



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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4/26/21

Dear Parents of BCCS Students,

I hope this update finds you and the members of your family well. As you are aware, our state and region continue to see an active pattern of COVID cases. Over the last week the area positivity rate is over 15%, that is 12 percentage points higher than what is expected. Our school has seen the most COVID-related disruptions in the school community since the fall: as of this week we have more students in quarantine and participating in remote learning than at any one time this year. However, I am grateful for the parent communications with the school as we are able to quickly address learner issues and ward-off potential greater problems with transmissions and/or close contacts. Although it has not been easy, our faculty and staff have also been able to transition to and from remote learning quickly and limit student down time from educational services. Please continue to communicate with the school, and have family members engage in mitigation and safety activities regularly.

The following items are shared for your awareness and understanding.

Walk-A-Thon

We ask that all BCCS families participate in the BCCS 13th Annual Walk-A-Thon by seeking pledges and donations from friends and family. A reminder that PTO has teamed-up with *Get Movin*, an online donation platform. Here is the [informational document](#) for your awareness and use.

- Special Note for Mid-High Remote Learners: As of today those students who were identified as remote learners this past week may return May 7 to participate in this year's event. More information will be forthcoming later in the week.

State Testing

We continue state testing this week. Given the number of absences, we expect the testing will go well into May due to the need for make-up sessions.

Online Students:

Parents of online students are asked to have students complete the grade-level M_STEP practice tests and online tools training prior to test dates. The practice materials can be accessed on the building landing page. Otherwise the information can be found here [Online Practice for M-STEP](#) to online families

- Please have students here by 8:00 on the designated days for testing.

- Testing sessions for online students generally take between 2.5hrs to 3.5 hrs (see schedule below)

The schedule for this week is presented for your awareness:

1. Week of 4/26

- a. Monday 4/26 No Testing
- b. Tuesday 4/27, 6 and 7 ELA, 5th Grade Social Studies and SAT Make-up
- c. Wednesday 4/28 5th Grade Math, Make-up ACT WorkKeys Grade 11 and **5th Grade Online Students Math and Science (8-11:15)**
- d. Thursday 4/29 5th Grade Science, 4, 6 and 7 Grades Math and **4, 6 and 7 Grades Online Students ELA (8-10:30)**
- e. Friday 4/30: M-STEP Make-up 5th grade Science and Social Studies, optional 4,6 and 8th ELA and Math Make-up

*** Please note: Online students need to be here at 8:00 and will be testing in the computer lab. Parents should expect to pick-up students by 11:15

Technology Request

We are asking for parents to help remind students to shut down school-issued devices at the end of the day. Updates are routinely sent-out from our technology team and the devices will not accept the updates unless the devices are shut down. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Closing

People have asked if we intend to move the entire building, or at least the high school to remote learning. While I fully understand and respect the question (especially with the volume of COVID-related communications this past week), we are committed to face to face instruction if at all possible. Having said that, the safety and welfare of the students and staff will never be compromised. Therefore, if the numbers warrant a move to remote learning, we will do so in a heart-beat. In the meantime, let us all continue to carefully monitor and report any COVID- related activity, and be diligent in following the safety protocols to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus in the school community. I am grateful for your continued care and support. MK