Big Spring School District

2020 – 2021
COVID-19: Staying Open Plan

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Message from The Superintendent

Dear Big Spring School Community:

I hope you are doing well and staying cool as we work our way through a very unique summer. Our team has put together this document to provide an update regarding our planning for the reopening of schools. What you will find within this document is an overview of our instructional delivery model and summary of our health and safety measures. Many more details are contained in our Health and Safety Plan as well and we will continue to update you on these processes as we work towards the opening of school. These plans are quite fluid as they reflect best practice and guidelines from a multitude of sources that continue to grow and adjust almost daily.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is our top priority throughout our work and informs all our decision-making. The challenge we are facing is a Community Health challenge and it needs to be addressed with frameworks that reflect how schooling can affect that community health. The plan to date reflects the tireless efforts of our Pandemic Response Team, comprised of administrators, teachers, nurses, support staff, and informed by guidance from a community physician as well as our solicitor. Feedback from community ThoughtExchanges and staff ThoughtExchanges are incorporated into our plan as is research from educational, medical, and governmental entities from a state, national and global scale.

I need to reiterate my commitment to ensuring that our work as a school system and learning organization supports a "staying open plan". Our goal is to provide face-to-face instruction for all of our families that desire it and to ensure that sort of instruction is available well into the future. To meet that goal, we must start school in the instructional delivery model that provides us the best chance to stay open and remain open within that face-to-face mode for the entire year. As such we need to adapt as conditions warrant. This will begin with a hybrid model that I have referred to as Tier 2 in several prior communications. Within Tier 2, all grade levels will attend school in a hybrid format with a blend of face-to-face instruction and remote learning, with the exception of kindergarten and some specific students with documented special needs. The decision to start in Tier 2 is based on the current level of viral spread within our region coupled with our ability to balance social distancing expectations, bussing protocols and support of specific protocols within each of our buildings. Being a school district of 200 square miles provides us some distinct challenges during a pandemic and our phased approach to opening allows us to get our students back in our buildings while working towards the capacity to in time move to Tier 3 for all families that make that choice.

With the Tier designated, families will now be asked to choose what delivery model they feel best meets their needs. The key term embedded throughout our entire delivery model is choice. Do families want face-to-face, livestreaming, or the district provided full cyber option? Within this document we will describe each of those choices so that families can make the best decision for their learners. Obviously, much can happen over the next six to eight weeks so our plans remain fluid and flexible. We will consistently revise and grow our plans based on our communities needs while focusing on the health and safety of all involved. Providing for the safest schooling environment for our children during a pandemic requires a commitment from all involved. We as a school district take this responsibility quite seriously. As always we welcome your feedback and appreciate your trust and support during these trying times. As a Bulldog Family, we will grow from these challenges and better our ourselves in the process.

Ever Always Strong,

Dr. Richard W. Fry

Superintendent of Schools

ThoughtExchange Survey Results

Thank you to the over 400 respondents to the recent ThoughtExchange survey that was conducted. We are very fortunate to have such an involved and supportive community. Multiple surveys have been distributed over the past four months to both families and staff. Your feedback provided valuable perspectives and helped to inform our decision-making process. Results for this ThoughtExchange survey can be accessed by clicking here (https://bit.ly/3eZuRYd).

The driving question that was asked was: "What ideas or thoughts do you have about the 2020-2021 school year?" Dominant themes from the top thoughts for participants included:

- Overwhelming majority want school to reopen and emphasize face-to-face instruction with safety protocols in place
- Concerns related to a hybrid program and ensuring that all students in one family can attend face-to-face instruction on the same day
- Options for families if they aren't comfortable sending students to face-to-face instruction
- If hybrid or remote learning is necessary:
  - Increase live lessons with teachers
  - Schedule live instruction sessions more than once per week
  - Accountability for learning (grading, attendance, teacher feedback)
- Consider all options for transportation to ensure safety / social distancing.

Health Screening and Safety Protocols

Home
- Please check your child each morning and keep her/him home if you notice any of the symptoms related to COVID: temperature of 100° or higher; cough; nasal congestion; sore throat; shortness of breath; upset stomach; headache; muscle ache; loss of appetite, taste, or smell.
- Report any of these symptoms to your child's doctor.
- Report any of these symptoms to your school nurse.

