



BRPS MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS RETURN

RAT RETURN INFORMATION FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING

Welcome Back, River Rats! We are so happy to have our students back on campus again! As always, we care about each one of our students and want them to feel safe and comfortable coming to school. To do this some things will have to look a little different this year. Here is some information on a typical day for the MS/HS students.

BLOCK SCHEDULE FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR AND FLEX FRIDAYS

Period	Time	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1st	8:00 - 9:50am	A	D	A	D	Flex AM Session 8:00-10:45am
2nd Lunch	9:57 - 11:47am 11:48 - 12:18pm	B	E	B	E	CAP (Virtual) Lunch 10:50 - 11:25am
3rd	12:25 - 2:15pm	C	F	C	F	Flex PM Session 11:30-2:15pm

- Classes begin at 8:00am and end at 2:15pm, Monday-Thursday.

FLEX FRIDAYS FOR IN-PERSON STUDENTS

- In-person instruction for grades 6-12 will include Flex Fridays.
 - The block schedule of classes will not meet on Friday, instead the school will be open for a work day for all in-person students who want, or need, to be at school.
 - Teachers will be on campus and have students in their classrooms on a rotating schedule. Students can work on assignments and receive guidance and help as needed.
 - The default for in-person students will be to attend school all day on Friday.
 - Students will also have an option to opt for half day in school, either morning or afternoon, or full day remote. Full day students should plan to be at school from

8:00am-2:15pm and eat lunch in their classroom. They may not go off campus for lunch. Students who choose the half day option will not eat lunch at school.

- The morning session will be from 8:00am-10:45am and the afternoon session will be 11:30am-2:15pm. Students may not choose two half day sessions.
- More information will be released soon. Contact Kerrie Esmeier at esmeierk@brpsk12.org with questions.
- Students receiving in-person instruction will be asked to dress for the weather. Classes may enjoy time outdoors for some lessons, lunch and mask breaks. Students will need to plan accordingly.

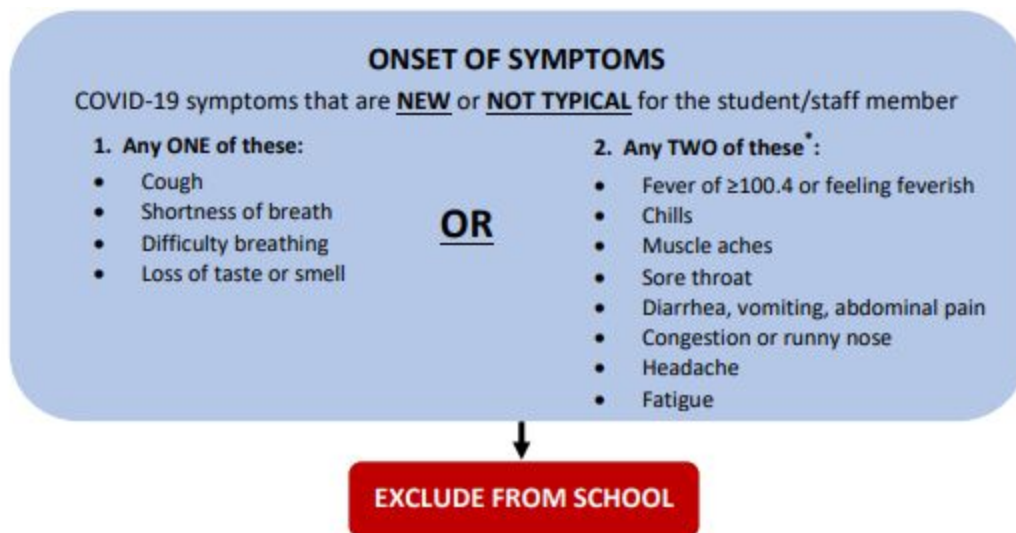
MORNING SELF SCREENING GUIDELINES FOR OUR STAFF AND STUDENTS

- Parents are responsible for checking their children for COVID-like symptoms and asked to take their students' temperature before school **every morning**. If your child has a fever or any other COVID-like symptoms, please reference the complete flowchart in the Ottawa County Health Department Toolkit (linked below) to determine whether they should be excluded from school.

https://www.miottawa.org/Health/OCHD/pdf/OCDPH_School-factsheet.pdf

If you would prefer a screening protocol until you have the symptoms and health question memorized, we recommend [MI Symptom Checker](#) at

misymptomapp.state.mi.us - simply take the wellness check. This is a MI Department of Health and Human Services website.



