

Dear Brandywine Springs School Families,

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year!

As our district recently announced, the first day of school is September 8. We will phase in our instructional model and all Red Clay students will start the 2020-21 school year in a remote learning environment for the first six weeks. You can learn more about Red Clay's Roadmap to Reopening at redclayschools.com/reopening.

These are most unusual times and we are excited to get back to normal at some point but for the safety of our students and staff we need to make the most of our online learning approach. We have made adjustments to make sure we are providing the best possible experience virtually. Some new terms you will want to become familiar with are: asynchronous and synchronous learning. Asynchronous basically means you can do it at any time, and synchronous means in real time. Teachers will be working online for approximately 4 hours synchronously as we start the school year. Our students will be expected to be online with a device provided by the Red Clay Consolidated School District. I apologize for this lengthy email, but it holds information that is important for all of our BSS families to be successful in our start of the school year. You will be receiving weekly communication from myself and your students teachers throughout the 6 week remote learning period.

Although we are not starting school, the way all of us are accustomed to, our staff is committed to making the most out of it. School will look differently but the intent of **learning for all** is the same. Thank you for your patience as we work through this together. I will be updating all families on a weekly basis of the status of the school year and upcoming important dates. I look forward to meeting everyone someday soon in the future until then, we will continue to be safe, healthy, and social distant.

Complete the Safe Return to School Questionnaire by August 24

Our district plans to phase in a hybrid learning environment for specific grade levels/programs later this school year, with families that choose in-person learning. In this scenario, families that wish to keep students home would be provided with remote learning support.

To help us plan for the phased reopening, please complete the Safe Return to School Questionnaire by August 24. We need to hear from every family so that we can plan a safe and efficient return to in-person learning when it is time to reopen our doors.

- Click here to complete the questionnaire in English

<https://forms.gle/FUh53tTGdrk1jnt68>

- Click here to complete the questionnaire in Spanish.

<https://forms.gle/3foV3MHDoWaoNrvR6>

Check your mailbox for your child's Red Clay Back-to-School Starter Kit

Please check your mail for the Red Clay Back-to-School Starter Kit, which should arrive in your mailbox around August 29. This kit provides important details to help your family start the school year, including your child's Google account, parent/guardian login information for Home Access Center (HAC) and Schoology, and the contact information that we have on file for your family in School Messenger.

Pick up your child's Chromebook and learning materials (8/25 -9/2)

To support remote learning, a device will be provided for every student and we will work to ensure that all families have access to the internet. We will distribute instructional materials, school supplies and Chromebooks to students beginning on August 25th - September 2nd. The following link has the links to the online forms and/or PDF files for the paperwork that is encouraged to be completed prior to picking up chromebook and materials. The schedule for grade level assigned pick up times is on the second page of the link so please scroll down the page. Wednesday Sept. 2, 2020 between 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm is the time designated for families with students in multiple grade levels to pick up chromebooks and materials.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u1ZAhEPTlwQtngDAMoo3LwTDZDkUC8up4n8DyC-3PAo/edit?usp=sharing>

Online Learning at Brandywine Springs School

Remote learning will happen Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Elementary Instructional Schedule will occur from 8:00 am until 2:50 pm. Our goal is to complete most live/on line instruction by 1:30 each day. There may, however, be a need for an educator to connect on line with a specific group of students between the hours of 1:30 to 2:50 in order to meet each child's instructional support needs. Grade level teams will share the specific times for whole group, small group, unified arts, and specialized sessions prior to September 8th.

The middle school students will follow their schedule online throughout the day. School day begins at 8:00 am and ends at 2:50 pm. One day a week we will have a brief social emotional learning lesson. Most days of instruction will start at 8:20 am and end at 2:50 pm.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wu9VSSsAy2XFryUvg8BjLYTmwIkCmd-ftBSitxtRNCEI/edit?usp=sharing>

Your child's teacher will provide a detailed remote learning schedule next week.

Red Clay Remote Care

We understand that childcare may be a challenge for some families during these unprecedented times. Red Clay is working with the Boys and Girls Club of Delaware, the YMCA of Delaware and the Latin American Community Center to offer on-site care this school year. This will be similar to the before care and after care that we have typically provided during inservice days.