Transportation
- A maximum of 2 students per seat will be permitted on bus.
- Riders should wear masks when on the bus and at bus stop.
- Signs will be posted at the entrance of each school bus listing the symptoms of COVID-19 and informing riders and parents that students should stay home if exhibiting these symptoms.
- Buses will be cleaned 2x daily, prior to the AM and PM runs.
- Drivers will be in contact with the school if there is a question.

Entering the School
- Signs will be posted at the entrance of each school listing the symptoms of COVID-19 and informing staff, students, and visitors not to enter if exhibiting these symptoms.
- Only essential visitors will be permitted in the school.
- All adults and students should wear a face covering in the building anytime 6ft of social distancing is not occurring (hallways, bathrooms, evacuation drills, school bus, etc...).
- Students and staff will go to the nurse immediately if feeling symptomatic.

Meals
- Individuals will be required to sanitize or wash their hands prior to, and after, eating.
- Students will be seated in accordance with social distancing guidelines (e.g. staggered seating). Meals will be served in the classroom when social distancing is not possible in the cafeteria and/or other large group areas.
- Eating surfaces will be cleaned prior to, and after, eating.

Classroom
- Classroom configurations will be altered for maximum social distancing as feasible. Some examples include staggered desks all facing the same direction to limit face to face seating, removal of all unnecessary furniture to maximize the square footage of each space, and reduction of class sizes.
- Classrooms may be assigned to other areas in the building to enable social distancing/class size reduction requirements.
- Students and staff will consistently be made aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 through signage.
- Students and staff should wash hands prior to, and after, using restroom.
- Staff and students will wear a mask anytime 6ft of social distancing is not possible.

Universal Face Coverings

Per the order of Governor Wolf and PA Secretary of Health all students and staff must wear a face covering while on school transportation, in hallways, and in classes where 6-feet of social distancing is not available. The order is unlikely to change prior to the start of the school year, so we should prepare for this eventuality.

> View the PA Department of Health's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on face coverings.
> - What type of face covering complies with this Order?
> - Does the Order apply to children and adults while in schools?
> - Under what circumstances are students permitted to remove face coverings?
> - Are there exceptions to wearing face coverings?

What type of face covering complies with this Order?

The Order requires individuals to wear a "face covering." "Face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A "face covering" can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen, and, for the purposes of the order, can include a plastic face shield that covers the nose and mouth. "Face coverings" may be factory-made, sewn by hand, or improvised from household items, including but not limited to, scarves, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

- **Please start thinking about what type of face covering makes sense for your child.**
- **What style of face covering will be the most comfortable (e.g. looped over the ears, tied around the head or wrapped around the lower face)?**
- **Consider getting your child used to putting on, wearing and taking off a face covering prior to the start of school.**

Are there exceptions to wearing face coverings?

Any student who cannot wear a mask or face shield due to a medical condition, including those with respiratory issues that impede breathing, a mental health condition, or disability, and students who would be unable to remove a mask without assistance are not required to wear face coverings.

Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or who has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication, are not required to wear a mask; however, individuals should consider using another type of face covering such as a plastic face shield.

> **Under what circumstances are students permitted to remove their face coverings?**
>
> 1. Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart;
> 2. Seated at desks or assigned workspaces at least 6 feet apart; or
> 3. Engaged in any activity at least 6 feet apart (e.g. face covering breaks, recess, etc.).

Additional Safety Protocols

The following protocols and procedures have been developed to help safeguard our students and staff. In addition to implementation of key recommendations by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these additional safety protocols can serve to keep our schools safe. As more is learned about COVID-19 these procedures may be modified to better meet the challenges associated with the pandemic.

Home Health Screening:

Prior to coming to school, families should screen their student for any symptoms that could indicate a health concern. This practice, which may serve as a continuation of a routine for many families, can serve to protect all students. Should there be any concern of symptoms that may appear to be indicators of COVID-19, please contact your school nurse or the District's Head Nurse, Mrs. Judy Breneman at jbreneman@bigspring.k12.pa.us or 717-776-2000 Ext. 5006. Any students that do not feel well should stay home.

Thermal Scanning:

Thermal scanning equipment has been secured for each building and their main office. Thermal scanning will take place at the start of every school day for students and staff. Individuals with a reading at or above 100.4°F will be evaluated by school nurses to determine an appropriate course of action to potentially include isolation and dismissal from school. While only one symptom of COVID-19, thermal scanning to determine the presence of a fever can provide valuable information for student and staff safety.