- For student safety, staff is required to complete the same daily self-screening protocol and will not be in the building if they show signs of COVID-19.
- The school will closely follow the guidelines set by the Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) under the COVID-19 Return to School Toolkit. (Linked above)
- In accordance with the OCDPH, two COVID-19 symptom quarantine areas have been created to keep symptomatic students away from other students until he or she can be picked up.
- The school has a designated staff member that is working closely with the OCDPH nurses to ensure we are following the proper protocols for the quarantine of suspected cases,

contact tracing and timely notification for our families.

If a parent answers “yes” to any ONE or TWO of the student symptoms as charted above requiring exclusion from school, they should leave a message on the MS/HS attendance line at 616-355-0055, ext 228.

WELCOME RATS! MORNING ARRIVAL

- Main Building and Science building doors open at 7:40am. Students should not be dropped off or exit their vehicle before 7:40am.
- Lyceum building doors open at 7:30am for a grab-n-go breakfast. Breakfast is available from 7:30-8:00am. Parents should drop their student(s) off in-front of the Lyceum if they are purchasing breakfast. Students must be careful to social distance and will not be allowed to sit at the tables. Breakfast should be eaten outside, in your car with your parent(s), or student drivers may eat in their car. Students may not eat breakfast in the classroom.
- For the safety of everyone, students should put their mask on after exiting the car.
- **Students should be dropped off at the door closest to their classroom.**
 - Students with classes in the north hallways can use the main entrance or door E in the back of the main building
 - Students with classes in the south hallways can use the main entrance or the south faculty entrance
 - Students with classes on the first floor/basement or coming from the Lyceum should use door E in the back of the main building
 - Students who need to use the elevator should enter at door E
- Class begins promptly at 8:00am.
- MS/HS students that arrive AFTER 8:00am should proceed straight to their classroom. Their teacher will alert the main office that they were tardy by marking it in their attendance.
- Students are reminded to **Know Your W's - Wear, Wait and Wash**
 - **Wear a facemask over your nose and mouth**
 - **Wait - Be Smart, Stand Apart - 6ft.**
 - **Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer when entering**
- Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer when entering the classroom.



MASKS REQUIRED



**CHECK OUT THIS VIDEO CREATED FOR
OUR ELEMENTARY BUILDING:**

<https://bit.ly/2SEw9Pm>

- Facial coverings **must be worn by all K-12 students and staff in the classroom, hallways and common areas.** Facial coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks.
 - Homemade facial coverings must be washed daily.
 - Disposable facial coverings must be disposed of at the end of each day.
- Mask breaks may be taken while outside and social distancing or when a BR staff member gives a student permission to take off their mask.
- Parent/Guardians of a student requiring a facial covering exemption must contact Shannon Brunink, Head of School after they have a signed OCDPH waiver from their doctor and before returning to in-person instruction.
- Every student has been provided a black BR face mask. If you have not received your mask, contact John Donnelly at donnellyj@brpsk12.org.
- Face shields, bandanas, or any face covering that does not securely fit around the nose and mouth are not permitted.
- Gators that fit snugly at the nose are permitted.
- Students should review the Student Handbook located on the Black River website for the full mask policy and consequences for not following the safety rules.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOMS WILL LOOK DIFFERENT

- Teachers have been asked to remove all non-essential furniture items from the classrooms to make room for social distancing.
- Each classroom has been rearranged to allow for optimum social distancing. As feasible, student desks/tables will be facing the same direction toward the front of the classroom.
- In accordance with the OCDPH, students in each classroom will have assigned seats in order to conduct contact tracing, if needed.
- Each classroom has at least one plexiglass stand to use at the lesson table or where the teacher feels it would be most beneficial. Many classrooms have several plexiglass stands for added safety precautions.
- Outdoor class time will be encouraged for social distancing and to allow students to take a mask break. The social work and counseling team are encouraging “movement breaks” to increase mindfulness and mental health awareness. **Students should be prepared to dress for the weather and wear layers.** Students will not be allowed to stay inside because they did not plan accordingly.

CLEAN HANDS COUNT! CLASSROOM LIBRARIES AND SHARED MATERIALS

CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

- Students **must** wash hands before and after picking out a book.
- When a student is finished with a book it can be set aside for proper sanitation or quarantine before it is placed back onto the library shelves.
- Students are encouraged to bring books from home to read during silent reading times.
- Students are also encouraged to research possible book choices at home based on what books are available in the classroom library to help with their selection.
- Personal materials (pencil, paper, notebooks, etc.) should not be shared.

SHARED CLASSROOM MATERIALS

- Students **must** wash their hands before and after handling any shared classroom materials.
- After a shared classroom material has been used, students should remember to use hand sanitizer.



