



# Belmont Charter Network

A FAMILY  
OF SCHOOLS

Dear Families,

Last week, the Philadelphia School District announced that they are exploring plans for possibly reopening in some version of in-person live learning. While we don't know their specific plans yet, we do know that several surrounding Districts have already begun reopening their school buildings in various hybrid models. The decisions made by Philadelphia and surrounding districts directly impact us and we want to share with you our process for assessing and reopening the BCN schools.

Here is what we can share for now:

- Our plans for reopening will allow for at least a two week notice for families.
- Our plans to reopen may not include all BCN students and may prioritize small groups or grade levels of students identified as struggling with virtual instruction.
- Any plans to reopen will strictly follow the CDC guidelines. We are also utilizing reopening guidance from [Children of Philadelphia's Policy Lab](#) and the [City of Philadelphia](#) to help guide our reopening plans. Masks and other social distancing measures will be strictly enforced.
- Our next Board meeting will be on October 14th. At this meeting, we hope to confirm a date for our building reopenings and how this will look. This means that the earliest we could possibly offer in-person instruction would not be until November 9th (a date that could be pushed back if necessary)

Our school teams are currently in an assessment and adjustment phase gathering information and feedback from our key stakeholders (families, students, and staff) about our current virtual instruction and the possibility of live instruction. **In order to get information from our families, we are asking parents and caregivers to fill out the following quick [survey](#).** This will greatly inform further decision making around students that would benefit from live instruction.

Our two guiding principles of *Health and Safety for Students and Staff* and *In-person Learning is What is Best for Our Students* have at times felt like they were mutually exclusive but the benefit of time has shown us that they could be obtainable sooner than we originally anticipated. At some point - whether in the short or long term- it has always been our goal to open up for live in-person instruction. Being able to look at surrounding Districts and other smaller school systems successfully opening, has given us a plethora of information about how to run schools

safely. Additionally, we also have the added benefit of running live daycare programs for our students which has allowed us to ensure our own safety plans are effective.

For those that want more information on how safety will look and feel within our campuses, our Health and Safety plans have been posted on the [COVID-19 Resources](#) page on our website. We will be in touch as soon as we have more concrete information. For now, thank you so much for all you are doing to ensure your students are learning virtually.

Best,