

# Opening of School Information

## September 9, 2020 Updates

Dear Bresnahan Families,

I am writing with some important updates and reminders as we prepare to welcome the students to school next week. It has been a busy and eventful summer and we are looking forward to having the children in person next week.

The goal of today's communication is to clearly summarize the most important information and dates that you will need for the weeks ahead. Below are some important dates. Detailed information follows in the body of this letter.

## Back to School Dates

<b>Thursday, September 10th</b>	<b>Virtual Parent Back to School Informational Meeting on Zoom</b>  <b>5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Preschool and Kindergarten</b> Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84078166201?pwd=NmlneFY5OHITRGkyUTdFTkh5Qnd6dz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84078166201?pwd=NmlneFY5OHITRGkyUTdFTkh5Qnd6dz09</a> Meeting ID: 840 7816 6201 Passcode: UZ441e  <b>7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Grades 1, 2 and 3</b> <b>Join Zoom Meeting</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85664012292?pwd=VmFhR0MxdzA3MnHxQU1PQW43TGJ6UT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85664012292?pwd=VmFhR0MxdzA3MnHxQU1PQW43TGJ6UT09</a> Meeting ID: 856 6401 2292 Passcode: k8PzkD
<b>Friday, September 11th</b>	<b>Parent Back to School Information Presentation Posted on School Website</b> <a href="https://bresnahan.newburyport.k12.ma.us/">https://bresnahan.newburyport.k12.ma.us/</a>  <b>Grade 3 Meet and Greet-Outside</b> 9:00-9:45 Cohort A 10:30-11:15 Cohort B <i>*students in Cohort C can attend either session</i>
<b>Monday, September 14th</b>	<b>Grade 1 Meet and Greet-Outside</b> 9:00-9:45 Cohort A 10:30-11:15 Cohort B <i>*students in Cohort C can attend either session</i>

<b>Tuesday, September 15th</b>	<b>Grade 2 Meet and Greet-Outside</b> 9:30-10:15 Cohort A 10:45-11:30 Cohort B <i>*students in Cohort C can attend either session</i>
<b>Wednesday, September 16th</b>	<b>1st Day of School</b> All students remote
<b>Thursday, September 17th</b>	<b>Cohort B - 1st day of in person instruction</b>
<b>Monday, September 21st</b>	<b>Cohort A - 1st day of in person instruction</b>

### Cohorts, Teacher Assignments, and [Aspen X2 Family Portal](#)

A, B, and C cohorts and teacher assignments have been released for all students and are available in the [Family Portal](#) of *Aspen X2*.

If you do not have a Family Portal User Name and Password please email:

[rt-x2@rt.newburyport.k12.ma.us](mailto:rt-x2@rt.newburyport.k12.ma.us)

Indicate that you need a Family Portal Account and include the following information:

- Your Name
- Your Child's Name
- Your Child's Date of Birth
- Your Child's Year of Graduation Grade 3- 2030, Grade 2- 2031, Grade 1- 2032, Kindergarten - 2033, Pre-Kindergarten -2034, Preschool - 2035

### Hours and Days of Instruction

<b>Mondays/Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays</b> <i>All students remote on Wednesdays*</i>	
<b>Cohort A</b> 8:20 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.	<b>Cohort B</b> 8:20 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
<i>*On Wednesdays there will be no in-person instruction.</i> <i>*Students in Cohort C will attend all four days</i>	

## Parent Informational Zoom Meetings

Amy Sullivan, Principal of Grades PK-K, and I will be hosting Parent Informational Zoom meetings this Thursday night - September 10th. These presentations are designed to walk parents through the daily procedures and adjustments we have made due to COVID-19. We will be reviewing arrival and dismissal procedures, signage around the campus, lunch and recess procedures, the use of student materials, classroom spaces, student traffic flow, the district's daily prescreening app, cleaning and disinfecting procedures, and responding to any other questions that parents may have. Due to the size of our school and the allowance of the number of Zoom participants we will be offering two sessions on Thursday night. The first session will be held from 5:30-7:00 p.m and will focus on preschool and kindergarten. The second session will be held from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and will focus on Grades 1, 2, and 3. We will also post the presentation on the [Bresnahan School website](#) the following day. Please see the links to the meetings below.

### Virtual Parent Back to School Informational Meeting on Zoom

#### 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Preschool and Kindergarten

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84078166201?pwd=NmlneFY5OHlTRGkyUTdFTkh5Qnd6dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 7816 6201

Passcode: UZ441e

#### 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Grades 1, 2 and 3

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85664012292?pwd=VmFhR0MxdzA3MnhxQU1PQW43TGJ6UT09>

Meeting ID: 856 6401 2292

Passcode: k8PzkD

## Parent and Student Meet and Greets

We will be offering parent and student meet and greets next week. All meet and greets will be held outside-weather permitting. In the case of inclement weather, we will provide a zoom meeting link for families to join virtually. We will cross our fingers for a beautiful September day. During the meet and greet, parents and students will gather on the grassy area between the school and the senior center. Please park in the parking lot off of N. Atkinson St. All parents and students must wear masks and maintain six feet social distancing at all times. During the meet and greet, your child's teacher will welcome you and share information about their classroom. They will also review arrival and dismissal procedures and show your child how to find their entrance each day. During the meet and greets, the playgrounds will not be available for student use.

Families who indicated that they required a device on the recent survey sent out will have an opportunity to pick up a Chromebook immediately following the meet and greet at the main entrance. Please wear a mask and social distance while waiting in line.

## In-School Routines: Creating a Culture of Health and Wellness

To maintain health and safety in our buildings, parents, students, and staff will all need to work together. All NPS guidelines are designed to keep all members of our community safe and will need to be followed by all of us. Teachers will work with students to teach and reteach all of the health and safety routines that have been put in place.

The Bresnahan safety plans include the following, which will be reviewed with all parents during our parent informational zoom meetings.

- **Daily prescreening.** All students and staff will complete a health screening before entering school each day. Parents will be asked to complete a short questionnaire for each child, each day. If you answer yes to any of the questions, you should keep your child home.
- **Masks.** All staff and Grades 1-3 students will wear masks. All preschool and kindergarten students should arrive at school wearing a mask and we will work with students towards full mask-wearing during their time at school but will be flexible as they build their stamina, comfort and understanding of wearing a mask at this age level. Parents should provide masks, but the school will have extras if needed. We will provide mask breaks throughout the day. Face shields will also be made available to students as an alternative. **Neck gaiters and bandanas are not allowed.** They do not provide adequate coverage against the spread of COVID.
- **Covid Positive Case.** Protocols for a Covid-positive case in the school are under development and will be shared by the District Task Force. I recommend you take a look at the [DESE guidance](#).
- **Bus Transportation.** Bus passes were mailed home last week and routes should be available soon.

## Closing

These have been extraordinary times as we have worked to develop procedures and protocols for a safe return. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding as I know that our communication has not been as timely as in summers past. Please reach out with any questions and I will do my very best to respond as timely as possible. The office staff, Lori Morasse and Gael Phillips, may be able to assist you with most questions. Please feel free to reach out to them at [lmorasse@newburyport.k12.ma.us](mailto:lmorasse@newburyport.k12.ma.us) and [gphillips@newburyport.k12.ma.us](mailto:gphillips@newburyport.k12.ma.us).

I am very excited to begin my first year as a member of the Bresnahan School Community and welcome you and your family back to school in the weeks ahead.

Respectfully,

Timothy J. Miller

Principal of Grades 1-3

[tmiller@newburyport.k12.ma.us](mailto:tmiller@newburyport.k12.ma.us)