

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Now that we are almost a full week and a half into the school year, I would like to communicate some items/reminders:

1. **At-Home Learning Space** - If your child is attending school virtually from home, please ensure that their learning environment and the items visible via zoom are appropriate.
2. **Pets** – Please be reminded that pets are not permitted on school grounds.
3. **Drop-off** - Please have your child ready to exit the vehicle during AM drop-off. This will greatly assist with the flow of traffic.
4. **Mask/Face Coverings** – Continue to remind your children to keep their mask/face coverings on while entering/exiting the school while on school property during AM Drop-Off / PM Dismissal.
5. **Student Absences** – Starting on Monday, September 28th, the district is excited to now offer the zoom virtual experience, as an option, to students that are absent from the brick and mortar, in-person model. Therefore, in addition to having the opportunity to attend the teacher's flex periods for more individualized instruction when absent, students will also have the opportunity to participate and learn with their classmates via the live virtual experience. Please review the attached slide with details. As we continue to stress, if you are not feeling well, please stay home.
6. **Back To School Night** – Please be reminded that each building's Back To School nights are scheduled for this week. Specific dates/times for these events have been communicated, but are also on the school's website.

I would like end by personally thanking the staff for providing such a wonderful learning environment and experience for our students. Their hard work and dedication is most certainly shining through!

Sincerely,

Dr. Caponegro

## What happens if my child is absent? (not related to COVID-19)

- Regarding attendance during COVID-19, we understand there are varying circumstances. For the 2020-2021 school year, an absence is defined as not being present and able to participate in your chosen instructional model (in-person or virtual) at the start of the school day.
- Students will be marked absent for tracing purposes since they are not in their assigned model, unless it is due to a COVID-19 absence/quarantine.
- (Starting Monday, Sept.28) Although absent, a child from either model can join the class virtually and audit the class at any point until dismissal, if your child feels well enough.
- Students are not expected to have all of the required materials, but they do have the opportunity to listen in and participate.
- You do not have to join for every class but we ask that you join at the beginning and stay through the end of each period to minimize disruptions and maximize learning.
- For individualized circumstances, please reach out to your building principals.
- We recommend that students/parents continue to communicate with staff regarding missed work and attend the teacher's flex periods for more individualized instruction.
- Links can be found on google classroom in Ridgedale and Brooklake and at the top of the roadmap in Briarwood.
- Parents are expected to assist their children if a child is younger or needs help signing on or being attentive to the class.
- Intervention services including BSI, ESL, and Special services can not be audited.

