UPDATED FALL SCHOOL OPTION FAQ

Updated Fall School Option FAQ
Graduation Ceremonies Class of 2020
Valley View 2020 Graduation
2020-2021 School Options
BSSD WILL BE CLOSED
COVID-19 April Update
The Winter Blueprint Is Now Online
Secondary Course Books Are Now Online
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Posted on 07/23/2020

Updated Frequently Asked Questions

Special Services FAQ

Thank you to our families for responding to our form promptly. The information provided on the form gives us the information required to plan for the upcoming school year. We need every family to submit their decisions no later than July 17th. Also, please note that your submission of your response does not complete your registration process for the 2020-2021 school year. Information will be communicated in the coming weeks about our annual residency verification and new student enrollment process. These are necessary steps to complete to ensure your child is enrolled and registered for the coming year.

Below is a list of common questions our community members have expressed and answers from the district. Please know we will continue to update and clarify these concerns as more information becomes available. Some questions cannot be answered at this time as further planning and direction from state and local agencies is necessary. We will continue to do our best to communicate the most current and updated information as it becomes available.

Can we switch from In-Person School to BSSD Distance Learning at any point during the semester?

Students may move from In-Person School to BSSD Distance Learning at any time. If students have selected BSSD Distance Learning, they will continue to learn from home from August-December 2020.

I am not receiving district emails.

Please email Barb Bush at bbush@bssd.net and include your student’s name. She will troubleshoot and resolve the issue for you.

My student will be new in the fall. How do I enroll my child?

https://www.bssd.net/news/what_s_new/updated_fall_school_option_faq
Please call the Department of Public Safety at 816-874-3330 to make an enrollment appointment.

Is there a way to double-check if my survey response was received?

If you don’t think the form was submitted correctly, please fill out another form to be sure. You will be able to confirm your choice during residency verification in the coming weeks.

What will social distancing look like? Class size? Distance between students? Transitioning in hallways? Supervision of students to maintain protocols?

If the district is not mandated by Jackson County or some other entity to social distance, we will continue to distance students whenever possible. Our ability to social distance depends on the number of students who elect to return to school. We will maintain social distance guidelines while walking the hallways, during bathroom breaks, and eating lunch. Students will be taught how and why it is important we socially distance whenever possible; however, we know that certain student populations, including our youngest learners, will struggle with the concept and their self-control. District staff will do their best to supervise and reinforce the necessary safety precautions with our students.

What will the district cleaning procedures look like if I select in-person learning?

We understand the importance of providing a germ-free environment. Our custodians have been trained on advanced disinfecting techniques with additional emphasis placed on bathrooms, common areas, classrooms, and desktops.

Who to contact with 504/Special Education/English Language Learner and special population-related questions if we select BSSD Distance Learning plan?

Additional information and FAQs regarding these topics will be released next week.

Are CTC classes going to be offered in BSSD Distance Learning?

If you are enrolled in CTC, distance-learning courses are not available. All CTC courses will meet in-person.

Are Advanced Placement (AP) classes available if I choose BSSD Distance Learning?
AP courses will be available with both options.

**How can A+ hours be earned if I select distance learning?**

Students participating in BSSD Distance Learning will still have the option of participating in the A+ program. Please contact your coordinator in August for more details.

**Can students be enrolled in a combo of distance learning and some in-person classes? For example, select CTC classes for in-person and then distance learning for other courses?**

This is only a possibility for students enrolled in AIM or CTC courses.

**How do I access my child’s student ID number?**

It is likely your child knows his/her identification number if you ask them what their “lunch number” is. However, if they do not, it’s not a problem. The question is not required on the form, and you may leave that question blank.

**If I have an incoming kindergarten student, what does the enrollment process look like?**

We are excited to welcome our new kindergarten students this fall. If you did not enroll your child this past spring for kindergarten, please contact your child’s school starting on July 31st. Your child’s school will be able to help you get started with this process.

**Will honors and AP courses be offered in the distance learning option?**

Yes, honors and AP courses will be provided in the distance learning option.

**What will the lunch process look like?**

Lunch will take place with every effort to maintain social distancing guidelines in the cafeteria or the classroom.

**What is the PE class structure look like?**

Students who participate in PE will engage in physical activities that will allow for social distancing.

