

2020-2021

# REOPENING



# **Welcome Back**

# DEAR BEREAN FAMILY

April 12th, 2021

In light of recent developments and a continued drop in the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, Berean Christian High School will move to "Level Two" of our phased reopening plan, i.e., Reopening Together." On Monday, April 19th, all students will be granted the opportunity to attend live instruction four days per week, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 AM to 3 PM.

While we are excited to welcome students back to campus on a regular basis, we recognize that a small percentage of Berean families will continue to rely on the school for full-time remote learning for the remainder of the school year. Families making plans in that direction must inform the school by completing the <u>Decision Form</u> by Thursday, April 15th. We also ask that families who elect to send their students to school complete the <u>Decision Form</u> by the 15th.

For reasons of academic integrity and rigor, on-campus learners will no longer be admitted to virtual ZOOM classes when they are absent from school. As described in the Parent and Student Handbook (pg. 10), the normal absence policy will be resumed. An exception to this rule will be granted to those who require virtual learning for quarantining purposes. Those needing this option should contact the front office. Again, students who have not explicitly been granted virtual learning status will not be permitted into ZOOM sessions at will.

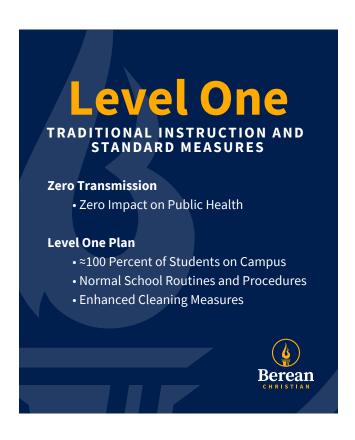
And while we will continue to offer remote learning to those who <u>opt-out</u> and those who require it for quarantining purposes, we will, on Monday the 19th, obligate students participating in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities (sports, clubs, and after school performing arts activities) to be "in-person" attenders of our curricular offerings, i.e., our traditional school day (8:30-3 PM). This requirement will help ensure that our mission is accomplished at the highest levels for those who can come to school and contribute to our spiritual and academic community.

Please read through our updated reopening plan as it includes detailed information on (1) the semi-traditional model, i.e., "Level II," (2) our COVID-19 mitigation protocols, (3) our FAQ page, and (4) the updated information from the CDC and CDPH regarding the use of masks and social distancing. A description of the semi-traditional model, "Level Two," begins on page five.

We are excited to begin the next chapter of our return to normalcy, and we look forward to seeing our students together on Monday, April 19th. Again, please fill out the <u>Decision Form</u> by Thursday, April 15th.

May the Lord bless you, and may He continue to bless His school as we all do our part to finish this year well!

Nicholas Harris Principal, Berean Christian High School



# Level Two MI-TRADITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROACTIVE MEASURES

# **Low Transmission/Low Severity**

- Low Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 3-6 Feet

#### **Level Two Plan**

- ≈90 Percent of Students on Campus with a remote option for those who opt-out
- Proactive Health and Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance and Cleaning



Berean

# **Level Three**

HYBRID INSTRUCTION AND PROACTIVE MEASURES

#### **Moderate Transmission**

- Moderate Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 3-6 Feet

# **Level Three Plan**

- ≈ 50 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health & Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance & Cleaning



# **Level Four**

REMOTE LEARNING

### **High Transmission**

• High Impact on Public Health

### **Level Four Plan**

- ≈ 0 Percent of Students on Campus
- Imposed by California Health Officials
- Live Remote Learning
- Thorough school cleaning



# Level One

# TRADITIONAL INSTRUCTION AND STANDARD MEASURES

# **Zero Transmission**

Zero Impact on Public Health

# **Level One Plan**

- ≈100 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Normal School Routines and Procedures
- Enhanced Cleaning Measures



# **Level One - Standard Measures**

# CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES

#### **Instructional Model**

- Traditional Instructional Model five days/week, seven-period (3) and block schedule (2)
- ≈100 percent of the student population on campus

#### **Prevention**

- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and the optional use of face coverings
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks/coverings from home Ensure that classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with soap
- Allow staff to wear face masks/coverings, and other appropriate PPE as desired
- Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 24 hours to return to school)
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Conduct deep cleaning of the school prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings

during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)

