Pride In Our Minds.  Pride in Our Home (Virtual and otherwise!).  Franklin Forward 19-20

Families:

After weeks of waiting and uncertainty school starts Monday.  Baltimore County provided principals with a lot of information and many guidelines and left it to schools to develop their own approach.  What follows is what I felt was best for our school and community.  Please understand that no system is perfect, and there are pros and cons to every decision we make.  I am confident that this solution works best to provide continuity, structure, and  - most importantly - the best continuation of learning for the majority of students.

Until further notice our plan is as follows:

**Monday each week at 9 am** the lessons for the week, provided by Baltimore County and modified as allowable, will be posted on teachers' Schoology page.

**Tuesday each week** will function as a "normal" school day.  Student and teachers follow their normal schedule.  Students will attend each class at the usual time (remembering there is no lunch) via Google Meets (see below) and teachers will provide **live** instructional support.  During this time, teachers will provide context, teach requisite background knowledge and/or skills, review the requirements of the lessons, and/or ask or answer questions to guide student learning as they proceed through the lessons.

**Friday each week** all assignments embedded in the lessons are due by 11pm.

**Monday - Friday each week** every teacher and administrator will have daily "office hours" where they are available via email and/or Schooogy to answer questions, provide feedback, or work with students where needed.  I have enocuraged teachers, if they're able, to make at least one or two of these sessions "live" for students or parents who need face-to-face meeting time.  Some teachers may request that you make an appointment for face to face time.

**ATTENDING CLASS:**

Teachers will post a link to their Google Meets live class on their Schoology page. Students will click the link to join the live session on Tuesday.

Directions for using Google Meets are attached:

[Google\_Meets\_for\_Learning\_at\_Home\_for\_Parent-Student (1).pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/k2Zw3NUbSQgcWw9uw8KKXA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRgaMt7P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPUhManFadjRCY3BjJm1hbD03ODU2MjRkMjk4ZGRkNTM2ZjY5MzQyODAwZTExY2FkODNiOWVlZWIyZGE3MjM2ZGFjMmE5NGYyODNhNjI3NjZlVwdzY2hvb2xtQgoAAPuXh16ec80iUhNiYWx0b2RpQHZlcml6b24ubmV0WAQAAAAB)

[Using\_Google\_Meets\_at\_Home\_Poster.pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/MEghMAj5EazGAVotfqeIcw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRgaMt7P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPUhManFadjRCY3BjJm1hbD0xMWNiNWIwMWUzNzRjYzM5ODg5MTNmZjM0ZDMxNTczNTllNzAyOTIwMDkzNDZiMmM3ODdjNTZjM2Y3MzQzNGNlVwdzY2hvb2xtQgoAAPuXh16ec80iUhNiYWx0b2RpQHZlcml6b24ubmV0WAQAAAAB)

**RULES AND NORMS:**

Students are expected to follow all BCPS policies while in their class.  Teachers will present norms and expectations at the beginning of their live lesson.

BCPS Technology Acceptable Use Policies (TAUP) will be adhered to by students and staff.  Those guidelines are attached:

[4.3.20 TAUP and safety message to parents.docx](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/u1urfsjk4GYJtuuMVvYkHA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRgaMt7P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPUhManFadjRCY3BjJm1hbD00OTI2MjZmYWJmNDM0MzM0YTVkZThmM2M4Nzc4YWZiOGRkOGUwYjZkOTY0MGQwN2MwNmY3YTMyODMwNTIwYzk3VwdzY2hvb2xtQgoAAPuXh16ec80iUhNiYWx0b2RpQHZlcml6b24ubmV0WAQAAAAB)

**A Day / B Day Schedule**

FMS will be alternating A day and B day by the week.  That means that next week, students follow their A Day schedule.  The following week will be B day schedule.  Etc.

**Teacher Office Hours**

Teachers will post their office hours on their Schoology page.  I will send the complete list to families on Monday, and it will be available on the FMS website as well as the FMS PTA Website.

**Principal Office Hours**

I will have regular office hours posted as well; however, I am going to make every attempt to be available by email and Schoology during all normal school hours.  I am aiming for a 24 hour response rate at the very least.

**Schoology Access**

For parents and guardians who do not yet have access to Schoology, please contact Larry Zuckerman at lzuckerman@bcps.org for assistance.

**Patience and Flexibility**

I am asking all families and students to please be patient with us.  Not one of us has ever done this before.  Mistakes will be made, I promise you!  I am incredibly confident that we have thought of everything we can up front.  Our teachers have worked incredibly hard, BCPS Offices and Zone Leadership have worked incredibly hard, but things will not be perfect.  Please allow us to work out the kinks.  Please don't hesistate to let me know your needs and concerns, but understand we may not be able to fix everything right away.  Thank you so much!!

Families, I am excited to be launching this new venture with you.  Like I told my teachers, I am here to help.  We understand families are in different places, dealing with different concerns, and with different needs.  Share with your teachers and administration what you can, and we will make every effort to be flexible and of assistance.  These are unprecedented times.  But there is precedent for working closely together.  That will continue.

Thank you all so much!

-Brian Schiffer

Baltimore County Public Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Baltimore County Public Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/6E_wAmUzUgm0aIWaOSelew~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRgaMt7P0RNaHR0cHM6Ly9nby5zY2hvb2xtZXNzZW5nZXIuY29tLyMvdW5zdWJzY3JpYmUvMTIxNjEvWW1Gc2RHOWthVUIyWlhKcGVtOXVMbTVsZEFXB3NjaG9vbG1CCgAA-5eHXp5zzSJSE2JhbHRvZGlAdmVyaXpvbi5uZXRYBAAAAAE~)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