**If more than 70% of students select in-person school, will all students who select in-person be able to attend if that number exceeds 70 percent selecting the in-person option?**
If social distancing is not mandated (as it is in summer school currently), the Blue Springs School District is committed to opening school for all students Monday-Friday. However, if social distancing is mandated and over 70% of our students opt to return to school, we will be forced to come up with alternate plans to educate all of our students. At this time, we do not yet know how that might look, but keep in mind you may switch from In-Person School to BSSD Distance Learning at any time.

**Will all students in grades 4-12, including in-person students, receive a device?**

Yes. The district is currently in the process of determining and selecting the device students will receive.

**Will the 2nd semester plan include the same learning options?**

The district is prepared to offer both educational options for the second semester if necessary.

**What is considered well-checks? What specifically does that involve?**

Our staff take great pride in their relationships with students and already do a great job of identifying students who may be feeling ill. Additionally, all teachers and staff will be trained on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Teachers will check-in with all students throughout the day to make sure everyone is feeling well and ready to learn. Specific information about our procedures for how we will respond if a student or staff member is COVID-19 positive or shows COVID-19 symptoms will be communicated by Monday, July 13th.

**Will MS and HS students selecting in-person have a passing time and switch classes?**

Due to the nature of the comprehensive high school schedule, it is not practical to remain in one classroom throughout the day. Students in middle school and high school will move from class to class, and masks are required unless the student is medically exempt. You will likely see passing times modified to allow for more social distancing.

**Can students who select BSSD Distance Learning participate in school clubs?**

Yes.

**What will it look like if my child rides the bus?**
Students riding the bus will be required to wear a mask. If possible, families are encouraged to drop-off and pickup their student(s) daily.

If we choose distance learning, can my child participate in choir, band, or orchestra?

If your child would like to participate in orchestra, band, or choir, he/she needs to choose in-person learning for next year. These courses are not available through BSSD Distance Learning.

Will there continue to be curbside lunch provided for students who choose distance-learning?

For students who qualify for free or reduced lunch, curbside lunch will be available through BSSD Distance Learning.

Will there be Prime Time in the fall?

Yes. You can register for fall Prime Time now by visiting Prime Time on our district website.

Special Services FAQ

Below is a list of common questions regarding Special Services, and answers from the district. Please know we will continue to update and clarify these concerns as more information becomes available. Some questions cannot be answered at this time as further planning and direction from state and local agencies is necessary. We will continue to do our best to communicate the most current and update information as it becomes available.

Can students with IEPs, 504 plans, or English Language Learners participate in BSSD Distance Learning?

Yes, students with IEPS or 504 plans can participate in either BSSD Distance Learning or In-Person School.

How will the individualized Education process work for distance learning?

An IEP amendment or IEP meeting will be held to determine goals, accommodations/modifications, accessibility, and services needed through distance learning. Each student will be assigned a special education case manager, and service providers will be assigned based upon the IEP needs of the student. A copy of the IEP will be provided to teachers who are teaching through distance learning.
How will 504 plans be implemented through distance learning?

A 504 plan meeting will be held to determine accommodations/modifications, accessibility, and services needed through distance learning. A copy of the 504 plan will be provided teachers who are teaching through distance learning for implementation.

If a student has been participating in a modified curriculum based upon the students IEP, will his/her curriculum continue to be modified for distance learning?

Yes, students who qualify for a modified curriculum will continue to receive a modified curriculum while participating in distance learning.

Will Adapted Physical Education (APE) courses be offered?

Yes, students who participate in APE will engage in physical activities that allow for social distancing.

Will IEP programs focusing upon community-based instruction and working in the community continue to be offered?

The Special Services department is considering alternatives for meeting student transition needs that would not include going into the community where safety precautions of the general public cannot be guaranteed.

How will related services (i.e., speech, language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling, etc.) be provided to qualifying students who choose distance learning?

A student’s IEP team or 504 team (which includes parents) will determine if the student will participate in teletherapy, computer activities, or pen/paper activities depending upon a student’s unique needs.

Will there be exemptions for children with disabilities regarding wearing a mask?

The District will follow any federal, state, and local orders. The current Jackson County order we are under has the following exemptions:

- Those who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Children younger than five years old; and Children who are younger than two years old should never wear face coverings due to the risk of suffocation.
- Children who are two, three, or four years old, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult, are strongly recommended to wear a face covering at all times in settings, like grocery stores or pharmacies, where it is likely that a distance of at least six feet cannot be maintained from non-household members and vulnerable people must go.

- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

Who can I contact to discuss my child’s IEP and 504 needs further?

Contact information for the Special Services Department, including Liggett Trail Education Center, can be found at the BSSD Special Services Webpage.