- Encourage staff members to get the flu shot (level 1 4)
- Prepare inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals

#### Classroom

Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff

#### **Transportation**

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers
- Allow bus drivers and students to wear face masks/coverings
- Postpone field trips for the first semester
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Air out buses when not in use

### Lunch

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Provide a cashless option for the Student Store

# **Passing Periods**

- Allow students and staff to wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings
- Clean high-touch surfaces throughout the school day (use of EPA approved cleaning products)

### **Large Gatherings**

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Allow students and staff to wear face masks/coverings
- Follow CCCHD directives for maximum occupancy
- Follow NCS directives for athletic competition

# Level Two

# SEMI-TRADITIONAL INSTRUCTION AND PROACTIVE MEASURES

# **Low Transmission/Low Severity**

- Low Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 3-6 Feet

# **Level Two Plan**

- ≈90 Percent of Students on Campus with a remote option for those who opt-out
- Proactive Health and Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance and Cleaning



# **Level Two - Proactive Measures**

# **CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES**

#### **Instructional Model**

- Semi-Traditional Instructional Model four days/week, seven-periods/day
- ≈90 percent of the student population on campus
- Facilitate remote learning for students who are unable to attend school

#### **Prevention**

- Require social distancing 3-6 feet campus-wide (levels 2-3)
- Require face masks for students
- Require a face mask or face shield for teachers
- Require daily health screening and verification via BC Prescreen App
- Require hand sanitation upon arrival at school (outdoor sinks and touchless sanitizer dispensers are available)
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Ensure classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with
- Recommend students bring their own supply of hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 72 hours to return to school)

- Employ a procedure to monitor illnesses/absences
- Designate a quarantine protocol for a positive test result
- Designate a quarantine room for students experiencing symptoms
- Prohibit visitors on campus
- Report positive cases to the Contra Costa County Health Department for contact tracing
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Install HEPA air purification where practicable
- Conduct deep cleaning of school prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)
- Employ an electrostatic fogger in classrooms and busses
- Encourage staff members to get the flu and Coronavirus vaccines (level 1 4)
- Resupply inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals
- Turn off water fountains and advise students and staff to bring water bottles from home
- Perform a weekly readiness assessment

#### Classroom

- Require all students and staff to wear face coverings
- Establish at least a 6-foot distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks
- Space students at least 3-6 feet apart (where possible)
- Maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable)
- Limit physical interactions where practicable

# **Level Two - Proactive Measures**

# CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES CONTINUED

- Promote the frequent use of classroom sinks for handwashing
- Instruct students regarding hygiene etiquette
- Identify and utilize outdoor spaces (as weather permits)

#### **Transportation**

- Implement self-screening of students and bus driver for symptoms using the BC Prescreen App
- Seat students at least 3-6 feet apart on buses and 6 feet from the driver
- Adhere to physical distancing when getting on/off the bus
- Ensure that bus driver and students wear masks
- Open windows for better ventilation
- Seat siblings together
- Eliminate field trips

### Lunch

- Eliminate food sales and require students to bring their own lunch
- Require students to eat lunch outside when weather permits or in classrooms with social distancing measures
- Recommend student hand washing before and after lunch
- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- Avoid sharing of foods and utensils

# **Passing Periods**

- Designate areas of the hallways (i.e., lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated
- Minimize the congregating of students

### **Large Gatherings**

- Prohibit large gatherings where social distancing cannot be maintained (e.g., faculty meetings, performances, chapels)
- Record or livestream Chapel to classrooms (teachers facilitate discussions)
- Close the Teachers' Lounge (to the extent practicable)
- Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by CCHS
- Discourage the congregating of students in parking lots and common areas
- Follow the CDC, CIF, and NCS guidelines for sporting events and practices

#### Other

• Sign Notice and Release form

# Level Three

# HYBRID INSTRUCTION AND PROACTIVE MEASURES

# **Moderate Transmission**

- Moderate Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 3-6 Feet

# **Level Three Plan**

- ≈ 50 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health & Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance & Cleaning