For more information, please contact:
Morgan Barnes (mbarnes@bgclubs.org)

Attendance & Grading

Consistent attendance, participation in learning activities and completion of assignments are critical to your child's success with remote learning. Attendance and participation will be monitored and your student's work will be graded. Teachers will provide more details in the coming weeks.

Social/Emotional Support at Brandywine Springs School

We have built time into our school's schedule to support social/emotional learning. Please look out for our upcoming Home Student Wellness Questionnaire, which will assist our team in identifying students who may be in need of additional social/emotional support.

Our school has a support team consisting of a school counselor(s), school psychologist(s) and tiered support leaders to support your child remotely and in person. If you have a concern related to your child's social/emotional health, please contact our support team members below:

Lisa Risner - school counselor

email: d.risner@redclay.k12.de.us

Taryn Smith - school counselor

email: taryn.tunstall@redclay.k12.de.us

Laura Bitzer- school psychologist

email: laura.bitzer@redclay.k12.de.us

Marriah Ma - school psychologist

If your child is in need of immediate assistance, please contact Child Priority Response (Mobile Crisis) available 24/7 at 800-969-4357 or the 24/7 Crisis Text Line (text "HOME" to 741-741).

Special Services & English Learners

We are committed to supporting all learners. During remote learning, all services and supports outlined in students' IEPs will be provided through remote instruction and telepractice. The special education teacher/case manager and related service providers will

communicate the schedule for special education and related services with the family. For students with 504 plans, all supports outlined in the plan will be incorporated within remote learning sessions or through telepractice (e.g., therapies, counseling services). English learners will continue to receive English Language Development support integrated with their class schedule.

For more information on supports for students with disabilities or English learners, please contact our support staff:

- Special Education Coordinator:
 - Grades K-4 Holly D'onofrio holly.donofrio@redclay.k12.de.us
 - Grades 5-8 Sabriyah Swain sabriyah.swain@redclay.k12.de.us
- 504 Coordinator:
 - Lisa Risner d.risner@redclay.k12.de.us
- English Learner Contact:
 - Bonnie Millhous bonnie.millhous@redclay.k12.de.us

Athletics

The Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association is recommending postponing fall sports until later in the school year. The State Board will hear this proposal within the coming weeks. Athletics in Red Clay are currently on hold until a final decision is made by the State.

School Health Services

Your school nurse is here for you and your child. During remote learning our school nurse will be providing support such as health care management, care coordination, health education and family consultation including connection to community resources and services. It is important to stay up to date with routine health exams and immunizations including the flu shot.

- Our school nurse is Amy Archer.
- The best way to reach Nurse Archer is by phone at 302-636-8788 / by email at Amy.archer@redclay.k12.de.us

It is imperative that we have updated student health information on record for your child. Please complete the Student Data Card and return it to school by scanning it to amy.archer@redclay.k12.de.us , mailing it to Brandywine Springs School 2916 Duncan Road, Wilmington, De 19808, or dropping it off at school.

How to reach us

Principal: Curtis Bedford
Assistant Principal: Barbara Land

email: curtis.bedford@redclay.k12.de.us
email: barbara.land@redclay.k12.de.us

Assistant Principal: Marcia Johnson
School Secretary: Lisa Wilson
Clerks: Jennifer Randolph
Nikora Cintron

email: marcia.johnson@redclay.k12.de.us
email: lisa.wilson@redclay.k12.de.us
email: jennifer.randolph1@redclay.k12.de.us
email: niorca.cintro@redclay.k12.de.us

Our main office staff will be available Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.

Stay up to date with School Messenger

We use School Messenger to communicate important information from the school and the district. When you receive your Red Clay Back-to-School Starter Kit in the mail, please verify the contact information that we have on file for your family and follow the directions to update your information and manage your communication preferences.

In Closing

We look forward to helping your child succeed in 2020-21. Please look out for a message from your child's teacher with more details next week!

Sincerely,

Curtis Bedford
Principal of Brandywine Springs School K-8