This is a shared space. Please wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before and after use.

- All classrooms will be disinfected at the passing time. High touch areas within the classroom will be wiped down several times during the day and common areas will be disinfected often.

PASSING TIME, HALLWAY TRAVEL AND LOCKER INFORMATION

PASSING TIME

- Passing time in between blocks is seven minutes. Classroom teachers will allow students to leave in small groups in an attempt to limit hallway crowding. Students will need to allow for distance in between themselves and friends.

HALLWAY TRAVEL

- Hallways have been clearly marked with directional signs – like a roadway, students should stay to the right, along the wall.
- Teachers and staff will be in the hallways to remind students to distance and walk in the direction of the signs.
- Students are expected to keep moving while in the hallway, go directly to class and not congregate with other students at any point.

- Floor signs with footprint designs have been placed in the hallway to direct the flow of traffic.
- All students will work in the classroom and use of the hallways for projects will be limited.

STUDENT LOCKERS

- Lockers are not available in the middle/high school building. **Reminder: Visitors with student drop-offs are not allowed in the building.** Please plan ahead. Students should bring a string bag with athletic shoes for gym class and extra items.

LUNCH IN THE CLASSROOM AND DRINKING FOUNTAIN USE

LUNCHES FROM HOME ARE ENCOURAGED

- **Microwaves will not be available.** If you would like to order a school lunch, a limited menu will be available offering ham subs, turkey subs or a yogurt/cheese stick option.
- **School lunches must be ordered a week in advance using Infinite Campus.** Additional information will be available on the website.
- Lunch will be delivered to the classroom in 'grab and go' containers.
- Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms (or outside) with students socially distanced when feasible.
- Students will have a scheduled handwashing before lunchtime. They will be asked to use hand sanitizer before mealtime.
- Students with nut allergies that are not comfortable eating in a classroom may continue to use the peanut-free tables in the Lyceum. Seats will be marked to allow for social distancing.
- Food service staff will ensure any necessary food handling changes are implemented based on local public health guidance.
- Senior lunch has been postponed while we are in Phase 4

CAMPUS DRINKING FOUNTAINS

- The drinking fountains are not available for students and staff.
- All students should bring a water bottle to school filled with water from home. Water bottle filling stations are open for use during the day. Students will be reminded to use hand sanitizer before and after use. If you have a concern regarding the filling station, please give your student enough water for the day.

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN? END OF DAY DISMISSAL

PLEASE HAVE AN AFTER SCHOOL PLAN FOR YOUR STUDENTS

- At this time, the Lyceum building will not be open after school.
- Middle/High school students will be dismissed at 2:15pm. Teachers will dismiss students in small groups. We ask that you remind your student to please be patient while exiting the building and use social distancing. **Have an after school plan.** Students will not be allowed to congregate in the building while waiting for pick-ups.
- Teachers and staff will be in the hallways and outside to remind students to use social distancing and safety protocols.

TESTING PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF AND RESPONDING TO POSITIVE CASES

- Students who develop a fever or become ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school will wait in the main building quarantine room until a parent/legal guardian can pick them up. They will be monitored by the social work and counseling staff.
- Symptomatic students sent home from school should be kept home until they have tested negative for COVID-19, or have been released from isolation according to CDC guidelines.
- Families will be notified of the presence of any laboratory positive or clinically diagnosed cases of COVID-19 in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.

Please view the flowchart in the OCDPH [Covid-19 Return to School Toolkit](#). This is our guide for when students and staff will be quarantined and if contact tracing is necessary.

Beginning October 12, Black River Public School is required to report campus Covid-19 updates. Please watch the website "Return to Learn" site for details.

BUILDING VISITORS, STUDENT SIGN-OUTS AND ITEM DROP-OFFS

BUILDING VISITORS

- Non-essential building visitors, student family members or other guests are not allowed in the school buildings except under extenuating circumstances determined by district and school officials. Please contact the main office if you have questions.
- Vendors and contractors will be required to be screened in the main office and have their temperature checked upon entering the building. They must sign in/out while on campus.

STUDENT SIGN-OUTS

- **Student sign-outs must be arranged in advance.** Please contact the main office or the MS/HS attendance line at ext. 228 with the day/date of appointment, student name, dismissal time and reason. Students will be called to the main office to sign-out and meet their parent/guardian at the main building front door. They will not be allowed to leave until the parent/guardian has pressed the buzzer and introduced themselves. You may be asked to show identification. Student drivers must sign out through the main office and leave campus immediately. Please let the main office know whether your driver will return to campus after their appointment.