To support this process, please monitor for any symptoms for your student at home and conduct your own thermal scanning prior to sending them to school. Please keep your student home should any symptoms be present and contact the school to share any pertinent information.

Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC):

All HVAC systems throughout all of the District's buildings are being evaluated to ensure adequate fresh air exchange and to assess overall air filtering. Not only will this process increase the effect of the system on cleaning and exchanging the air, but the evaluation will also provide key information regarding system efficiency as well. Pending results of this evaluation in early August, the District will move to implement recommendations prior to the start of the school year.

Disinfecting School Spaces:

With the onset of COVID-19, the District implemented heightened cleaning and disinfecting efforts to provide for a thorough cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces and classroom spaces two times per day. While the disinfectant that is utilized by the school district is of hospital-grade, an additional disinfecting protectant has been secured for another layer of protection. This disinfectant provides 90 days of disinfecting qualities per application, in addition to the daily disinfecting and cleaning efforts outlined above.

Hand Sanitizing Stations:

Additional hand sanitizing stations have been placed throughout all of the District's buildings for student and staff utilization. These stations are readily available in common spaces and also in every classroom. These efforts serve as a complement to regular hand washing and hygiene efforts.

What would happen if there is a confirmed case?

There are specific protocols that will be followed if a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19.

If the District is made aware of a confirmed case, we will follow CDC guidelines and physician orders regarding safe COVID mitigation and management protocols. Per these guidelines the decision tree below will be utilized for guidance.

Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms

For people (e.g., children, care providers, or staff) who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, send home or deny entry and reference the exclusion criteria in this document to determine when they may return.	For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19	For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis *without* a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 *without* a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)	For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition
Symptoms of COVID-19 include: new onset cough or shortness of breath by themselves OR at least 2 of the following: fever (100.4ºF or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea. If a person has a new symptom (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing.	**Positive test result:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days. **Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.	Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.	Stay home until symptoms have improved. If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider to determine next steps. Siblings and household members do not need to stay home.

Interim School Closure Decision Matrix

One key component of planning will be our decision process for determining when we will be closing a school or schools within the District as a result of COVID-19. We have not received any specific guidance from the PA Department of Education on factors to consider when making this decision. This matrix is subject to change and will be modified as needed.

The interim school closure decision matrix below is an effort to thoughtfully approach the potential that a local decision on closure will be necessary. The length of any school closure would depend on the local community spread and the number of confirmed cases at any one or multiple schools. Community spread is defined by using the Cumberland County incidence rate reported at the link below.

BSSD - Interim School Closure Decision Matrix

Level of Community Spread, based upon State and Local public Health (L-M-S)	Big Spring School District Closure Response Criteria (1-4)			
	Criteria 1 1 Student or 1 staff member at one site OR 1 student or 1 staff member at multiple sites in different clusters	**Criteria 2** 2-4 Student or staff members at one site OR 2-4 students or staff members at multiple sites in different clusters	**Criteria 3** 5+ student or staff members at one site OR in one cluster (traceable)	**Criteria 4** 5+ students or staff members in multiple clusters (community spread)
Low/No Spread (incidence rate/100K of less than 5 per day in the county in the past week)	Close school(s) for 24 -48 hours to clean the school building and to provide time to complete contact tracing.	Close school(s) for 72-hours (minimum)	Close individual school or cluster for 14 days (minimum)	Close school(s)/district for 14 days (minimum)
Moderate (incidence rate/100K of between 6 and 100 per day in the county in the past week)	Close school(s) for 24 -48 hours to clean the school building and to provide time to complete contact tracing.	Close school(s) for 72-hours (minimum)	Close individual school(s) or cluster(s) for 14 days (minimum)	Close school(s)/district for 14 days (minimum)
Substantial (incidence rate/100K of more than 100 per day in the county in the past week)	Close school(s) for 48 - 72 hours.	Close school(s)/district for 72-hours (minimum)	Close school/district for 14 days (minimum)	District closed until further notice

Cases will be counted as the number of positive or presumptive positive cases in a calendar week (Sunday-Sunday) per site or per District.

https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx

Three Tiers of Instruction

Our planning continues to focus on multiple tiers of instruction as we consider reopening options and aim to meet the varied needs of our students. We intend to provide a pathway to transition seamlessly between the tiers as the circumstances require. This means preparing both our students and staff for the knowledge, skills, and resources to successfully move between the tiers. Many lessons were learned from the spring closure and we have taken strategic steps to better prepare for the need to pivot into alternative forms of instruction without losing valuable learning time. The table below provides an overview of the three tiers previously presented.

	### Tier 1 - Remote Learning All instruction would shift to online distance learning provided by classroom/course teachers with live and recorded lessons. This model would be drastically different than what was experienced in the spring with increased accountability measures and work requirements for students.
	### Tier 2 - Blended Model This will enable students to take classes both in person and online. This option reduces the total number of students in the building and enables the school to follow social distancing guidelines.
	### Tier 3 - Traditional Face-to-Face This will enable students who wish to attend in traditional brick-and-mortar school setting with strict safety protocols and procedures.

Tier 2 Instructional Model Update

The following information reflects our current decision points as the District navigated the various guidelines associated with the reopening of schools as posted on the PDE website. The District will continue to refine our planning and adjust to additional guidance and/or mandates. **The recommended option to returning to school is Tier 2, which includes a blended model of face-to-face and remote learning.** This enables the District to reduce class size, ensure social distancing, and employ new safety procedures and protocols with reduced numbers of students.

While the District has decided to start the school year in Tier 2 – Blended Instruction, it is imperative that each family has options to best meet their student and family's needs. While some family situations lend themselves well to engaging in face-to-face instruction right now, others may not. As a result, several family options exist in Tier 2, as listed below.

Tier 2 – Face-to-Face
In this model, students attend school for face-to-face instruction two days per week, complete asynchronous learning activities at home two days per week and meet live in a virtual classroom one day per week. The schedule for this model is:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Virtual Live Lessons
Group B	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Virtual Live Lessons

Tier 2 – Livestream
If families choose to not send their student for face-to-face instruction, but want to keep them in their classes with their Big Spring teachers, this model is a strong option. Instead of students attending school physically on their face-to-face days of instruction (as outlined in the table above), the lesson will be livestreamed to the student so that they are able to connect remotely. This will give the student the opportunity to remotely connect to live instruction, ask questions and engage in the lesson with a Big Spring teacher, as they instruct their students. The schedule for the lesson streaming will mirror the face-to-face schedule and all expectations for attendance and work completion will be the same as if the student were physically in the classroom.

Tier 2 – Big Spring Cyber Program (Full Cyber)
This full cyber option gives families the flexibility of remote learning in a stand-alone cyber program. The structure of the cyber program is identical to outside providers with increased support of Big Spring Staff including a cyber advisor, school counselors, and access to all other supports available to all Big Spring students. As outlined previously, within this model students remain Big Spring students and can access all curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular opportunities for all Big Spring students.

Comparison Chart of Tier 2 Options

	In Person Face to Face Learning	Livestream	BSSD Cyber Program (CAOLA)
Format	• Students attend school for in person learning two days a week (M/W or T/Th) and participate in remote learning three days a week (M/W/F or T/Th/F). • All students, grades 1-12, participate in virtual learning on Fridays.	• Students follow the schedule on their "in person" days and join the class virtually at scheduled times via livestream from home. • Student is remotely learning M-F.	• Student is remotely learning M-Su.
Curriculum/Staffing	• Students engage with BSSD staff and curriculum • Students will use SeeSaw (K-2) or Google Classroom (3-12) as the instructional platform for asynchronous learning	• Students engage with BSSD staff and curriculum • Students will use SeeSaw (K-2) or Google Classroom (3-12) as the instructional platform for asynchronous learning	• Students engage with CAOLA – District's full-time cyber program. • Students will use the CAOLA virtual platform for online learning. • Courses will be taught by Big Spring Staff and other PA certified teachers.
Daily / Weekly Schedule	• Students follow a schedule each day for traditional in person instruction. Learning activities are provided asynchronously on remote learning days.	• Students join core subjects and electives each day at established times for synchronous virtual instruction. Lunch time, health and safety breaks (i.e. hand washing/bathroom), will not be livestreamed. • Learning activities are provided asynchronously on remote learning days.	• Students develop and implement their own schedule and meet weekly learning activity completion goals. • There is a weekly check in meeting with a virtual teacher and/or the Cyber Advisor.
Enrollment	• Students may transition between in person and remote livestream learning, as family circumstances and needs evolve. To change options once school has started please contact the student's guidance counselor.	• Students may transition between in person and remote Livestream learning, as family circumstances and needs evolve. To change options once school has started please contact the student's guidance counselor.	• Students are encouraged to enter/exit BSSD Cyber at the beginning/end of a marking period or semester. Students enrolling mid-semester should contact their guidance counselor for more information.

Student Supports	• Students receive teacher and special education services support in person on face to face days and virtually on asynchronous days as appropriate. • Virtual room available for students as needed. • BSSD Technology Help Desk available M-F.	• Students receive teacher and special education services support virtually as appropriate. • Virtual room available for students as needed. • BSSD Technology Help Desk available M-F.	• Students receive teacher and special education services support virtually as appropriate. • Virtual room available for students as needed. • CAOLA Technology Help Desk available.
Attendance	• Required, taken in class and via assignment completion on remote learning days.	• Required, taken in class and via assignment completion on remote learning days.	• Required, taken via assignment completion (Monday-Sunday) and meeting weekly pacing goals.
Assessment of Student Learning	• Student learning and performance is graded and recorded	• Student learning and performance is graded and recorded	• Student learning and performance is graded and recorded
Extra-Curricular Activities	• Students may engage in extracurricular activities following procedures in the BSSD Health and Safety Plan and the Athletics and Activities Health and Safety Plan.	• Students may engage in extracurricular activities virtually if possible and activities permit. Activity sponsors and advisors will communicate information regarding virtual participation.	• Students may engage in extracurricular activities following procedures in the BSSD Health and Safety Plan and the Athletics and Activities Health and Safety Plan. • Students may engage in extracurricular activities virtually if possible and activities permit. Activity sponsors and advisors will communicate information regarding virtual participation.

Face-to-Face Considerations

Elementary Schools:

- **Kindergarten: All kindergarten students would attend school every day, but in a half day model to create two cohorts of students and allow for appropriate social distancing.**
- Half Day Schedule:
  - o AM: 9:15 - 11:45AM
  - o PM: 1:20 – 3:50PM
- **First Through Fifth Grades: Blended Model (Face-to-Face and Remote Learning)**
- First through fifth grade students would be assigned by family to one of two groups and would attend school two days per week for face-to-face instruction, two days from home with asynchronous/independent learning, and one day with live virtual lessons from home.
- Cohort A & B are determined by transportation bus runs reducing ridership each day. Students from the same family unit will be assigned to the same cohort.
- A sample schedule would be:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Virtual Live Lessons
Group B	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Virtual Live Lessons

- Classrooms would have smaller cohorts of students. That reduces the number of students adhering to social distance guidelines. Most classrooms will have 10 – 12 students, dependent on actual size of room. Desks would be 4-6 feet apart. Any available space will be used as needed.
- Students would follow their building schedule on face-to-face days.
- On remote learning days, students would work at their pace with support from a virtual Resource Room as needed
- Virtual live lessons would be based upon a schedule to be distributed.
- Students would remain in classrooms and teachers would travel, as much as possible.
- Consistent building schedules will provide breaks, hand washing, and family meeting times.
- Recess will occur with class/cohort groups.
- Both core classes and specials will be provided.
- Lunch would be provided in the cafeteria with safety protocols in place for appropriate social distancing.
- Large group activities would be avoided. We will postpone any events, assemblies, field trips during the fall semester.
- Reduce shared materials and equipment.

Middle School:

- **All students would attend using the blended model with partial face-to-face and remote online learning**
- Students would be assigned to one of two groups and would attend school two days per week for face-to-face instruction, two days from home with asynchronous instruction, and one day with live virtual lessons from home.
- Cohort A & B are determined by transportation bus runs reducing ridership each day. Students from the same family unit will be assigned to the same cohort.
- A sample schedule would be:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Virtual Live Lessons
Group B	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Virtual Live Lessons

- All three grade levels would follow the traditional schedule when attending face-to-face instruction in the building.
- Classrooms would have smaller cohorts of students. That reduces the number of students adhering to social distance guidelines. Most classrooms will have 10 – 12 students, dependent on actual size of room. Desks would be 4-6 feet apart. Any available space will be used as needed.
- Students would follow their building schedule on face-to-face days.
- On remote learning days, students would work at their pace.
- Virtual live lessons would be based upon a schedule to be distributed.
- Students would remain in classrooms and teachers would travel, as much as possible.
- Consistent building schedules will provide breaks, hand washing, and family meeting times.
- Both core classes and specials will be provided.
- Lunch would be provided in the cafeteria with safety protocols in place for appropriate social distancing.
- Large group activities would be avoided. We will postpone any events, assemblies, field trips during the fall semester. Accommodations will be made for band and choir courses.
- Reduce shared materials and equipment.

2020-2021 Big Spring MS – Tier 2 Schedule

Time Frame: (Minutes)	Tier 2 **Monday and Wednesday-A Students (Synchronous)** **Tuesday and Thursday-B Students (Synchronous)** **Friday-A + B Students Virtually**
7:25-7:57 (32)	Health Checks/Homeroom/Announcements/Media
7:57-8:00 (3)	Transition
8:00-8:50 (50)	Period #1 (50 minutes) *8th Grade Electives*
8:50-8:53 (3)	Transition
8:53-9:43 (50)	Period #2 (50 minutes)
9:43-9:46 (3)	Transition
9:46-10:36 (50)	Period #3 (50 minutes) *7th Grade Electives*
10:36-10:39 (3)	Transition
10:39-11:19 (40)	**Lunch A (WIN/8th period)-6th Grade**
11:19-11:22 (3)	Transition
11:22-12:02 (40)	**Lunch B (WIN/8th period)-7th Grade**
12:02-12:05 (3)	Transition
12:05-12:45 (40)	**Lunch C (WIN/8th period)-8th Grade**
12:45-12:48 (3)	Transition
12:48-1:38 (50)	Period #4 (50 minutes)
1:38-1:41 (3)	Transition
1:41-2:31 (50)	Period #5 (50 minutes) *6th Grade Electives*
2:31-2:42 (11)	Transition/Report to HM/Pack-up/Dismissal

High School:

- **All students would attend using the blended model with partial face-to-face and remote online learning**
- Students would be assigned to one of two groups and would attend school two days per week for face-to-face instruction, two days from home with asynchronous instruction, and one day with live virtual lessons from home.
- Cohort A & B are determined by transportation bus runs reducing ridership each day. Students from the same family unit will be assigned to the same cohort.
- A sample schedule would be:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Virtual Live Lessons
Group B	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Remote Learning	Face-to-Face	Virtual Live Lessons

- All grade levels would follow the traditional schedule when attending face-to-face instruction in the building.
- Classrooms would have smaller cohorts of students. That reduces the number of students adhering to social distance guidelines. Most classrooms will have 10 – 12 students, dependent on actual size of room. Desks would be 4-6 feet apart. Any available space will be used as needed.
- Students would follow their building schedule on face-to-face days.
- On remote learning days, students would work at their pace.
- Virtual live lessons would be based upon a schedule to be distributed.
- Students would remain in classrooms and teachers would travel, as much as possible.
- Consistent building schedules will provide breaks, hand washing, and family meeting times.
- Both core classes and electives will be provided.
- Lunch would be provided in the cafeteria with safety protocols in place for appropriate social distancing.
- Large group activities would be avoided. We will postpone any events, assemblies, field trips during the fall semester. Accommodations will be made for band and choir courses.
- Reduce shared materials and equipment.

2020-2021 Big Spring HS – Tier 2 Schedule

7:23 – 7:33	Temp/Health Check	10 minutes
7:33 – 7:53	Advisement/Announcements	20 minutes
7:53 – 7:57	Passing	4 minutes
7:57 – 9:12	Period 1	75 minutes
9:12 – 9:16	Passing	4 minutes
9:16 – 10:31	Period 2	75 minutes
10:31 – 10:35	Passing	4 minutes
	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs.	
10:35 – 11:05	A Lunch/Flex	30 minutes
11:05 – 11:09	Passing	4 minutes
11:09 – 11:39	B Lunch/Flex	30 minutes
11:39 – 11:43	Passing	4 minutes
11:43 – 12:13	C Lunch/Flex	30 minutes
12:13 – 12:17	Passing	4 minutes
12:17 – 1:32	Period 4	75 minutes
1:32 – 1:36	Passing	4 minutes
1:36 – 2:51	Period 5	75 minutes

Livestream Remote Learning vs. Spring 2020 Experience

This fall the livestream remote learning will have different requirements and expectations than the online learning that took place in Spring 2020. The following highlights some of the more significant differences between remote learning in Spring 2020 and what students will be returning to this fall in the Livestream option.

	Remote/Distance Learning Spring 2020	Livestream Remote Learning 2020-2021 School Year *This option replaces the in person, face-to-face learning days with a livestream to classrooms so students can learn direction from their teacher remotely.*
Attendance	**Optional**	**Required**
Participation Requirements / Schedule	Optional sessions throughout the week • No consistent schedule • Students did not have to participate in Google/Meets or Zoom Sessions • Completing work encouraged but not required • Students given choices for assignments to complete anytime during the week	Required via Livestream at scheduled times throughout the day. The schedule will be fairly consistent from day to day. • Student required to attend Google Meets and complete online asynchronous work • Students will be given schedule to follow • Assignments will be required to be completed daily
Time Commitment	Optional activities ~1 hour a day • Students could complete activities anytime during the week • Students could do as many activities as they wanted to daily or weekly	Required sessions and work – a typical school day • Student required to attend Google Meets and complete online asynchronous/self-directed work • Students will be given schedule to follow • Sessions can be recorded for viewing outside of school hours if needed for your family situation.
Curriculum/Content	Review activities from subject content and 4th marking period critical content	• Big Spring is the Board approved curriculum taught in Big Spring traditional learning classrooms. • Aligned with the same state standards, rigor, and pacing for each grade level. • Students are required to complete asynchronous assignments during the school day and submit these assignments through the K-2 Seesaw 3-12 Google Classroom.

		• Student academic support services will continue for students with identified needs.
Student / Family Support for Asynchronous Learning	Students contacted classroom teacher for support.	While the classroom teacher will still be a resource for additional support, there will be a *virtual resource room* open throughout the day for appointments or on demand support of asynchronous and Livestream learning.
Grading / Assessment	Learning activities were ungraded Feedback was provided on student engagement	Student grades, feedback and assessment will be implemented as normal • Follows Big Spring grading and attendance policies. • Students will be graded on the same content they would be receiving in the classroom.
Streaming Platform How students will engage with the classroom?	Google Meet or Zoom (free versions)	Google Meet for Education (paid version that includes breakout rooms, attendance tracking, Q&A/Polling, digital whiteboard and more!)
Virtual Platform for Resources/Student Communication	Inconsistent across teachers (Google Classroom, email, website, SeeSaw, etc.)	Consistent across teachers/grades/buildings. K-2 – All students on SeeSaw 3-12 – All students on Google Classroom with a consistent format by level (elementary/secondary)
Technology	3-12 provided district chromebooks/laptop (anyone else that requested chromebook)	All students 1-12 will be given district chromebook/laptop. Kindergarten students who choose to participate in Livestream learning will receive a Big Spring issued device.
Offline Learning / No Internet Access	Hard copies of learning activities were mailed to families, on a weekly basis.	The district will work with families to get internet access. If it is unavailable where you live, off line activities and recordings of all instructional sessions will be delivered every 1-2 days.
Teacher Training / Professional Development	Limited – during April and May	All staff will have summer/start of school year professional development in the learning platforms, synchronous and asynchronous instruction and adapting traditional instruction for a virtual environment. Teachers will follow district format and expectations for instruction.

Big Spring Cyber Program

The District recognizes and understands that, even with safety precautions in place as outlined in our Health and Safety Plan, some families may still not feel comfortable sending their children back to school for face-to-face learning or may have other concerns with the restrictions needed to support student and staff safety. For these families, we have developed a fully online learning opportunity available to all students in grades K-12.

The Big Spring Cyber Program is a full-time cyber option that provides daily instruction in an online environment in conjunction with the Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA). This takes the place of existing instruction as the program is administered through partnerships with vendors that provide the content and curriculum resources. This program directly mirrors what students may receive from an outside cyber provide, but the students remain Big Spring students but receive online specific content.