# **Level Three - Hybrid Instruction and Proactive Measures**

# **CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES**

#### **Instructional Model**

- Implement Hybrid Instruction A/B Alternating Rotation Model
- Provide four days of instruction, two on-campus days alternating with two distance learning days (≈50 percent of the student population on campus/day)
- Divide students into two groups labeled A and B; A group will attend classes on campus on Monday and Wednesday; B group will be on campus Tuesday and Thursday; engage students in live distance learning on the days they are not on campus
- Reserve Friday's for individual/small group tutoring, online office hours, department planning, and grading
- Employ Renweb 1, Google Classroom and Zoom as Berean's online components
- Facilitate remote learning for students who are unable to attend school

#### Prevention

- Require social distancing 3-6 feet campus-wide (levels 2-3)
- Require face masks for students
- Require a face mask or face shield for teachers
- Require daily health screening and verification via BC Prescreen App
- Require hand sanitation upon arrival at school (outdoor sinks and touchless sanitizer dispensers are available)
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Ensure classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with
- Recommend students bring their own supply of hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms,

- preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 72 hours to return to school)
- Employ a procedure to monitor illnesses/absences
- Designate a quarantine protocol for a positive test result
- Designate a quarantine room for students experiencing symptoms
- Prohibit visitors on campus
- Report positive cases to the Contra Costa County Health Department for contact tracing
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Install HEPA air purification where practicable
- Conduct deep cleaning of school prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)
- Employ an electrostatic fogger in classrooms and busses
- Encourage staff members to get the flu shot (level 1 4)
- Resupply inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals
- Turn off water fountains and advise students and staff to bring water bottles from home
- Perform a weekly readiness assessment

#### Classroom

# **Level Three - Hybrid Instruction and Proactive Measures**

# CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES CONTINUED

- Require all students and staff to wear face coverings
- Use the master schedule to balance class numbers as much as possible
- Establish at least a 6-foot distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks
- Space students at least 4-6 feet apart (where possible)
- Maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable)
- Limit physical interactions where practicable
- Promote the frequent use of classroom sinks for handwashing
- Instruct students regarding hygiene etiquette
- Identify and utilize outdoor spaces (as weather permits)

#### **Transportation**

- Implement self-screening of students and bus driver for symptoms using the BC Prescreen App
- Seat students at least four to six feet apart on buses and six feet from the driver
- Adhere to physical distancing when getting on/off the bus
- Ensure that bus driver and students wear masks
- Open windows for better ventilation
- · Seat siblings together
- Eliminate field trips

#### Lunch

- Eliminate food sales and require students to bring their own lunch
- Require students to eat lunch outside when weather permits or in classrooms with social distancing measures
- Recommend student hand washing before and after
- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- Avoid sharing of foods and utensils

#### **Passing Periods**

- Designate areas of the hallways (i.e., lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated
- · Minimize the congregating of students

#### **Large Gatherings**

- Prohibit large gatherings where social distancing cannot be maintained (e.g., faculty meetings, performances, chapels)
- Record or livestream Chapel to classrooms (teachers facilitate discussions)
- Close the Teachers' Lounge (to the extent practicable)
- Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by CCHS
- Discourage the congregating of students in parking lots and common areas
- Follow the CDC, CIF, and NCS guidelines for sporting events and practices

#### Other

• Sign Notice and Release form

# Level Four

# REMOTE LEARNING

# **High Transmission**

High Impact on Public Health

# **Level Four Plan**

- ≈ 0 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Imposed by California Health Officials
- Live Remote Learning
- Thorough School Cleaning



# **Level Four - Remote Learning**

# **CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES**

### **Instructional Model**

- Implement live remote learning
- Close school buildings (zero percent of the student population on campus)
- Employ Renweb 1, Google Classroom and Zoom as Berean's online components
- Communicate regularly with parents and students

#### **Prevention**

- Clean and disinfect school
- Prepare for reopening

#### Classroom

Close school buildings

### **Transportation**

- Close school buildings and cease transportation of students
- Follow all athletic guidelines set forth by CHD and CIF

# Lunch

· Close school buildings

#### **Passing Periods**

Close school buildings

# **Large Gatherings**

Close school buildings



"Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God. Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior, and my God."

