



Berlin Intermediate School

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Mr. Ryan M. Cowder
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BIS parents and students!

I hope that you and your family had a safe and relaxing holiday break. We are looking forward to welcoming back our first wave of students on Monday, Jan 4th. The return date for our second wave of students has not been determined yet but will be shared with those families as soon as it becomes concrete. We will also be working over the next two weeks to make contact with our third and fourth wave students. As we prepare to return to school I would like to share some very important reminders.

- In light of the robust, continued training program provided to all staff in December, our school is equipped with the knowledge and the tools to ensure our classrooms remain safe places for our students to learn. We ask for our students and families to also be safe in the community, so we can return more students back to school soon. Wear your masks, keep that physical distance, be sure to stay home when sick, and see a medical provider if you experience any symptoms of COVID-19.
- The most important thing we ask is to be honest on your student's daily symptoms screening – if your student or anyone in your household has been sick, PLEASE keep your child home until you seek medical guidance. Do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any symptoms or if they have been a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19. If your student or any household members develop COVID-like illness, or are tested for COVID due to symptoms or exposure, please keep your student at home and notify the school nurse for more guidance.
- While the Local Health Department has adopted the CDC guidelines for reducing quarantine, MDH and MSDE have not yet changed the timeline for returning to school after an exposure to a COVID-19 positive person, or presumed positive. Individuals must stay out of school and work for 14 days from their last close contact.
- Please let us know if you have traveled out of the area within the last 2 weeks. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the travel advisory from Governor Hogan and please follow that advisory which adds an additional mitigation strategy to our toolkit keeping your child and our staff even safer.

We thank you again for your continued support as we work through this process to keep everyone safe while ensuring that learning continues in our classrooms.

Ryan M. Cowder, Principal

An Arts Immersion School

