



## Belmont Elementary School's Remote Learning Plan

**March 19, 2020**

**Dear Staff, Students, and Parents/Guardians,**

As you are aware, the Shaker Regional School District has announced that we are closing our schools due to COVID-19. The closure will run **at least** through April 3, 2020. In response, the District has asked schools to switch to a "remote learning" model in the interim. Teachers, counselors, and other members of our professional staff in Shaker have spent the week of March 16th planning for a transition to an online/remote environment during this time of national emergency. **Remote learning will begin on Monday, March 23, 2020, for all students.**

### **What does this mean?**

Belmont Elementary School will be closed to all staff and students, aside from custodians who are deep cleaning the school. There will be no one available to answer the phones at the school, so please do not call. Email will be the primary method for communication. If you need to reach a staff member, you will have to do so by email. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the staff email directory. Staff members will be available to answer emails throughout the typical school hours (8 am to 3 pm during school closure). Emails that come in after the end of the school day may not be returned until the next school day.

### **Student Academic Expectations**

All students are expected to participate in the learning activities that have been/will be prepared by teachers. We have developed a schedule to serve as a general guideline and help keep students in a routine, understanding that some families may not be able to adhere to the schedule, given other commitments.

At BES, we have asked our teaching staff to prepare learning materials for reading, writing, and math. Our younger students (grades K-2) should be spending approximately 20 minutes per day working on these lessons and activities for each content area. Older students (grades 3-4) who have greater stamina are more likely to be able to spend closer to 30 minutes per content area. Please feel free to consult with your student's teacher with questions about your student's abilities. Teachers are also providing lessons for science and social studies, or integrating that content into the other subject areas. You will see longer time blocks allocated to different content areas in the schedule below. These serve as a general guideline for students who may benefit from such structure. In addition, teachers will be available to respond promptly to questions during the "Academic Times" noted in the schedule.

The school has developed a schedule for the school day:

<b>Before 9:00 am</b>	<b>Wake up</b>	<b>Eat breakfast, get dressed, prepare for remote learning</b>
<b>9:00 - 10:00</b>	<b>Morning Activity</b>	<b>Take a walk, exercise, etc.</b>
<b>10:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Academic Time</b>	<b>Reading and Writing</b>
<b>11:30 - 12:15</b>	<b>Creative Time (Specialists have prepared a choice board for students)</b>	<b>Draw, listen to music, play a game, go outside, etc. Specialists: choice boards</b>
<b>12:15 - 1:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>Also outside time</b>
<b>1:00 - 1:15</b>	<b>Quiet Time</b>	<b>Independent Reading, relax</b>
<b>1:15 - 2:00</b>	<b>Academic Time</b>	<b>Math</b>
<b>2:00 - 3:00</b>	<b>Academic Time</b>	<b>Science/Social Studies</b>
<b>3:00</b>	<b>End of School Day</b>	<b>Take a walk, play outside, play a game</b>
	<b>Get a good night's sleep!</b>	

Students should start each academic time by reviewing their bags to see what activities have been assigned. Younger students will need assistance getting organized, and possibly completing the work.

In general, we have asked teachers to prepare work for students with the goal of preventing regression in these first two weeks. Accordingly, the work should be practice for skills that students have already learned. There will be some variance, as students are always at different points in their learning, but we hope this approach will allow both families and staff to get settled into this remote learning environment, while minimizing stress.

### **Attendance and Work Submission**

Teachers will be reaching out via email to establish communication with you. Please reply to confirm that you are receiving their messages. It will also be helpful if you let them know if your student will have access to a computer and the internet.

You are encouraged to scan or take photos of student work and email them to your teacher, if you have the tools to do so. This will allow teachers to provide feedback to your students.

### **Academic Help and Support Services**

Students who feel they need additional academic support should reach out to their classroom teacher to develop a plan. School Counselors, Special Education Teachers and our District Social Worker will be available daily 8am - 3pm to address day-to-day issues and to provide related services.

## **Internet Access**

All of the schools in the Shaker Regional School District will be considered a WiFi hotspot. The parking lots will be available for students to access the internet at any time. Additional information will be provided through the SAU office regarding businesses offering free services and the availability of public access to WiFi.

## **Access to our Food Program**

The Shaker Regional School District is developing a plan to supply **all** students with breakfast and lunch during the remote learning school days. Initially, drive-through pick up will be available at Belmont High School each day between 8am and 11am. Lunch accounts will not be charged.

If you have questions about the food program, please contact Nancy Cate at [ncate@sau80.org](mailto:ncate@sau80.org).

## **Illness**

Students and staff will likely require time to recover from the normal illnesses that occur every year, as well as potential COVID-19 related issues. Counseling, Nursing, and Administrative staff will work with parents, guardians, and students to help resolve any issues or provide any assistance we can. Teachers will be flexible with their response to students encountering such issues. We ask in the strongest terms that you communicate health issues to school administrators as soon as possible so we may provide appropriate support.

## **Special Education and 504s:**

All students will be receiving appropriate learning materials from classroom teachers. Case managers will be providing individualized learning materials for students (see labels or cover letters in bags from case managers). Please focus on the learning materials provided by your student's case manager, and reach out to your case manager for guidance and questions about what is appropriate for your student.

## **Other School Activities:**

During the closure, all student activities are suspended. As we receive further guidance from the state and NHDOE, we will notify you of any changes.

## **Prolonged School Closure:**

If school closures are extended, we will develop additional plans for how we approach student learning. Remote learning for students will undoubtedly be a challenge, but please know that we are thinking about possibilities in the event that schools are closed for an extended period.

## **One Final Note:**

We are all aware that this is an uncharted situation, and information is evolving rapidly. We recognize that these are challenging times, and information communicated in this plan may be adjusted as time progresses. The social and emotional health of our students is very much on our minds as we plan for the next few weeks - and potentially beyond.

We will be available to talk, to listen, and to problem solve as we all share in what may be the most significant shift in our lifetimes. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have ideas, concerns, questions, or anything else that comes to mind.

**Ben Hill, Principal**  
**Erin Chubb, Associate Principal**