Psalm 43:3-5, NIV



# **COVID-19 Instruction and Mitigation FAQ for Berean Families**

When will Berean welcome students back to campus? On October 19th, Berean will once again reopen with a hybrid instructional model. Each day, we will welcome half of our students back to campus under a socially distanced format. To accomplish this, we will split our student population into "A" (Mon/Wed) and "B" (Tue/Thu) cohorts. Students from the same households will be grouped in the same cohort. After that, we will divide them according to their last name and course enrollment. We will ensure both groups have a similar number of students and that no particular period is overloaded on any given day. Regretfully, we are not accepting requests for students to be assigned to a specific cohort or particular days on campus.

If our family decides to choose full-time distance learning, is it possible to switch to hybrid learning in the middle of the school year? Yes, on a quarterly basis, Berean will make accommodations for families who desire to place their children back in the physical classroom. Parents should notify the school registrar, Seana Shafer, of any potential changes.

How will Berean split the A and B groups for the hybrid model? Is there a way to request either A or B groups? Berean is committed to assigning students from the same household to the same group. After that, we will start by splitting students roughly alphabetically. We say "roughly" because we will need to make additional adjustments to ensure both groups have a similar number of students and that no particular course period is overloaded on any given day. Our registrar will communicate student group assignments via email after the announcement that school will be operating with an "in-person" operational model. Regretfully, we will be unable to consider requests to be assigned to a specific group or to specific days on campus, or in the same group with specific friends, etc. We trust you can understand that processing individual requests would create too many variables, and it is not feasible for us to be able to process and accommodate fairly the individual preferences of over 400 students for A-B group placement. We continue to hope and pray that the hybrid model will be temporary and that in due time we can, once again, be together on campus as one community.

What instructional model and schedule will the school employ for remote and hybrid learning? Berean will conduct live, synchronous learning with both the remote and hybrid models. The school will utilize a white bell schedule Monday-Thursday, and students will be expected to attend seven classes daily, whether they are learning in the classroom or at home. Keeping the weekly schedule and bell schedule the same will allow teachers to utilize the same lesson plan and ensure consistency across the board. This system will also allow for a seamless transition back to a normal school routine when that day arrives.

What will a typical week look like with a hybrid model of instruction? (cf. Level III) Though a dual, hybrid method of instruction will be used, an instructional week will look similar to the normal instructional routine. Teachers will plan and teach a daily lesson, the difference being that part of the class will be at their desks while the other part is watching from home. Teachers will not be expected to develop a separate lesson for distance learning students; rather, both groups will receive the same, synchronous instruction.

What will Fridays look like? Will teachers assign work on Fridays? Fridays will be reserved as "teacher prep days" for grading and curriculum preparation. Teachers will be on campus till noon on Fridays to attend department meetings and hold virtual (remote learning) and virtual/in-person (hybrid) office hours for students. In order to keep Fridays as a prep day, teachers are discouraged from conducting live instruction (lectures, discussions, etc). However, teachers who teach AP or honors courses may assign small, independent assignments (i.e. AP skill work, extra readings, source analysis, math problems) to their students on Fridays. All teachers may use Fridays as a due date for work assigned earlier in the school week.

What platforms and technologies will my student use? The school is committed to reducing the number of online platforms students employ for distance learning. Teachers will utilize RenWeb, Zoom for Education, Google Classroom, and email to communicate with students and conduct live teaching. Teachers may also employ a few additional apps to supplement the primary platforms in use (e.g., Timify, EdPuzzle, FaceTime, etc)

**Will teachers take attendance?** Attendance will be taken at the start of every class period, and every student, whether present physically or online, is responsible for prompt arrival to each class. Once roll is called, teachers will not be responsible for monitoring the attendance of distance learners. However, Zoom for Education, our live broadcast platform, keeps an attendance record that is time-stamped to show when each student logs in and out of the period. Teachers will send this report to the office staff for reconciliation.

