

BELLWOOD-ANTIS SCHOOL DISTRICT COVID19 CLOSURE

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How will student attendance be taken now that remote learning is mandatory?

Students will be considered in “attendance” if they are making a good faith effort to participate in weekly learning activities. Formal attendance will not be taken. If a student participates each week, the student is considered in attendance.

2. Will students with perfect attendance still earn awards?

Myers Elementary School will reward students with perfect attendance based on the calendar from the start of school through March 10. Multiple years of perfect attendance will also be rewarded. Grade-level events will take place on Facebook, date and time to be announced. When parents come to school to pick up students' belongs, they will be given medallions and trophies as appropriate.

3. What should I do if my child has a long term illness that prevents their ability to do school work?

Contact your child's teachers and the building principal to communicate the reason for your child's extended absence.

4. What does pass/fail mean at the Middle and High Schools, and satisfactory/unsatisfactory at Myers Elementary?

At the Middle and High Schools, Another very unique situation for our district and our students. Due to the many unknowns of remote learning and accessibility issues, school districts across the state and country have determined that Pass/Fail grading is most appropriate at this time. Students are asked to put forth a good effort to complete the work assigned by teachers. If the student does, then they will be considered present for that class and "pass" for the week. If a student does not put forth a good effort to login and complete assignments, they will be considered absent and "fail" for the week. If a student fails multiple weeks in the 4TH MP, they will fail the 4th MP. Grades at the end of 1st/2nd/Mid Term are calculated for GPA and Class Rank (69.4% and lower in 1st Semester + a Failure in MP 4 = Failure of the course). A notation will be placed on all transcripts communicating the presence of PASS/FAIL in 2019-20 due to the COVID-19 school closures.

At Myers Elementary, every student who makes a good faith effort to participate in weekly learning activities for each content area will earn a “satisfactory” grade. There will be no numeric/percentage grades. Consistent weekly participation will result in a satisfactory grade.

5. Why did CHS/Dual-Enrollment courses start earlier than all other courses in the High School?

Each dual enrollment college/university is willing to work with our continuity of education plan, but they requested that all required content be covered in order to meet the college credit specifications. Teachers, and I think some students, were ready to start moving to ensure the content would be covered. The students who enrolled in CHS courses realized that a higher level of rigor and responsibility is expected and required. Therefore, the decision was made to move on from review and enrichment to new content.

6. Are CHS/Dual-Enrollment courses graded differently?

The HS portion of the class is PASS/FAIL; teachers of a CHS course must account for the rigorous, college level work that is required by a college or university. Also, the colleges will require grades, so our teacher(s) will need to continue to assess student work in the CHS environment. The "doing X amount of work" is the requirement for a passing grade at BAHS, however teachers in CHS courses will continue to college grades for submission to the appropriate college or university.

7. When does a student have to do their work?

Students should "keep up" with work by engaging in learning activities daily. Other than scheduled video conferences or calls with teachers, students have the flexibility of engaging in learning activities throughout the day and evening. By the end of each week (Sunday @ 11:59pm), students should submit assignments for that week as required.

For students receiving work on Flash Drives, assignments or evidence of assignments should be saved to the Flash Drive and the Flash Drive placed in the postage paid envelope by Sunday. Students should have the Flash Drive for the next week by Monday of each week. Note: Flash Drives are being mailed back and forth for Myers and Middle School Students. High School students are using a designated drop at the High School.

8. What about students without reliable internet connection?

Only students with proven unreliable internet access will be offered an alternative to access digital resources remotely via a thumb drive or digital dropoff/pickup. These students can work asynchronously on assignments without internet access. When their work is complete, they can physically drop off (or mail) the thumb drive or access designated areas with wi-fi to submit assignments to teachers digitally. No paper will pass hands from school to homes and back to school.

9. Will students get report cards?

Report cards will be mailed to Myers Elementary School students in June, following the end of the school year. Students will receive "Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, or Non-applicable" marks for each subject for both the third and fourth marking periods. Third marking period will be based on grades students earned through March 10, 2020, the

last day school was open physically. The fourth marking period grades will be based on participation in weekly learning from the start of required distance learning, April 13, 2020 - June 4, 2020, the students' last day of school.

10. Now that school is closed for the year, when will parents and/or students be permitted to get personal items from lockers?

Once the governor loosens the Stay at Home requirements and reopens schools, we will develop a plan and inform families about getting students' belongings from school, as well as turning school property back in to the school.

11. When will Kindergarten registration be held?

Students are eligible for kindergarten IF they reside in the Bellwood-Antis School District with a parent or legal guardian, and they are age five by August 31, 2020. To begin the registration process, contact Amanda Koozer, Myers Elementary Secretary, by calling 742-8570 or emailing alk@blwd.k12.pa.us. The May registration date will be rescheduled, likely to the summer, once the school is reopened.

12. How are students new to the district being enrolled?

For students in grades kindergarten – fourth, contact Amanda Koozer, Myers Elementary Secretary, by calling 742-8570 or emailing alk@blwd.k12.pa.us; For students in grades 5-12, contact Beth Zitterbart, Guidance/Attendance Secretary, by calling 742-227? Or emailing attendance@blwd.k12.pa.us

Once all the paperwork is received and requirements met, the appropriate principal will contact you with information about how to engage in learning activities.

13. How does this closure affect student GPA and Class Rank for students in grade 9-12?

The GPA and Class Rank for all grade levels are complete as of January 2020 (End of 2nd MP and Mid-Terms); Pass/Fail will not increase or decrease a student's GPA or Class Rank.

14. What is the plan for Graduation?

We are currently collecting information from a survey to evaluate input from seniors and their parent/guardians. We are committed to providing a graduation ceremony for the students. At the moment, it is too early to decide the format of the ceremony. We are considering multiple options, including a traditional graduation ceremony at the football stadium.

15. How will Elementary and Middle School students get their yearbooks?

This will depend upon social distancing guidelines. Possibly students will be permitted to pick-up their yearbooks at the school in late May or early June. If that is not possible, we may mail yearbooks. We should be able to provide clear guidance by mid-May.