



BRICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Safe Road Forward Plan

2023-2024

#BrickStrong

Welcome to Brick Schools 2023-2024 School Year!



Focused on Health, Safety,
Wellness, & Learning Acceleration



Brick Schools is a Student-Centered, Teacher-Led Educational Learning Community.

We are committed to the health & safety of our students and staff.

Brick Schools will act in accordance with executive orders,
and guidance from **NJ Department of Education** (NJ DOE)
New Jersey Department of Health (NJ DOH)
and **Ocean County Health Department** (OCHD).

Our focus for the 2023-2024 School Year is to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to utilize protocols and procedures which are responsive to the data in an effort to students & staff healthy, safe, and learning.



Brick Schools 2023-2024 School Year Essential Information

- **PreSchool through 12th Grade will run regular school schedules.**
School Times can be found on our the District Website or via this link:
[Brick Schools School Day Times](#)
- **In-Person, 5 Days per Week, Full Day Learning for All**
Levels PreK-12, All Students, & All Programs.
- **Breakfast & Lunch will be served at a cost. Free and Reduced Meal Applications are available.**
- **Social Distancing and cohorting** of students will be followed when required and **to the greatest extent practicable.**
- **Cleaning, Disinfecting, & Hygiene protocols will continue to be implemented.**
- **Mask wearing is not required.**



Brick Schools 2023-2024 School Year Health Screenings

Screening is an important component of keeping our learning environment Healthy & Safe. Our school community will continue to work together to keep all members of our school community Healthy & Safe.

NOTE: Parents are reminded to keep their student home if they are sick &/or have been exposed to a COVID-19 individual in accordance with the guidance from the NDOH & LDOH.

NOTE: Staff is reminded to stay home if they are sick &/or have been exposed to a COVID-19 individual in accordance with the guidance from the NDOH & LDOH.



Transportation

- Windows will remain open to a safe and appropriate point, weather permitting.
- Each bus will be equipped with signage regarding safe protocols and practices.
- Mask wearing on the Bus is not required.
- Parents have the option to Drop-Off and Pick-Up their student(s).
- Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up times and procedures will be provided by each building Principal and have been developed in the best interest of safety for our students and learning communities as a whole.



BEST Program

- Students will be able to attend Before & Aftercare programs as regularly scheduled.
- Parents wishing to enroll their student in the BEST program should access information on our district website by utilizing the following link: [Welcome to the B.E.S.T. Program](#)
- BEST will be accepting a limited number of students this school year due to limited staffing. If all spaces fill, your student will be placed on a waitlist, and you will be contacted as spaces become available.

Sites:

- Drum Point Elementary School
- Emma Havens Young Elementary School
- Lanes Mill Elementary School
- Midstreams Elementary School
- Osbornville Elementary School
- Veterans Memorial Elementary School



Brick Schools 2023-2024 School Visitors

- **Visitors** will be **allowed** into the schools for **school related business** which includes, but is not limited to: Back to School Night, Parent Teacher Conferences, 504 Meetings, I&RS Meetings, Meetings with Teachers &/or Counselors, IEP Meetings. Other school related activities will be determined on a school by school basis and communicated by the building principal.
- Mask wearing is not required.
- Please contact the Building Principal if you have any questions.



Health & Safety

Masking of Student, Staff, Parents & Visitors is NOT required & is optional in all Brick Township Public Schools and on Brick Township Public School Buses.

The District shall continue to take all actions necessary to ensure the safety and well being of all students and staff. It is so important that we continue to practice tolerance and consideration for others as we implement this new change. Additionally, it is essential that we all work together with understanding and empathy to promote an environment where everyone can feel comfortable with their choice.

Social Distancing

Health & Safety protocols and procedures will be implemented in each of the BTPS facilities in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders and Announcements and guidance from the NJDOE, NJDOH, and OCHD.

To the extent practicable:

- ❑ BTPS schools will provide for social distancing when required within the schools to the maximum extent practicable.
- ❑ Entry & Exit locations will be monitored to reduce commingling interaction of students between classes to the maximum extent practicable.
- ❑ Hall traffic and stairwell traffic will be designed to reduce commingling interaction of students between classes to the maximum extent practicable.
- ❑ Signage will be utilized in all BTPS schools, buses, offices, and facilities to promote safe practices.

Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette

Health & Safety protocols and procedures will be implemented in each of the BTPS facilities in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders and Announcements and guidance from the NJDOE, NJDOH, and OCHD.

