



560 S. Camino del Pueblo
Bernalillo, NM 87004
505-867-2317
www.bernalillo-schools.org

Expectations for Parents/Guardians for In-Person Learning

March 22, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

BPS is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of staff and students once full-time in-person learning begins April 12, 2021. In-person learning is **optional** as families are still able to select virtual learning for their student if they so choose. BPS asks that families, who decide to send their student to school for in-person learning, adhere to the following procedures:

- Masks **MUST** be worn by students at all times and may be removed only for the following reasons: (a) eating, (b) drinking, and (c) during naps for younger children.
- The [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov) currently does not recommend substitution of face shields for masks.¹ For students unable to wear masks for medical reasons, documentation from a health care professional **MUST** be provided to school personnel. Full remote learning, according to the [New Mexico Public Education Department \(NMPED\)](https://www.nmped.org), may need to be considered for students unable to wear masks while at school in order to balance individual needs with community public health needs.²
- Students must maintain 6-foot social distancing to the greatest extent possible and 9-foot social distancing when playing an instrument or singing in groups during music education.
- Please keep your student at home if she/he exhibits any of the COVID-like symptoms listed below:

Fever	Chill	Cough	New loss of smell or taste	Diarrhea
Congestion or runny nose	Muscle or body aches	Headache	Nausea or vomiting	Sore throat
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing				

¹ See guidance for mask wearing by the CDC at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

² See *COVID-19 Response Toolkit for New Mexico's Public Schools* at: https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NMPED_COVID19ResponseToolkit_PublicSch030821.pdf

Interim Superintendent
Terry Darnell



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- If your student has any of the above COVID-like symptoms, she/he will be placed in the school's isolation room and supervised by a staff member until student can be picked-up.
- Parent/guardian may not enter the school to pick-up or drop-off student. If parent/guardian is asked to pick-up student, please call the number listed at the school entrance or call the front office to notify staff of your arrival.
- Parent/guardian must quarantine student for 10 days if she/he has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Parent/guardian are encouraged to take student for a COVID test by registering her/him at one of the approved Department of Health (DOH) websites listed below:
 - In-person nasal COVID test registration go to: <https://cvtestreg.nmhealth.org/>
 - Virtual appointment with health care provider for saliva COVID test to be taken at home go to: <https://www.vaulthealth.com/checkout/207e2b40999f40cd84648d10e0cdaa1e>
 - Child's health care provider should be contacted for more testing options.
- A negative COVID test along with being symptom free for 24 hours (as long as student was not in close contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19) will allow student to return to school.

Please contact your child's nurse or health assistant if you have further questions. You may also contact me directly at the phone number and e-mail listed below.

Sincerely,

Terry Darnell

Terry Darnell
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