return to a traditional format and schedule in accordance with the latest public health guidelines.



Commitment to Safety

The Briggs School District will continue to maintain the highest standards to protect the health and welfare of our students as they return to campus.

Public Health Guidance

The Briggs School District will continue to implement the most recent COVID requirements provided by the California Department of Health (CDPH), Ventura County Public Health Department (VCPH), the California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), and the California Department of Education (CDE).

Safety Protocols on All Campuses

Safety protocols will be consistently implemented on all of our school sites, including cleaning and disinfecting procedures, the use of personal protective equipment, hand washing and sanitizing, health screening and response to illness policies.

Effective Air Filtration Systems

All District HVAC systems function to their highest efficiency. Proper filters are replaced regularly.

Hygiene

Hand washing areas and hand sanitizer stations will be available to students and staff throughout each campus. Their use will be promoted and incorporated into school routines.



Student Safety

* All content is based on the safety measure requirements provided by state and local public health departments.

FACE MASK



- Indoors: Masks are required regardless of vaccination status except when eating and/or drinking.
- Outdoors: Masks are optional, but highly recommended.
- Transportation Services: Masks are required.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING



- Specific physical distancing requirements will not be required.
- Our safety plan includes essential COVID mitigation measures such as mask-wearing, hand hygiene, regular cleaning and disinfecting, high-grade ventilation systems, and more.

SCREENING & SYMPTOM CHECKING



- Parents are required to perform daily health screening checks at home before sending their students to school, including ensuring each child has a temperature below 99.5 and does not show any cold, cough, or flu-like symptoms.
- Staff is required to perform daily health and screening checks at home before coming onto campus.
- Staying home when sick is essential for keeping COVID-19 and other infections out of schools and preventing the spread of illness to others.

SHARING OF OBJECTS & MATERIALS



- Given the very low risk of transmission from surfaces and shared objects, students will be able to share materials, supplies, and related instructional equipment and devices.
- Enhanced cleaning schedules will continue to be implemented. Each classroom, restroom, lunch area, and office will be fully cleaned each day.
- Disinfecting surfaces will occur in high traffic areas or under conditions where there may be a higher risk of infection or transmission.

VISITORS ON CAMPUS



- Visitors will continue to be limited in schools. A visitor is anyone on campus.
- Essential in-person meetings may take place, in which case face coverings will be required unless outdoors.
- Classroom and office volunteers will not be permitted until further notice.

Fall 2021 Student Checklist

To help students prepare and be ready for the first day of school, please use the checklist of steps below. The checklist format is included to help you check off items as you progress.

- **Be informed of the guidance for the 2021-2022 school year:**
Review all guidance contained within the Family Resource Guide as well as our website for the latest information regarding safety protocols and enrollment.
- **Make an informed decision regarding your learning options:**
Review the information regarding the instructional learning environments offered for the 2021-2022 school year (In-Person or Independent Study). If you choose to continue with in-person instruction, you will remain enrolled in your current school.
- **Prepare for the first day of school:**
Please make sure to review the information with your student including the required safety procedures. Students should arrive at school with a proper fitting mask which will be worn while indoors. Should a student forget their mask, one will be provided. Alternative protections may be permissible for individuals with disabilities or those needing accommodations as defined by the California Public Health Department (CDPH). Please contact your school site with any questions.
- **Practice new schedules & routines:**
Students will be adjusting to different schedules, routines, and procedures as they return to campus. Practicing getting up and ready for school, wearing a mask indoors, and eating on a regular schedule will help your child be successful with the transition back to school.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will students be mandated to wear masks at school?

Yes, students and staff will be required to wear masks indoors. This is required by the CDPH mandates for school reopening. There will be no differentiation between students who have been vaccinated or not. Students will be required to wear a face mask while riding the school bus. No masks will be required outdoors, including at recess, lunch or during outdoor PE activities, but masks outdoors will be optional. Students who meet the criteria for a mask exemption per CDS guidelines ([Your Guide to Masks](#)) can wear a face shield with a drape. The school office will provide a disposable face mask to students who forget to bring one of their own.

Are California school districts mandated to follow CDPH guidelines?

Yes, all California schools (public, charter and private) are required to follow the CDPH guidelines ([COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year](#)). California school districts are not allowed to opt-out of the mask mandate for their schools.

Is there a virtual option for students who do not want to attend in-person instruction?

The state legislature did not renew SB 98, which allowed districts to provide virtual learning last year. Instead, they passed AB 130, which requires districts to offer independent study. This is not the virtual instruction our families experienced during the pandemic. Independent study is just that, independent. Students are assigned work for the week in each of their subjects. Students will have daily or weekly check-ins with a teacher, depending on the student's grade level. For grades Kindergarten through 3rd, there is a daily check-in with a teacher. For grades 4th through 8th, there is a weekly check-in. Unfortunately, the District cannot provide the same type of distance learning as we did during the pandemic, because the state legislature removed that option, nor will your child be guaranteed a spot with their same teacher.

What does this fall look like for my student if they have an IEP (Special Education Services) or a Section 504 Plan?

If your child is a student with special needs who has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan, please contact your child's case manager with specific questions. IEP and Section 504 Plan Services will be fully implemented in-person this fall. Your child's case manager can address specific questions.

Will temperature checks and health screenings be required prior to entering the school?

