At Battle Creek Public Schools we wholeheartedly believe that students have the best opportunities to learn and grow in face-to-face school settings. Our goal is to provide a safe, healthy learning environment for students, minimize missed classroom time due to quarantine requirements, and maximize time spent with teachers and friends. Our 2021-22 Reopening Plan was developed based on guidance released by:

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD)

BCPS will continue to monitor transmission levels within the community and may adjust these protocols and strategies accordingly following further guidance from the organizations listed above.

All BCPS students in grades Pre-K—12 will be able to attend school in-person, five days per week* with precautions in place to promote a safe, healthy learning environment for our students and staff. CDC-recommended health and safety precautions will be in place, including required masks for all, cohorting (PK-5), assigned seating (6-12) and physical distancing to the extent possible.

K–12 students also have the option to sign up for BCPS Virtual Academy. This program is best suited for students who are able to thrive in either a self-guided or a parent- or guardian-supported learning environment, with less frequent teacher interaction. It may be ideal for families with significant health concerns.

To learn more and sign up, visit www.battlecreekpublicschools.org/virtual

*ECSE & GSRP do not have school on Fridays.
IN-PERSON LEARNING
- Students in grades pre-K—12 will be able to attend school face-to-face following a typical schedule, with accommodations made to follow the COVID safety protocols listed below.
- Pre-K—5 schools will use cohorted classrooms, meaning students will remain with their assigned class throughout the day, including specials classes, outdoor recess, breakfast and lunch in the classroom and other such activities.
- 6-12 schools will utilize assigned seating and physical distancing to the extent possible.
- The BCPS Adult Education program will provide in-person instruction by scheduled appointments only.

BCPS VIRTUAL ACADEMY
- All enrolled K—12 students have the option to sign up for the BCPS Virtual Academy.
- This program is best suited for students who are able to thrive in either a self-guided or a parent- or guardian-supported learning environment, with less frequent teacher interaction. Learn more at www.battlecreekpublicschools.org/virtual

MASKS
- Following CDC recommendations and CCPHD guidance, masks will be required for all individuals inside BCPS buildings.
- Following current federal requirements, masks are required on buses or any school transportation.

DAILY SCREENING
- Families should continue to conduct daily symptom screenings at home.
- All school staff are required to complete the District’s Health Safety Self-assessment form each day prior to coming to work.

CLEANING & HYGIENE
- Frequently touched surfaces, including light switches, doors, benches and bathrooms will continue to undergo cleaning at least every four hours.
- The District will continue to provide supplies and signage to support healthy hygiene behaviors.
- Students and teachers will be encouraged to wash hands with soap and water at transition times throughout the day.

VISITORS
- Parents/Guardians and visitors will be permitted to enter the buildings on a limited basis.
- All individuals entering the buildings will be required to:
  - Wear a mask at all times
  - Practice physical distancing to the extent possible
  - Check in and out at the front desk
  - Follow other protocols put in place for building- or program-specific events.

ASSEMBLIES, FIELD TRIPS & EXTRACURRICULARS
- Extracurricular events, before- and after-school programming, field trips and other gatherings will be permitted, following the guidance of CCPHD.
- All indoor and outdoor gatherings will comply with current and future CCPHD guidance.

ATHLETICS
- BCPS will comply with all guidelines published by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Interim Guidance for Athletics, and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

TRANSPORTATION
- Following federal requirements, all individuals, if medically feasible, must wear facial coverings while on the bus.
- Seating charts will be used to help limit the number of close contacts should a case arise.
- All buses will be cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis.