

# AUGUST 2020

# PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER



BLUE HERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## First Day of School

On Monday, we launched our school year with remote learning for all of our Blue Heron students. Even though this first day had a few glitches, we were all so happy to reconnect with students and families. Thank you so much for your patience as we problem solved network outages and password resets. If any additional problems arise, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, our office staff, or your teachers, we are here to ensure that your child has a seamless online learning experience.

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## Orientation Week

**Who:** Every student who has selected *IN PERSON* learning will attend the assigned day for their grade level. Students who participate in remote learning will maintain their online schedule for this week.

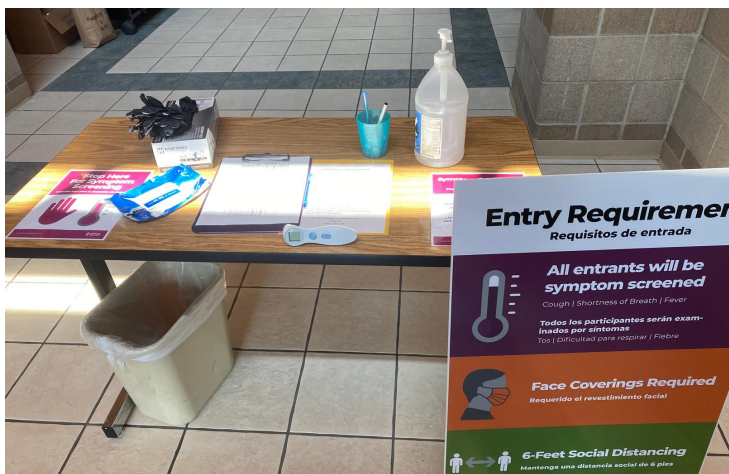
**What:** Orientation day will be a full school day (8:45AM-3:30PM). Students will learn new safety procedures and will engage in community building and instructional activities in their classrooms. Students will be able to purchase lunch from the cafeteria on their orientation day or they can bring a lunch from home. Please send a snack, all teachers will implement snack/mask breaks during the day.

**When:**

8/31- 4th and 5th Grade  
9/1- 3rd Grade  
9/2- 2nd Grade  
9/3- 1st Grade  
9/4- Kindergarten and Pre/K



**Back to School Night**  
Back to school night will be a virtual event this year, more details to come soon!



\*Blue Heron Health Screen Station

## COVID-19 Safety Procedures

- Staggered Start/Dismissal
- Daily Health Screens
- Hand Washing
- Classroom Sanitation
- Classroom Cohorts
- Masks Required

## Staggered Start/Dismissal

In order to prioritize social distancing and ensure every child is screened daily for COVID symptoms, a staggered start/dismissal time will be implemented this year. When students arrive, they will enter through the grade level wing doors and will walk to the inside classroom doors.

### Arrival:

8:45AM-8:55AM- Last names A-L arrive

8:55AM-9:05AM- Last names M-Z arrive

### Dismissal:

Bus riders will be dismissed first right after the bell, followed by A-L last names and then M-Z last names.

## Daily Health Screen

When students enter their assigned screening entrances, their temperatures will be taken and they will be asked the following question:

1. Are you currently sick with a cough, sore throat, or runny nose?

If students have a temperature of 100.4 or higher or answer yes to the question, they will be assessed by our health aide and parents will be contacted to gain more information.



## Classroom Sanitation

Every classroom has a bottle of 730 spray that will be used to sanitize learning areas and materials. This spray is used as a mist and kills the COVID virus within 5 minutes. We have added 10 minutes between AMP classes to provide sanitation time as well as 5 additional minutes to lunch periods so teachers can sanitize the classroom.



## Hand Washing

Hand washing/sanitizing will become part of the daily routine in the classroom. When students arrive in their classroom each day, they will wash their hands. Students will wash hands between transitions, before eating, after play, etc. We have hand washing signs and directions throughout the building that they will learn during orientation week.



## Classroom Cohorts

Cohorts will be utilized as a mitigation strategy to prevent transfer of the virus and also to contain any possible infection. Each class will stay together throughout the day and will avoid contact with other cohorts. This will be a change for our students who are used to interacting with their entire grade level on a daily basis. Our teachers are spending these first 2 weeks to build a strong classroom community to ensure students thrive in this new cohort setting.

# Welcome to the Team! Meet Blue Heron's Newest Staff Members

- Josie Tramontano- English as a Second Language Teacher
- Leeanna Marsh- Health Aide
- Joy Christensen- Instructional Coach/5th Grade
- JJ Eagleston- Digital Teacher Librarian
- Mackenzie Beck- 5th Grade
- Sandra Chiarelli- Kindergarten Remote
- Megan Harris- Primary ASD
- Kevin Floth- Band
- Rick Grassler- Orchestra
- Amy McMurray- Kitchen Manager
- Kaelyn Cannon- 1st Grade
- Pamela Taylor- 2nd Grade
- Pat Espinoza- Facility Management





# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. How will students maintain social distancing at recess?

Students will remain in their cohorts by playing in assigned daily zones. We will teach active and engaging games that include safe social distancing measures so students can take their masks off. In addition, we will provide a variety of playground equipment for students (i.e. jump ropes, hula hoops, basketballs for HORSE, frisbees, etc.) all items will be sanitized after each cohort.



• Recess Zone Map

## 2. Is it mandatory for students to wear masks all day?

It is mandatory for all students and employees to wear masks at all times while in the school building. The exception to this is for eating lunch and snacks. Our teachers have been incredibly creative in finding ways to include mask breaks throughout the day by utilizing our expansive outdoor school space

## 3. How will attendance be taken for remote learning?

Teachers will be taking attendance based on a variety of factors which may include: Presence during in-person instruction, Assignments completed at home, Logging into the online learning platform, Student demonstration of learning, Responding to teacher emails or communication; Viewing pre-recorded instructional videos; or Observing or participating in online discussions or forums through platforms such as Zoom or Google Classroom.

## 4. As a parent, do I need to wear a mask when I am outside? Can I visit my child's classroom?

Everyone who is on school grounds, including outside, must wear masks at all times and maintain social distancing from all other families. Students and parents may remove masks when they are off of school grounds. At this time, only students and school personnel are allowed to enter the building.

## 5. Which door will my child enter for health screens each morning?

- Please see this map for health screen entrances.