Handwashing:

- ❑ Brick Schools will continue to maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol) and/or Hand Washing Stations with soap and water:
 - ❑ In each classroom (PreK-12)
 - ❑ At entrances and exits of buildings.
 - ❑ Near lunchrooms and toilets.
- ❑ Continued Scheduled Handwashing, where & when applicable: Start of the Day, Before Eating and After Eating, Utilizing Playground/PE Equipment, Before and After using the Bathroom, After Blowing their Nose, Coughing, and/or Sneezing, Transitions will be implemented to the extent practicable.

Respiratory Etiquette:

- ❑ Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- ❑ Use in the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of the tissue after use.
- ❑ Perform hand hygiene (e.g., hand washing with non-antimicrobial soap and water, alcohol-based hand rub, or antiseptic handwash) after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects/materials.

Facilities

Health & Safety protocols and procedures will be implemented in each of the BTPS facilities in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders and Announcements and guidance from the NJDOE, NJDOH, and OCHD.

Ventilation:

- ❑ **Windows and doors will be opened for ventilation.** Additionally, where deemed appropriate, we will use **hydroxyl generators, negative pressure machines or pedestal fans to promote air flow.**
- ❑ Classrooms without AC will also be supplied with **Air Purifiers with Hepa Filters.**
- ❑ Windows will be opened on buses within safety guidelines and in accordance with weather conditions.
- ❑ **Increased Filter inspection, cleaning, and changing.**
- ❑ **AC, where available, will be in use** in accordance with guidance from the CDC, NJDOH, & OCHD.

Cleaning:

- ❑ Facilities staff will follow **cleaning procedures for maintaining a healthy environment.** **Multi-Step/Multi-Level Procedures** have been developed and will be employed when needed and as required.
- ❑ Continued implementation of protocols for cleaning a BTPS facility &/or transportation vehicle after a person is identified as positive with COVID-19 in accordance with guidance from the CDC.

NOTE: ESSER II and ARP funds have been designated to upgrade aging ventilation systems in BTPS facilities and to provide for installing AC in specified facilities.

Symptomatic Students & Staff

Health & Safety protocols and procedures will be implemented in each of the BTPS facilities in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders and Announcements and guidance from the NJDOE, NJDOH, and OCHD.

- ❑ Students & Staff who have a temperature greater than 100 degrees and/or respond yes to 2 or more screening questions will be sent home and referred to a healthcare provider for evaluation and COVID testing as needed.
- ❑ Students or Staff who are COVID-19 Positive or who meet the criteria for Close Contact will need to adhere to NJDOH COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria and Quarantine time periods.

COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms

Definition of COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms:

Parents should not send students to school when sick. Staff members should not attend school when sick. For school settings, NJDOH recommends that students or staff with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

At least two of the following symptoms:

fever (measure or subjective),
chills, rigors (shivers),
myalgia (muscle aches),
headache,
sore throat,
nausea or vomiting,
diarrhea,
fatigue,
congestion,
or runny nose;

OR At least one of the following symptoms:

cough,
shortness of breath,
difficulty breathing,
new olfactory disorder (loss of smell),
or new taste disorder (loss of taste).

Contact Tracing

BTPS District Planning Team in coordination with Building Level Teams, District Nurse Coordinator, and in accordance with guidance from the CDC, NJDOH, and OCHD will continue to implement procedures and protocols to assist the local DOH with Contact Tracing.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL or COME TO WORK WITH COVID SYMPTOMS OR IF YOU ARE SICK.

- ❑ Parents are asked to contact their school Principal if their student tests positive for COVID-19 or is a close contact with a COVID-19 individual.
- ❑ Staff is asked to contact their Principal &/or their Immediate Supervisor if they test positive for COVID-19 or have come in close contact with a COVID-19 individual.



Updated Isolation & Quarantine Timeframes - COVID19 - NJDOH



COVID Positive Individuals: Vaccinated or Unvaccinated - 5 Day Isolation

SYMPTOMATIC

- **Isolate for 5 full days** and **return to school or work on day 6** providing the individual is 24 hours fever free & other symptoms have improved.
- If symptoms persist, continue to isolate until 24 hours fever free, and then the individual may return to school or work.