ITEM DROP-OFFS

- **Student drop-offs are limited to medically necessary items only** (i.e., glasses, over-the-counter medication to be administered by the parent, etc.) Please do not drop off homework, gym clothes and shoes, lunches (emergency lunches will be available in the cafeteria), water bottles (small cups will be available in the main office), etc...**Your student needs to prepare and plan. Drop-offs are now limited.** Mr. Donnelly will be asked to follow-up with families that abuse this policy.

ADDITIONAL BACK TO CAMPUS INFORMATION

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

- if your student takes medication, uses an inhaler, administers insulin, or carries an EpiPen during school hours, an [Administration of Medication Form](#) must be on file in the main office. To ensure accuracy, a new form must be completed each year. Please note students may not have medication (prescription or non-prescription) in their possession at school. Medication is required to be held and dispensed from the main office.

STUDENT PARKING PERMIT REQUIRED

- Each year students are responsible for purchasing and displaying a valid permit if they will be driving to school. Students should fill out the [Student Parking Permit Form](#) and once submitted pick-up a permit in the main office. A parking permit costs \$15. In order to be good neighbors, we ask that students use the designated Main Building or Lyceum parking lots and not the streets surrounding the school or the lot at Baker Lofts.

MS/HS MAIN BUILDING INFORMAL, SELF-GUIDED OPEN HOUSE – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Current sixth graders and middle/high school students who choose in-person learning and are new to BRPS, can come to campus and walk the hallways before in-person instruction begins on Monday, October 19, 2020!

This event is not required and NO RSVP is needed. Students and one parent should bring a copy of their schedule so they can walk the hallways to find their classrooms. In order to allow for social distancing, we are asking parents to refrain from bringing younger siblings.

Students with a last name that begins with A-M - 9:00am-10:30am
Students with a last name that begins with N-Z - 10:30am-12:00pm

We understand that not every family can make it on this day. If you cannot attend, please feel free to come and tour the building during these scheduled office hours, 10:00am-2:00pm anytime during the week of October 12-16, 2020. Please stop in the main office to let Christie Phillips, our MS/HS main office Administrative Assistant know that you are touring. If you have questions contact Kelli Heneghan at heneghank@brpsk12.org.

Reminder:

Know your W's: Wear, Wait and Wash - Wear: Wear a mask while on campus, Wait: Social distance, please, and Wash: Use hand sanitizer when entering the building for the open house. When school starts, students will use hand sanitizer when entering their classroom.

PICTURE DAY – MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

- Black River is working again with Geskus Photography Inc. for our school picture needs. Picture forms with more details will be available after school begins. Please watch your elementary students backpack for the form and MS/HS forms will be passed out during class. Pre-ordering online is available at geskusphoto.com/fallorders. For Elementary use code: 051SWICSCHZSJ and for the MS/HS use code: 050WJDPZIAGNV. **Online ordering is encouraged and preferred.** We are currently coordinating times for remote students to come in the same day. If your student misses school on this day they will re-take their picture on Monday, November 23, 2020.

FALL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29 AND FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

- Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 29 from 1:00pm-8:00pm and Friday, October 30 from 12:00pm-3:30pm.
- Parent/Teacher Conference sign-up begins Thursday, October 15. A link will be posted to the main page of the website beginning at 8:00am. More details will be on the website.

Elementary and Main Building Doors Open at 7:40pm
Elementary, Middle/High School Start Time: 8:00am
Middle/High School End Time: 2:15pm
Elementary School End Time: 2:25pm

KEY BLACK RIVER COMMUNICATION CHANNELS



Black River Public School Website

The Black River website - www.blackriverpublicschool.org - is our favorite way to share information with BRPS families and the community. Visitors can find up-to-date news, student highlights, and current information on the main page News Feed. Also on the website, visitors will find the school calendar, school forms, course catalogs, staff directory, fine arts and athletic offerings, Montessori information, and more! Check it out today!



Infinite Campus Parent Portal and App

The Infinite Campus Parent Portal allows parents to monitor their students' school progress actively at any time and anywhere. Infinite Campus Messenger is how we send BR families important school emails to two email addresses that you provide. For more information on Infinite Campus, go to the Black River Website > Resources > Infinite Campus.



Schoolpointe Stay Connected App

Stay up-to-date on school news by downloading the Schoolpointe Stay Connected App. The app allows users to set up push notifications for important website updates, Infinite Campus alerts, and school closings. Check the Black River website News Feed for links to the Apple and Android stores where you can find and download the app.