

Dear BCN Families,

We hope this letter finds you all safe and healthy. In the last six weeks, we have seen students do what we KNEW they would do - rise to the occasion to gain knowledge. Thank you, parents, guardians, and caregivers, for the work you have done to make this possible. This year more than ever it has truly required a village!

Throughout this journey, we have and will continue to come back to our driving principles in decision making: 1) Health and safety of students, staff and families, 2) In-person learning is what is best for students. We are ready and are confident that we can serve both of these principles well as we begin to shift back to live in-person instruction.

Shift to Hybrid Learning Planning

As stated in our [Health and Safety Plans](#) voted on in August, we planned to visit reopening in-person instruction in October with a reopening date of November 30th. In anticipation of reopening, we surveyed staff, students and families and looked through students academic data to determine our priorities. It informed us that our youngest learners need to be prioritized but that all of our students would benefit from returning to school.

Covid-19 has made the planning process complicated for schools as we are tasked with safety guidelines that present distancing and space constraints for our buildings. Additionally, we know from surveys that many families will choose to keep their students home. ***In order to finalize our plans we need families to fill out a commitment form for each child (forms for each school are linked below). These forms will be due Friday October 23rd***

We are working closely with our maintenance, operations and custodial teams as well as local officials and government guidance to create a plan that will provide the safest environment for our students and staff. By the end of next week (Oct 26th), we anticipate releasing our internal COVID guidance outlining our routines and procedures which will help drive our reopening plans as they continue to unfold. Our Boards will be voting on the above dates and our safety plans on October 21st. We will continue to work with School Leaders and continue to listen to feedback as we move through this next stage of reopening.

We also assure you that we will be closely watching [PA's Early Warning Monitoring System](#) and will pull back plans if it becomes necessary. Currently Philadelphia is considered to be in a safe position to open schools. Schools across the nation and locally are reopening and the data continues to support that this can be done safely and done well.

Shift to Hybrid Learning Schedule - Proposed to Board for vote on October 21st

****Virtual instruction will remain available for any parents who choose. Heads of School are working on staffing both models and will be in touch with families**

Inquiry Charter School

Grade	Hybrid Shift Dates	Schedule
K4 and K5	Week of November 30th	M-Th 8:30-2pm, Friday Virtual
1st - 2nd	Week of January 4th	M-Th 8:30-2pm, Friday Virtual
3rd - 5th	Weeks of January 11-February 1st (specific dates TBD in December)	M-Th AA/BB day assigned cohorts; Friday virtual

Belmont Charter Schools

Grade	Hybrid Shift Dates	Schedule
Headstart (Prek3/4)	Working with Headstart to determine capacity	Working with Headstart to determine capacity
Kindergarten	Week of November 30th	M-Th 8:30-2pm, Friday Virtual
1st Grade	Week of November 30th	M-Th 8:30-2pm, Friday Virtual
2nd & 3rd Grade	Week of January 4th (January 4th is a PD day/No school for students)	M-Th 8:30-2pm, Friday Virtual
4th & 5th Grade	Weeks of January 11-February 1st (specific dates TBD in December)	M-Th AA/BB day assigned cohorts; Friday virtual
6-8th Grades	Weeks of January 11-February 1st (Proposed dates, with a decision to be made in December/Early	M-Th AA/BB day assigned cohorts; Friday virtual

	January)	
9-12th Grades	Week of February 1st (Proposed dates, with a decision to be made in December/Early January)	M-Th AA/BB day assigned cohorts; Friday virtual

Recognizing that you may have many questions for us we will also be hosting town halls for each school:

Inquiry Charter School

Townhall: Thursday, Oct 22, 8 am: [Zoom link here](#)

Townhall: Thursday, Oct 22 4 pm: [Zoom link here](#)

Please complete this Commitment Form. [ICS Form](#)

Belmont Academy Charter

Townhall: Thursday, Oct 22, 12:30 pm: [Zoom link here](#)

Please complete this Commitment [form](#).

Belmont Charter Elementary School

Townhall: Thursday, Oct 22, 7 pm: [Zoom link here](#)

Please complete this Commitment [form](#).

Belmont Charter Middle School

Townhall: Tuesday, Oct 27, 5 pm: [Zoom link here](#)

Please complete this Commitment [form](#).

Belmont Charter High School

Townhall: Wednesday, Oct 28, 5 pm: [Zoom link here](#)

Please complete this Commitment [form](#).

Again, thank you for all of your patience and support throughout this journey. We can't wait to see you and your children soon!

Best,