How will live synchronous learning occur while students are at home? Since teachers will be taking attendance at the beginning of each class period, all remote students will be expected to sign in at the start of each class period via Zoom. This is especially important since some students may be participating in full-time distance learning due to health reasons, and remote learning will be their main source of instruction. While all students are expected to be signed in at the beginning of each class, the amount of time they are logged in may vary depending on the length of the lecture or instruction. At teacher discretion, online students may be allowed to log off after the live instruction time in order to begin independent assignments/classwork. If distance students are allowed to log off before the class period ends, the instructor may require distance students to check-in at the end of the period by turning in work, discussing an assignment, or submitting an "exit ticket." This will keep students accountable for participating in the entire 50 minute class period. For the first few weeks of the school year, teachers will keep their students actively participating in class via Zoom for the entire 50 minute class period until routine and trust is established.

How will distance learners be managed? Teachers will not be responsible for managing the behavior of remote learners. Keeping remote students on a white bell schedule will promote accountability in attendance. Aside from recording their attendance at the start of the class period, teachers are not responsible for closely monitoring the actions of remote learners while they teach and manage their in-person students. As previously mentioned, teachers will not be expected to plan a separate lesson for distance learners; the same four lessons will be taught to both groups throughout the week. Teachers are highly encouraged to use strategies that promote a more interactive classroom experience that engages remote learners and creates a classroom community. Examples may include shorter source readings that are screen shared and discussed by both groups, calling on remote learners to read or answer a question aloud to the class, utilizing Zoom's text chat features and breakout group feature, more

emphasis on formative assessments, and interactive polls and exit questions via Google Classroom. If there is concern about the participation or behavior of remote learners, teachers will be encouraged to give those students' names to the Deans to follow up with specific students and their families.

How will the school maximize spiritual formation and development while employing the hybrid and distance learning models? Berean Christian High School (BCHS) exists to support both the home (Deut 6:4-9) and the church (Eph 4:11–12) in the development of worshipers of Jesus Christ (Ps 22:27). What this means, of course, is that the distinctive characteristic of a Berean education is the presence and work of the Holy Spirit among our staff and students. And while we may begin the school year remotely or partially in person, we trust that the Spirit of God will be at work among us, wooing our students to become more like our Lord every single day (Rom 8:29). Whatever the operational model, our faculty and staff will embody the Christian worldview in every class through blatant biblical integration, role modeling, and prayer. Our Bible teachers will likewise resume their explicit teaching of the Word of God and promote ever-increasing spiritual growth in their students through their focused curriculum and commitment to spiritual development. On top of this, Berean is committed to providing a weekly virtual chapel, which we hope will become part of your family's weekly viewing. Early in the week, we will send out a link to a YouTube chapel service/devotional along with a discussion question or two. These questions will serve to foster a graded discussion later in the week during a portion of Bible class (either Wednesday or Thursday). And while these videos and questions will be designed to facilitate a discussion in class, we want to encourage every family to view the chapel at some point during the week and discuss it together. We trust this will provide a fruitful time of enjoying the Lord and his Word.

Will live teaching be recorded for later viewing? In general no, but some courses may require an occasional lesson to be recorded. For many reasons, most importantly for promoting the community, normalcy, accountability, and the emotional health of our students, the school feels that it is necessary to keep everyone on a traditional synchronous (live taught) school schedule (8:30-3) without the recording and posting of all live lectures.

If a student decides to stay home because they are feeling ill, can they participate in distance learning for that day? If a student decides to responsibly stay home because they are unsure of their symptoms, they may participate in distance learning for that day. If these types of "absences" become a regular occurrence and the teacher believes this privilege is being manipulated to get out of in-class work, administrators will contact the student and family.

What technology and internet speed will my student need for distance learning? School issued iPads are sufficient for live interaction through Zoom for Education and for completing course work in the majority of classes. However, Berean recommends the supplemental use of a laptop or desktop computer for students learning from home. Teachers will notify parents of technology needs if their particular coursework requires more substantial processing capability for distance learning. Zoom for Education requires an internet connection - broadband wired or wireless (3G or 4G/LTE). A minimum bandwidth of 600kbps (up/down) is required and 1.5 Mbps (up/down) is recommended. Please check your home internet bandwidth using Speedtest.net.

