



Dear BLA Families,

We hope this letter finds you well and safe. The 2020-2021 school year will commence *15 Years of Inspiring Excellence* at Banning Lewis Academy. While the school year may look different, we have confidence in our amazing teachers, students, and families to make the year successful.

Thank you to all families and staff members who participated in our planning surveys. We have taken this information along with guidance from state, local, and district entities into consideration when developing our plan to return. The overwhelming majority of families and staff are looking to return to in person learning. Our plan offers on site instruction and learning as well as an online option for families that need or want this format.

The following plan is based on current guidance from state, local, and district entities and is subject to change.

BLA's Return to School Plan:

- A. BLA will be in session five days a week, full schedule, with on site in person learning. There will be an online option to stay at home for families. We ask families to commit to in person or online for the first semester with the understanding that we will work with specific family situations. Families can expect to hear from our registrar the week of July 6th with specific information about how to sign up for the online option.
- B. Elementary will cohort (group) 25 students or less per classroom. We will do our best to keep cohorts from mixing throughout the school day. Students will eat lunch, go to recess, and attend specials classes within their cohorts. We will focus on regular handwashing, sanitization, and have a focus on personal responsibility.
- C. Middle school and high school will keep close to 25 students per classroom and will utilize social distancing, handwashing, sanitization, and have a focus on personal responsibility.
- D. BLA encourages students to wear masks, but understands a family's right to choose. Masks worn in school should be plain/solid in color. Masks that are plain/solid, but have different color strings/straps are acceptable (medical, disposable, etc.) Masks shall not be offensive or distracting to the learning environment.
- E. Teachers and staff are encouraged to wear masks in common areas, whenever possible, and whenever six feet social distancing is impeded.
- F. BLA will do its best to screen, detect, and respond to symptoms. We will take temperatures each day of students, staff, and all visitors entering the school building. Students and staff sanitize and wash their hands often. Students displaying symptoms or a fever will be sent home.



- G. District 49 meal service will continue to provide meals in a grab and go format and will be cognizant about social distancing, eating outside, or in the classroom while being aware of food allergies.
- H. District 49 is offering bus transportation. Please contact D 49 Transportation for details.

In all formats of learning, students will complete work and earn grades according to BLA expectations. We want students to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

We appreciate you in advance for supporting these processes. Your cooperation and participation in this plan is what makes BLA wonderful.

Thank you,

Shannon Molnar, BLRA Elementary Principal
Rick Dahlman, BLPA Middle School Principal
Dr. Albert Wiggins, BLPA High School Principal