This option is different from remote learning. Students will not have the same teacher they had in school and the curricular options may change. The instruction is aligned to the PA academic standards and is supported by Big Spring School District teachers within specific offerings.

To learn more about the Big Spring Cyber Program, please visit www.bigspringsd.org/bssdcyber.

You may also contact Dr. Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, for additional information or with any questions that you may have. To contact Dr. Euker please email at reuker@bigspring.k12.pa.us or call at 717-776-2000 ext. 2403.

Selecting an Option for My Student
(Face-to-Face, Livestream, or Cyber)

How do I let the district know what learning option I want for my child?

August 3rd the Back to School Gateway process will open in ASPEN. Via this process, you will identify what option (Face-to-Face/ Livestreaming/Big Spring Cyber) your child will start the year in.

Student Services

Our school counselors, psychologists, nurses, and special education professionals are prepared and available to offer a continuum of supports to meet our student needs. See below for some of the specific services that will be provided.

School Counselors
Our school counselors are an integral part of the students' daily educational environment. Through their work, our counselors help all students apply academic achievement strategies, manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills, and plan for postsecondary options. Regardless of the learning mode being utilized (Online, Hybrid, Face-to-Face), our counselors will provide students
- individual academic planning and goal setting,
- short-term counseling,
- referrals for long-term support, and
- support during IEP and 504 meetings.

School Nurses
Each school building will have a nurse present throughout the school day. School nurses will provide daily medications if needed and attend to illness and injuries that might occur during the school day. Mandated health screenings will be completed with social distancing and enhanced cleaning procedures. Immunization requirements remain in effect. School nurses will continue to collaborate with school counselors and administrators to provide for students with special needs, IEPS, 504 Plans and medical needs. School nurses will follow Department of Health and CDC Guidelines related to COVID-19 and will assist administrators and staff in understanding and implementing those guidelines. Each school will have a response plan and a designated isolation area for students or staff that develop signs and symptoms of COVID-19 illness at school.

School Psychologists
District school's psychologist will continue to be actively engaged in the evaluation/re-evaluation procedures, collection and review of data, and provide the necessary support needed for those they serve. School psychologists will continue to communicate with the various stakeholders and address specific needs presented to them. This collaboration will allow the district and team of psychologists to provide a continuum of services to our students and families.

Special Education
In an effort to engage students, special education staff will continue to provide instruction, services, and learning opportunities to address the specific needs of the students they serve. Along with engaging students, special education staff will act as a liaison to communicate and collaborate with various stakeholders and coordinate services to maintain compliance with federal and state guidelines. The district is committed to providing a continuum of services to our students. Case managers will be contacting families as soon as we return to school.

Contact Information

We realize there is a great deal of information contained in this document and it could easily become overwhelming. If you have questions, please contact us.

Location	Email	Phone	Focus Areas
Dr. Richard W. Fry *Superintendent* 45 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	rwfry@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2412	District Supervision / Direction
Dr. Kevin C. Roberts, Jr. *Assistant Superintendent* 45 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	kroberts@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2413	Building Supervision Health and Safety Procedures Building Operations Transportation
Dr. Robyn Euker *Director of Curriculum and Instruction* 45 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	reuker@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2417	Big Spring Cyber Program Curriculum Development Professional Learning
Mr. William Gillet *Director of Student Services* 45 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	wgillet@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2422	Student Services Special Education Services
Dr. Abigail Leonard *Supervisor of Ancillary Services* 45 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	aleonard@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2401	Counseling Nursing / Health Services Mental Health Services
Mr. William August *Principal – Big Spring HS* 100 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	baugust@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 2436	Principal – Big Spring HS
Mrs. Clarissa Nace *Principal, Big Spring MS* 43 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	cnace@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 8003	Principal – Big Spring MS
Mrs. Karen Ward *Principal, Mount Rock Elem.* 47 Mount Rock Road Newville, PA 17241	kward@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 3001	Principal – Mount Rock Elem.
Mr. William Wonders *Principal, Newville Elem.* 100 Steelstown Road Newville, PA 17241	wwonders@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 4302	Principal – Newville Elem.
Ms. Stacey Kimble *Principal, Oak Flat Elem.* 334 Centerville Road Newville, PA 17241	skimble@bigspring.k12.pa.us	717-776-2000 Ext. 5001	Principal – Oak Flat Elem.