Will there be a tuition discount for any reason? (later start date, cancellation of retreat, 4-days per week school, if we elect 100% BCHS distance learning, etc.) Regretfully, we do not foresee being able to offer any level of tuition rebate related to a possible delayed school year start or modified school format or cancellation of All-School Retreat, as in fact we are incurring significant unbudgeted expenses and infrastructure improvement capital outlays related to complying with COVID health & safety measures. We can assure you that we take our stewardship of families' hard-earned tuition dollars very seriously, and Berean Christian is committed to continuing to provide an exceptional Christ-centered and academic school experience for your student within the current societal and regulatory constraints.

**Are fall sports going to be rescheduled?** Yes. The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) has determined, in collaboration with its ten member Sections, that education-based athletics for the 2020-2021 school year will begin with a delayed/modified season. See cifstate.org for the complete 2020-21 sports calendar.

# **COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols FAQ**

# **Screening**

How will Berean screen for COVID-19 symptoms? Families must pre-screen students for symptoms each day before coming to school using Berean's screening app, BC Prescreen (available on the Apple App Store and Android). The app will employ the CDC's COVID-19 health questionnaire and require a "yes" or "no" answer to 10 questions. Students who pass the screening will receive a "green screen" on their iPads or phone, which they will present to their first-period teacher for entry into class. Students who fail the test will receive a "red screen" which indicates they should not come to school until they receive a follow-up assessment from a medical professional. Students of families who opt out of using Berean's prescreening app must come to the front office each day to be assessed in person. An infrared thermometer will be employed to take a temperature reading. Faculty and staff will likewise use the app for daily screening and mitigation.

# **Face Coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

What type of PPE is required while on campus? Face coverings must be used in accordance with CDPH guidelines, particularly in indoor environments, on school buses, and areas where physical distancing alone is not sufficient to prevent disease transmission. In order to comply with this guidance, Berean will exclude students from campus if they refuse to wear a mask. In limited situations where face coverings cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (e.g. lecturing in a foreign language class, communicating with the hearing impaired) a face shield can be used by staff instead of a cloth face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others, to the extent practicable. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom.

What supplies will be included in every classroom for use by students and teachers? Touchless hand sanitizing stations are available in all classrooms along with disinfecting wipes. Many classrooms are equipped with functioning sinks and soap.

**Are gloves recommended for students and staff?** Gloves are not recommended for use by students or staff, except those conducting duties such as cleaning, first aid, or food service.

# **Physical Distancing and Limiting Contact**

What are the physical distancing protocols (distance, number permitted in a group) in multiple settings: in classroom, hallways, common outdoor spaces? Where practicable, physical distancing of at least three feet should be maintained between students within a classroom or instructional area; at least six feet should be maintained between adults and students.

What is the recommended number of students in a class? The number of students per classroom will depend on the operational model (hybrid or traditional), room size, and furniture configuration. Distancing cannot be guaranteed at all times and because of this, CDPH/CCHS recommend masks be worn as the primary mitigation.

How will students enter and exit the classroom? Students will enter the classroom one at a time, maintaining 3 feet of distance between them. As students enter the classroom, first period instructors will confirm that students have pre-screened their symptoms using the BC Prescreen app (the app will produce a green screen which will allow entry). Touchless hand sanitizing dispensers will be kept near the door, and students will be required to use them or to wash their hands using an outdoor or classroom sink (80 percent of Berean classrooms have sinks). Students will be dismissed from class by row, maintaining 3 feet of distance as they exit the classroom.

**Will classroom cell phone caddies be employed?** For sanitary reasons, cell phone caddies will not be used. Instead, students will be required to keep their cell phones silenced and in their backpacks.

Has Berean configured the campus to include a space to isolate people who become ill at school? Berean has identified the "boardroom" as its "sick room" - a space through which others do not regularly pass where symptomatic individuals can remain until they are able to go home.

Are all adults and adult volunteers (parents) excluded from campus? A "visitor" is defined as any individual entering Berean Christian High School property who is not an employee (faculty or staff), board member, or a currently enrolled student. The following categories of visitors are permitted inside of Berean buildings and classrooms provided they have been invited and approved by the administration

**Construction contractors** 

Vendors and suppliers of goods and services to be delivered to or performed on campus

Invited speakers or musicians

Visitors on official school business

Invited parents

All visitors permitted on campus will be required to follow health and safety protocols adopted by Berean and as required by federal, state, or local regulations. This includes a COVID-19 health screening before coming on campus (BC Prescreen App, if applicable), complying with the school's face-covering policy, physical distancing requirements, and regular hand washing and sanitizing.