NON-SYMPTOMATIC

- **Isolate for 5 full days and return to school or work on day 6.**
- **If symptoms develop** within one week (5 days) of the positive test, the **5 day isolation period starts over at day 0 counting from the first day of symptoms.** The individual must then **isolate for an additional 5 full days and may return to school or work on day 6 of the second isolation period providing they are 24 hours fever free & other symptoms have improved.**

NOTE: Symptomatic or Non-Symptomatic are highly recommended to wear a mask at all times from day 6-10 when around others.

Close Contact - Outside of School - Unvaccinated Quarantine Timeframes

- Close contact must quarantine for 5 full days and may return on day 6. It is recommended for Close Contacts to be tested on day 5, however this is not required to return on day 6.
- If close contact develops symptoms they need to get tested and follow isolation timeframes if positive.

Close Contact - Outside of School & In-School - Vaccinated Quarantine Timeframes

- **The following groups DO NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE or be excluded from school, or be tested following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.**
 - Individuals who are completely vaccinated; this includes the booster shots.
 - Persons who had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days. (Laboratory Confirmed PCR test)
- If they experience symptoms, they need to get tested and follow isolation timeframes if positive.

Vaccinations

Brick Schools has partnered with the OCHD, Ocean Medical Center in Brick, Integrity Health and other partners to provide vaccination information and opportunities to staff and to parents of eligible students.

To find a COVID-19 vaccination clinic near you:

- Visit the [NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Finder](#)
- Call NJ Vaccine Call Center at 855-568-0545
- Visit [vaccine section](#) of NJ COVID-19 Information Hub
- [OCHD Vaccine Locations](#)
- [Hackensack Meridian Health Vaccine Information](#)

To find a free COVID-19 testing site near you:

- Visit [COVID-19 Test Site Finder](#) on NJ COVID-19 Information Hub
- Visit [Castlight COVID-19 Test Site Finder](#)

For additional information:

- Visit the [NJ COVID-19 Information Hub](#) (covid19.nj.gov) or call 211 or 1-800-962-1253 with COVID-19 questions (available 24/7).



School Year 2023-2024



Brick Township Public Schools

7 Blended Learning Principles
“Student Centered, Teacher Led”

1. Establish and develop strong **relationships**
2. Focus on the **social and emotional needs** of students with an emphasis on wellness
3. Streamline and prioritize content that is **rigorous**, relevant and engaging
4. Use **technology** to enhance learning experiences by **communicating, collaborating, and creating**
5. Develop consistent, predictable **routines** for learner, parent, and teacher
6. **Communicate with families** in a clear, concise, and transparent manner
7. Dedicate **collaborative planning time** for staff

PreK-12

*Students will be in-person, full day,
5 days per week for the 2023-2024 School Year*

There will be NO Full Remote/Virtual Learning Option

- Districts are required to offer “Homebound” Instruction for only medically necessary cases. Homebound instruction features 5 hours of instruction (10 hours for special education students).
- Parents would fill out a Homebound Request Form and submit documentation from a physician. Our district physician reviews the request and approved students will be treated as ‘homebound’ students.
- Students are re-evaluated every 30 days and must recertify the medical need for this homebound instruction.

Orientations, Back to School Nights, and Conferences

- **Orientations and Back to School Nights will be in-person.** Communication regarding specific times, protocols, and procedures will come from each school's Principal.
- Key information shared at Orientation and Back to School Nights will be made available via the school website and/or teacher posts to their classroom page.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November. **Information regarding the format for Parent/Teacher Conferences will be forthcoming from each school from the Principal.**

PreK-12

*Students will be in-person, full day,
5 days per week for the 2023-2024 School Year*

- ❑ [Brick Schools SY2023-24 District Calendar](#)
- ❑ [Brick Schools School Day Calendar SY2023-2024](#) (Arrival & Dismissal Times)
- ❑ [BTPS PreK Trimester Calendar SY2023-2024](#)
- ❑ [BTPS K-12 Marking Period Calendar SY2023-2024](#)
- ❑ [BTPS Orientation & Back to School Calendar SY2023-2024](#)

NOTE: Specific information regarding Period Schedules will be available via School Websites and School Digital Backpacks.

Access Schools via: brickschools.org



ENSURING CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

Athletics, Co-Curriculars, & Events

SPORTS

- ❑ Will follow all NJSIAA, NJDOH, and OCHD guidance for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- ❑ Practices and Games will resume under normal schedules and protocols.
- ❑ Student Athletes and Coaches will continue to employ safety protocols and procedures.

CLUBS

- ❑ Will be in-person and follow all NJDOH, OCHD, and CDC guidelines for the 2023-2024 School Year.