Parents are required to perform daily health and screening checks at home prior to sending their students to school, including ensuring a temperature below 99.5 and no cold, cough, or flu-like symptoms.

Staff is required to perform daily health and screening checks at home prior to coming on to campus.

Individuals should stay home if they have had any symptoms related to COVID-19 within the past 10 days, which include flu-like symptoms such as fever, coughing, shortness of breath, chills, muscle or body pain, fatigue, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, congestion, runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, or if they are subject to quarantine due to being in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual.

Will there be social distancing requirements?

No, specific social distancing requirements will not be required. Our safety plan includes essential COVID mitigation measures such as mask-wearing, hand hygiene, regular disinfecting, high-grade ventilation systems, and more.

Will there be handwashing/hand sanitizer stations?

Yes, hand sanitizer stations and hand-washing stations will be in place around the campuses. Students will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the classrooms.

Will there be cleaning and disinfecting taking place?

Enhanced cleaning schedules will continue to be implemented. Each classroom, restroom, lunch area, and office will be fully cleaned each day. High-touch areas (doorknobs, faucets, light switches) will be sanitized each day. Disinfection of rooms or surfaces will take place in the event of a possible or confirmed exposure.

Will there be testing and contacting tracing?

Yes, in the event of a student or staff member exhibits symptoms, there will be available testing through the County of Ventura ([County of Ventura Expanded COVID-19 Testing](#)), communications to potential exposures, and contact tracing. Quarantine and conditions for a student or staff member to return to campus will follow CDPH requirements.

What should I do if my child has symptoms of COVID-19?

Keep your child home from school. Students and staff members with COVID symptoms should not return for in-person instruction until they have met all three criteria:

1. They have a negative COVID test or a health care provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are due to something else or at least 10 days have passed since the onset of their symptoms.
2. At least 24 hours have passed since the resolution of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.
3. Other symptoms have improved.

What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, or comes into "Close Contact" with an individual with COVID?

The District will comply with all notification and quarantine protocols called for in the local county health order by Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance.

It is important to note a recent change in guidance: Consistent with VCPH County Health Orders, fully vaccinated students and staff who come into close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual will not be required to quarantine at home, but instead will be able to remain in in-person instruction with biweekly testing ([County of Ventura Expanded COVID-19 Testing](#)).

What happens if a student begins to exhibit or experience COVID-19 symptoms while at school?

All BESD school sites will continue to maintain an "Isolation Room" where students exhibiting COVID-like symptoms can be safely monitored until their parents/guardians pick them up.

Will students be required to be vaccinated?

No, however, vaccination is the leading prevention strategy to protect individuals from the COVID-19 disease (CDC). Vaccinations are currently available for students ages 12 and up and parents are encouraged to consult with their health providers in considering vaccinations for their children. Vaccination sites are available county-wide.

Will visitors be allowed at BESD Schools/Facilities?

In the 2021-2022 school year, visitors will continue to be limited in schools. In-person meetings may take place for parent conferences, PFO meetings, and other events in which case face coverings will be required unless outdoors. Classroom and office volunteers will not be permitted until further notice.

If I need assistance from the school, may I just show up?

Please call or send an email message in lieu of visiting the school for assistance. While school offices are open, we request that, whenever possible, visitors attempt to conduct business by phone or email, to limit the number of people on site. When this is not possible, please contact the school site to schedule an appointment.

If I have scheduled an appointment on campus, what do I do?

All pre-approved visitors should self-monitor for symptoms and temperatures at home. If symptomatic, please do not enter school facilities. Pre-approved visitors must wear a face covering upon entering a school building and are asked to respect social distance. Check in at the front office.

What ventilation best practices will be in place at school sites?

All HVAC systems are outfitted with high efficiency filters, as the systems allow. These filters will be checked and replaced as necessary. For centrally controlled systems, HVAC units are time set to come on prior to the start of school and turn off at least two hours after dismissal. Windows and doors will remain open as practical to maximize fresh air entry.

Will the drinking fountains be operational?

Drinking fountains will be available. Students are encouraged to bring personal, labeled water bottles to refill. Drinking fountains will be cleaned daily.

What about school meals?

This year we are excited to announce that all meals for BESD students will be free and served on campus. Students will be able to eat lunch with their peers. Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide Grab-N-Go meals this year. Breakfast and lunch are available to all BESD students. All students should either bring their sack lunch with them to school or eat a free meal provided by the district. No drop offs of food or drinks will be allowed to minimize disruption in the educational program.

If all students receive free meals, is it necessary to fill out a meal application of any kind?

While a meal application is not necessary in 2021-2022, BESD respectfully requests assistance in maximizing state funding for BESD by completing the Alternative Household Income Form. The information provided by families remains confidential. The state determines school district funding based upon several factors, one of which is income level of enrolled students and families. Without families completing this form, BESD will miss out on necessary funding to provide additional supports for all students.

Will there be Athletics, Band, Choir, Drama, and other Extracurricular Activities?

Yes, each school will have extracurricular activities this year as available and allowed. Schools will publicize specific COVID-19 protocols for all athletic, band, choir, drama, and extracurricular programs.

Will there be After School Program?

Yes, for those students who pre-registered and received approval for the 2021-22 school year. The ASES program runs 180 days of the school year until 6:00 PM.

If you have any safety, concerns please contact your school office. These FAQs will be updated as guidance evolves.