



Binghamton City School District

Christopher Columbus School
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September, 2020

Dear Binghamton Families,

A top priority for the Binghamton City School District is to provide a safe and secure learning environment for students, faculty, and staff. One of the critical components of our reopening plan is the daily health screenings of our students, faculty, and staff. These daily screenings are required by both the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Education Department. While the information enclosed in this letter is specific to families whose children will be attending school in-person, we wanted all families to receive this important screening information to ensure their child's health and safety.

Please complete a short check each morning and report your child's information on **Monday or Thursday**, whichever is your child's first day of school that week. The district has purchased an application called GoCanvas to make this process as easy as possible. The application has already been downloaded to your child's device, if one was obtained from the school. You will receive an invitation email from donotreply@gocanvas.com to sign in to this application on Thursday, September 24th.

The daily health screening will ask if your child has exhibited any symptoms (temperature greater than 100 degrees; extremely tired, *new* dry cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, or *new* onset of severe headache) and the extent to which they may have had close contact or exposure to COVID-19 (within six feet of an infected person for more than 10 minutes, has had a positive test within the past 14 days, and traveled internationally or to a state with widespread community transmission). If your child has any of these symptoms, they should not come to school. The return to school policy, established through the county health department, is listed on the back of this letter.

Enclosed are several items. A daily home screening flyer produced by the Broome County Health Department, is enclosed to assist in daily screening, along with directions for accessing the GoCanvas application, which is to be used to report weekly the results of your child's screening. Also enclosed is **an affidavit we are asking all parents/guardians to complete and return to school.**

Thank you for your partnership. We appreciate the shared responsibility in ensuring the safety of your child as well as the rest of the students, faculty and staff in the Binghamton City School District. Should you have questions or need additional information, please Mr. Eric Wilson, Executive Director of Human Resources and Operations at 762-8100 x322.

With Patriot Pride,

Tonia Thompson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Symptoms of COVID-19

- Temperature greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit
- Sore throat
- Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- **New** dry cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- **New** onset of severe headache

Close/Potential Exposure

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 10 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19
- Personally tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- Has traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per the NYS travel Advisory in the past 14 days.

Return to School Policy – COVID 19 Questionnaire

If you answer yes to any questions on the COVID-19 Questionnaire, please keep your child home and he/she will be required to complete ***all*** of the following:

1. Have an evaluation by a healthcare provider, with documentation that return to in-person instruction is allowed.
2. Provide documentation of a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
3. If a positive COVID-19 test result is obtained, provide documented release from public health isolation from Broome County Health Department.
4. If an evaluation by a health care provider has been completed and COVID-19 testing is ordered but is unable to be performed, in-person learning can not resume until a waiting period of 10 days has been reached. The decision to return will be decided amongst the provider, the Broome County Health Department, and the district.

Please contact your school nurse to discuss your child's absence and with any questions/concerns.

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