



Binghamton City School District

Christopher Columbus School
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Additional Information on BCSD Childcare:

On Tuesday, the district announced that childcare centers have been set up to support remote learning at several of our elementary schools and Binghamton High School. The reason for this additional communication is to provide clarification for several questions that have been raised.

This opportunity was first available to our faculty/staff and is now available to students and their families on a first-come, first-serve basis. This is a childcare support opportunity with 80 slots available similar to other programs being offered through community-based organizations. It's important to note that this is not school, but a supervised opportunity for children to engage in the instruction being provided by their teacher. It does not affect the district's reopening plan or academic schedule; it is an additional childcare offering. The district has long offered similar support to working families by providing afterschool care. Many BCSD families requested such an opportunity as a means of support and supervision to in person and hybrid instruction for Kindergarten through 5th grade students on days they are learning virtually. As a district program, it will follow the district's COVID-19 plan.

The cost of the program, \$30 per day, was determined by covering the cost of staffing each center. Each center will be staffed by a district employee, a certified Teaching Assistant, who can then be in communication with each child's teacher should questions arise. Free breakfast and lunch, along with transportation, will be provided.

The district is committed to working with any family who is interested in this opportunity, but who may find the cost prohibitive, and is working directly with the Department of Social Services to ensure that this opportunity is eligible for DSS reimbursement. We are also developing a tiered pricing plan for families with multiple students in this program. Please contact childcare@binghamtonschoools.org with questions or for additional information. You may register by visiting <https://forms.gle/35CZSvJc64qXch838>.

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