Requests for access to the campus by other visitors not described in this policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis and should be submitted to the Principal at least two days in advance of the visit.

Will students in PE classes change into PE clothes? If so, how will social distancing work in PE locker rooms? Teachers will actively supervise locker rooms to ensure students are actively participating in social distancing. A maximum of six students will be allowed in the locker rooms at one time, and extra time may be given to accommodate the distancing mandate. When practicable, all PE classes will be conducted outdoors with masks and distancing protocols.

**Will lockers be off-limits?** To enhance social distancing protocols, lockers will not be issued unless a request is made by parents to the front office.

# **Facilities - Safety and Sanitization Considerations**

When will Berean require handwashing or other forms of hand sanitization? Students and staff will be reminded of good hygiene practices with both regular verbal reminders and via signs throughout campus and in all restrooms. Staff will explicitly require student handwashing or sanitizing when entering their 1st-period class, when exiting their 4th-period class before lunch, and after lunch when entering their 5th-period class. Although the school will provide extra handwashing and hand sanitizing stations throughout campus and in classrooms, we expect parents to partner with the school to regularly remind students of good hygiene practices. The school also asks that parents keep their students stocked with personal hand sanitizer, wipes, and extra masks to carry in their backpack.

**Will teachers pass out and collect papers?** Though it is highly recommended that teachers utilize Google Class-room to create consistency between groups and keep their rooms as "paperless" as possible, paper distribution and collection are permitted as long as social distancing is maintained. It is recommended that as students enter the classroom, the day's assignments are stacked near the door so each student can get their assignments before sitting at their desk. Likewise, it is recommended that a basket or file folder be kept in an open area of the classroom so that students can turn in their assignments while maintaining social distancing.

What are the cleaning procedures Berean has put in place? How often will the classrooms and shared spaces be cleaned? The entire Berean campus will be thoroughly cleaned each night. This includes the sanitization of every desk as well as the use of an electrostatic fogging machine for sanitization. During the school day, students will be required to wash their hands at various points (see above). Students are also encouraged to bring their own disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer for use as needed. Classrooms will be equipped with disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer for teachers to use at their discretion. The Berean facilities manager will be cleaning shared spaces throughout the campus (door handles, light switches, etc) throughout the school day. In the common event that a teacher is sharing a classroom with others, when finished the departing teacher will wipe down all shared spaces including but not limited to the computer keyboard, mouse, monitors, TV remotes, desk, chair, lectern, etc.

# **Reporting, Health Protocols, and Communication**

Will we be notified if a staff member or student tests positive for the virus? It depends, but generally yes, but only if that information is in a non-personally identifiable form. The Berean administration must make a reasonable determination that a student or staff member's identity is not personally identifiable, whether through single or multiple releases. See 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(b)(1) of FERPA

What are the communication guidelines if a positive case is confirmed? Communication will vary depending on the specific circumstances of a case in the Berean community.

How will the school respond to a student or staff member exhibiting symptoms? If a student gets sent home for symptoms, when will they be allowed back to school? If a staff member notices a student is exhibiting common symptoms, they are encouraged to send that student to the office for assessment. The student will be separated from others as much as possible (isolation in the board room) until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility. Isolated students will receive continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult. There is no need for others who had contact with the sick person to quarantine themselves while waiting for the results. Students exhibiting symptoms will not be permitted to come back to school until they are symptom-free for 72 hours.

When should I consider getting a COVID-19 test for myself or someone in my family? CCHS recommends a COVID-19 test for anyone who believes they may need one, whether or not they have symptoms. People who have symptoms of illness are encouraged to get tested. Visit coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-tested to learn more about testing in Contra Costa County.

**Will staff or students diagnosed with COVID-19 need a document to return to school?** Anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must isolate at home for at least 14 days, and at least three days after symptoms subside. If needed, CCHS will provide clearance letters at the end of isolation/quarantine.