CONCERTS, PLAYS, RECOGNITIONS, & CELEBRATIONS

- ❑ Are scheduled to take place in-person in our auditoriums, MPR, and/or other designated areas.

FIELD TRIPS

- ❑ Are currently being scheduled and approved to take place for the 2023-2024 school year.

Food Services

- ❑ Food Services will be running as it did prior to the pandemic.
 - ❑ **Breakfast** will be **delivered to the classroom** daily at the **elementary and middle schools**. The **high school students** will come into the **cafeteria and choose their breakfast and then go to class**.
 - ❑ **Lunch** will be served in the cafeteria. Students will come through the serving line and eat in the cafeteria or other designated areas.
- ❑ We will follow all CDC and Board of Health Guidelines for all meal services.

Families, who have in the past or whose current situation would qualify them for Free or Reduced Breakfast and Lunch, are strongly encouraged to complete the Free & Reduced Meals Application to maintain continuity of services. Families can access the application on our District website on the Food Services page or by clicking on this icon:





TECHNOLOGY

Technology

Equity of Access & Connectivity for ALL Students

Devices

- ❑ Students K-12th Grade are provided a District issued device.
 - ❑ **Preschool:** Chromebooks or iPads (as needed)
 - ❑ **Grades K-12:** Chromebooks
- ❑ District issued device are assigned to each student and may remain with that student for the duration of their educational career in BTPS or until the device needs to be replaced within the normal replacement cycle. Students needing internet access are provided HotSpots to connect from home.

Technology

Equity of Access & Connectivity

Policy & Regulations

- All District Policies and Regulations regarding the use of electronic devices will continue to remain in effect for students and staff.

Access

- **Teachers:** appropriate hardware and software to provide for seamless instruction
- **Students Grades 4-12:** active google email addresses
- **Students Grades PreK-3:** district logins

Safe Digital Learning Monitoring software is utilized to help manage the 1:1 initiative and to enable to the maximum extent practicable keeping students safe in an online platform.

Technology

Training & Technical Issues

BTPS Technology Team provides PD and Technical Assistance to:

- ❑ **Staff** regarding hardware and software, which will be used to deliver instruction.
- ❑ **Staff, Parents, & Students** via a Technical Assistance “Support Center” which has been established and can be accessed on the Technology page of the District website or via this link: [Brick Schools Technology Support Services](#)
- ❑ Coordinate and Collaborate with the C&I Team, Administrative Team, and Special Services Team to **provide PD to Staff and Parents.** (Online Opportunities, when available, are posted to our website: www.brickschools.org on the C&I and/or Special Services pages)
- ❑ Coordinate and Collaborate with the Building Administrators, C&I Team members, and Special Services Team members to provide for **specialized needs of students.**



Teaming for Success



As we begin the journey into the new school year and our transition into this next phase, we are reminded of how quickly life can change. Our resilience and ability to adapt to unprecedented times is a testament to us as a TEAM - School * Home * Community!

- ❑ The Lessons we have learned and challenges we have met have prepared us for the next phase of our journey which lies before us.
- ❑ Brick Schools is excited to Welcome Back to District all of our Students & Staff In-Person, 5 Full Days, Full Year for the 2023-2024 School Year!
- ❑ However, we need to be mindful of the lessons learned, and therefore we ask our staff, students, and families to have plans in place to be able to adapt to any change which may occur as we journey through this transitions together and be ready to move to hybrid or full remote instruction.
- ❑ Remember to all devices are to go home with students and staff each day and return to school the next day fully charged. This will help all members of our learning community to be prepared in the event that full remote learning needs to be implemented.

Moving forward, the District continues to be focused on health and safety while delivering inclusive and equitable high-quality instruction. The 2023-2024 school year focus is on the academic, social, and emotional strategies to assist students, staff, and parents working together to transition back into our learning communities. Successful implementation of our plan is dependent on a shared responsibility and diligence of each member of our community to work together as a unified school district in response to the ever-changing circumstances and guidance.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Brick Schools!

Dr. Thomas Farrell
Superintendent of Schools



#BrickStrong

Resources

- ❑ [CDC](#)
- ❑ [NJ COVID-19 Information Hub](#)
- ❑ [NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Finder](#)
- ❑ [COVID-19 Test Site Finder](#)
- ❑ [Ocean County Health Department](#)
- ❑ [OCHD Vaccine Locations](#)
- ❑ [Brick Schools](#)