

Dear Brighton Families,

Thank you for those that joined us on Monday for the Online Academy Q & A. We know that many have emailed since the meeting yesterday and we hope this email answers many of the follow up questions from parents. For those unable to attend here is a [link to the video](#). We understand that this is an uncertain and unprecedented time for all of us and we take the physical, social, and mental health of your student(s) and staff seriously. Nothing about this situation is ideal and we are working hard to provide multiple options to families. We never want anyone to feel like their student(s) would not be safe at Brighton. We also want to validate your concerns and know that we are hearing you. We feel anxious too about the upcoming year and are working hard to provide the best options for our families. It is difficult to plan for all possible scenarios and for all family needs with such an evolving and constantly changing situation. For those that attended the meeting our hope was to give as much information as possible. Considering the feedback we received during and after the meeting we have already committed to making significant changes to the Online Academy, which you will find below. We are working diligently on our options for fall to consider all possibilities (Online Academy and in person options) while trying to remain as flexible as possible for changes that arise in the coming weeks and months.

We have created a short survey to identify where the comfort level is at based on the most current information. It is a 30 second survey to simply get a better feel for where our families are at in their comfort level. We plan to send out a comprehensive outline by the end of next week that outlines all possibilities for returning to school with more details that we will use to update based on current status of the situation for COVID 19. **We ask that all families take the time to complete this survey this week.**

[Parent Survey Link](#)

You can also stay up to date on all communications sent out to families on our website on the [News](#) page of our website.

Online Academy Update

This option is for those that are interested in the online only option. **We are partnering with Laurel Springs to provide online asynchronous curriculum aligned with our curriculum standards with live instructional time with a Brighton teacher. We will have a Brighton teacher on staff to help parents and students navigate the curriculum.** Students enrolled in the Online Academy will still have access to live instructional support from the Brighton teacher, live online specialists classes, and live online connection to their homeroom class and teacher at Brighton. The teacher will be dedicated to Brighton families to provide live online instruction time and support with the curriculum throughout the day.

The deadline for selecting the Online Academy is Friday July 17th. Since yesterday we have received clarifying information about commitment. By completing the form at this time it isn't a full commitment but rather another survey to get a sense for how many families we have that are more interested in the Online Academy to properly plan for the upcoming year. We need to see

the total number of those interested in the Online Academy before being able to make any more decisions about next year.

How does an online academy student fit in the school enrollment and Brighton School?

Online Academy students are counted toward our enrollment and families would still be included in all school activities, online specialists classes, online connections with classmates at Brighton, school communications, and school related events. We are limiting in person numbers in order to keep social distancing in place. For example, in 5th grade we have 24 students registered split into two classrooms of 12. If 2 families want online only we would have 11 in each classroom with 1 physical spot open. If we fill that physical spot with one more student we would only allow any new student to be online only. We have always had our max per classroom to be 20 and will continue to hold to that with online and in person students counted together.

The only uncertainty for matriculating Online Academy students to in person instruction is for a mid year reentry at the semester break. Using the same 5th grade classroom example above, rejoining the class in person would be dependent on the current social distancing guidelines and physical space available.

How does this impact enrollment options for next year?

If your student is registered in the online academy you will still have priority enrollment in January.

[Online Academy Outline & Sample Schedule](#)

[Link to Online Academy Form](#)

[Current Map of School Classrooms](#)

In-Person School & Distance Learning

5 Days A Week vs Hybrid: Our preference is to have 5 days a week instruction for all students following social distancing guidelines of 6 feet between desks. We have measured every single room and marked off 6 feet following social distancing guideline. We have rearranged which classes are in what rooms based on the numbers of each grade level. We have currently stopped accepting applicants for grade levels to keep numbers lower to accommodate for our current families enrolled. We will follow all state and local health guidelines. We understand that there are major concerns about health and we have them as well. This has been an extremely trying and fatiguing experience to try to plan for and we know you feel the same. **We will monitor the increase in COVID-19 cases and be flexible to move to a hybrid or full distance learning if need be like we did in spring.**

Hybrid Schedule: A hybrid schedule would consist of students alternating between being on campus (2 days per week) and off campus (3 days per week). Under this scenario students would be online all together for one of those days receiving purely online instruction from their teacher as an entire class. This option allows for students to receive in person instruction from their teachers as well as have online curriculum available to work on. This presents the challenge of students having access to their teacher during their off campus days while teachers are physically

teaching. This also impacts pace of curriculum and learning. Siblings would be scheduled for the same on and off campus days for families. This also presents the challenge for teachers and staff who have students as well. If they are needed at least 4 days per week yet their student(s) is off campus three days per week this might not be possible for a teacher to commit to. Parents who are also currently working full time have limited options when going to hybrid schedule.

Distance Learning: This schedule would be similar to a five day a week schedule with slight modifications to account for student work time at home. This would be similar to what we did to end the school year with improvements based on what we learned from this experience. This is not an ideal solution as we experienced the toll this took on students, families, and teachers. This will be used if there is a mandate to close schools by the governor. We have increased our digital tools and training for the upcoming school year to improve our ability to be flexible and fluid to current situations.

What would happen if there was a confirmed COVID 19 cases?

If a staff or student is diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19 parents, staff, and the Washington State Department of Health would be notified immediately. Brighton School will shut down for five days (including weekends) may transition to distance learning. Deep cleaning and sanitation of the school will be done by our janitorial company. Staff will be retrained on social distancing protocols and health policies.

Health & Safety Additions for Upcoming School Year

You can view current safety measure in place on our [health and safety page](#) of our website. Here are some additional measures we are putting in place.

- Health Screenings Questions & Temperature Checks Upon Arrival
- Mask Wearing Required for K-8
- Staggered Drop Off and Pick Up Times
- Student Cohorts Throughout the Day
- Higher Rated Air Filter HVAC System (MERV 13)
- Hand Sanitizers Mounted in Each Classroom
- Lunch in the Classroom (No food service provided)
- Classroom and school sanitation throughout the day
- Multiple Outside Play Zones to keep student cohorts separated from each other
- Bathroom and high touch point sanitation throughout the day
- Only staff and students are allowed on campus to minimize number of people in the building