If a parent is diagnosed with COVID-19, will their student need to self-quarantine prior to returning to school? How will the schools know when the student is ok to return? If a student or staff has a household member who tests positive for COVID-19, the student will be ordered to quarantine at home until 14 days have elapsed since all household members are no longer considered infectious. CCHS may issue an order with explicit instructions on quarantine and details on its expiration. If needed, CCHS will provide clearance letters at the end of isolation/quarantine.

If a student or teacher tests positive, with or without symptoms, will the entire school be closed? Not necessarily. Next steps will be determined on a case-by-case basis. CCHS may conduct contact tracing to determine who, if anyone, may have had close contact with the person who tested positive and will provide guidance to Berean, including whether a school closure is recommended. Whenever a positive case is confirmed on campus, the school will perform a thorough cleaning of areas where the person spent time, especially high-contact surfaces.

# **Transportation**

What safety measures will be in place for bus drivers and students? To lower the risk of exposure, Berean will implement the following for van and bus transportation:

The BC Prescreen app will be required for students to board the bus

Physical distancing when getting on/off the bus will be required

Students and bus drivers will wear face masks at all times

Students will be encouraged to avoid touching their faces

Students will be spaced out according to current distancing guidelines

Windows will be open for better ventilation

Siblings will be encouraged to sit together to help maximize capacity

# Miscellaneous

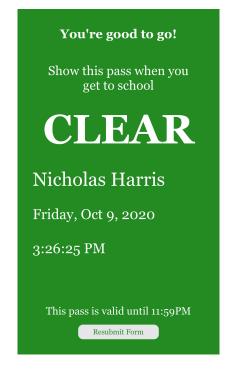
Will I be required to sign a release form for my student to come to the Berean campus? Yes. The release form acknowledges that despite Berean's best efforts at screening, distancing, and sanitization, the school will not be able to guarantee it will remain free of the virus or that students will not contract COVID-19 or any other infection at the school. Beginning on July 23rd, Berean will require that everyone coming to campus sign and date a Notice and Release.

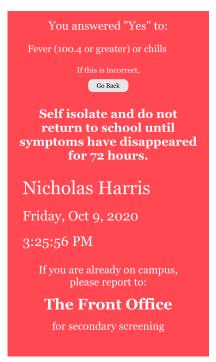
# **PreScreening**

# BC PRESCREEN APP

Families will be required to pre-screen students for symptoms (including a temperature reading) each day before coming to school using Berean's screening app (available on the Apple App Store and Android). The app will employ the CDC's COVID-19 health questionnaire and require a "yes" or "no" answer to 10 questions. Students who pass the screening will receive a "green screen" on their iPads or phone, which they will present to their first-period teacher for entry into class. Students who fail the test will receive a "red screen" which indicates they should not come to school until they receive a follow-up assessment from a medical professional. Students of families who opt out of using Berean's prescreening app must come to the front office each day to be assessed in person. There, an infrared thermometer will be employed to take a temperature reading. Faculty and staff will likewise use the app for daily screening and mitigation.







# **COVID-19 Info**

# IMPORTANT WEBSITES

The CDC's Decision Tool for Reopening Schools

The CDE's Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Schools

CDPH's COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School-Based Programs

The CCCHD's School Reopening: A Guide to Address the Challenges of COVID-19

The AAP's COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry

The NEA's All Hands on Deck: Initial Guidance Regarding Reopening Schools

Novel Coronavirus 2019 Transmission Risk in Educational Settings

School Closures and Management Practices During Coronavirus Outbreaks Including COVID-19:

A Rapid Systematic Review

Age-dependent Effects in the Transmission and Control of COVID-19 Epidemics

COVID-19 Transmission and Children: The Child is Not to Blame

Physical Distancing, Face Masks, and Eye Protection to Prevent Person-To-Person Transmission

Of SARS-Cov-2 And COVID-19: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Modeling COVID-19 to Inform State and Local Response

Coronavirus Disease 2020: Key Updates from the CDC

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Contra Costa County: Weekly Updates

California COVID Assessment Tool: Current R-effective in Contra Costa County, California

"When will it be over?": An introduction to viral reproduction numbers, R0 and Re

COVIDView: A weekly Surveillance Summary of US COVID-19 Activity