



Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School  
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Principal: Mrs. Sangeeta Bella  
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August 19, 2020

Dear Discovery Parents and Guardians,

Welcome Back to 2020-21 school year! I hope summer gave you and your family much needed time to relax and enjoy the weather and to get away from the added stress of distance learning and being both a caregiver and at times teacher to your children!

If it was any other year, I would be discussing academic expectations, reminding you of school policies and procedures and looking forward to welcoming everyone back! Unfortunately, this is a year unlike any other. The threat of COVID is still very real and something that we continue to deal with. In addition to preparing our classrooms for teaching and learning, this year my biggest focus is on the health and safety of ALL students and adults. That means that we are scrutinizing and reorganizing our entire day starting with arrival and dismissal, breakfast, lunch, recess, classroom set up, hallway expectations and procedures for visitors in the building to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone! Adding to our daily schedules are social distancing guidelines, mask breaks/nature walks and hand washing.

Parents were given the choice of opting for in-person or distance learning for the new school year. I thank you for those who took the time to do the survey. It is a difficult decision and I know that some of you are still uncertain, but it is extremely important for us to know one way or another for planning purposes. I urge you to take the survey.

I want to assure you that we as a school will do everything in our power and take all safety related measures. In addition to all the guidelines set forth by the district in collaboration with the state department and CDC, here is an outline of our plan at Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School. A much more detailed document is forth coming.

- **Hallways will be clearly marked with enter and exit signs to maintain appropriate social distance.**
- **District has secured PPE's and hand sanitizers, plus stand-alone sanitizing stations that will be placed at entry points, cafeteria and bathrooms.**
- **Teachers will provide mask breaks/nature walks throughout the day which is going to be built-into their daily schedules.**
- **Pre-K and K classrooms will have tables with plexiglass to maintain appropriate distance**
- **Grades 1 - 8 will have desks facing one way in addition to separating them 3 to 6 feet apart.**
- **Lunch waves are scheduled to maintain and adhere to social distancing protocols.**
- **Parents and visitors are to enter building by appointment only.**

## **Arrival Beginning at 8:30 AM: ALL students and Adults MUST wear a mask.**

**Pre-K:** 1 Parent will sign in and sanitize their child from the museum entrance of the building. Classroom teacher will be waiting by the classroom entrance. Siblings in other grades will be able to come with the parents at this time.

**Kindergarten:** Kindergartners will enter at side door near the Library with classroom teachers and staff member(s) to receive students.

**Grades 1-8: ONLY students** will be allowed in and report directly to their classroom.

Students in Grades 1-3 will exit left out of the main school entrance and report directly into their classroom where teacher will be at the door waiting.

Students in Grades 4-8 will proceed to main stairwell and report directly to the classrooms.

## **Bus Drop Off:**

Beginning at 8:30 AM the first bus students will be escorted to the Cafetorium where students will disinfect their hands upon entry, mask check, and report directly to classroom.

Kindergarten students will sit at marked tables and be dropped off to their classrooms by designated staff members.

Students in Grades 1-3 will exit left out of the Cafetorium and report directly into their classroom where teacher will be at the door waiting.

**Students in Grades 4-8 will proceed to main stairwell and report directly to their classroom where teacher will be at the door waiting.**

### **Pick Up/Dismissal**

**Pre-K: Beginning at 2:45 PM 1 Parent will sign their child out from museum entrance of the building. Siblings in other grades will be waiting at the same exit.**

**Kindergarten: Kindergartners teachers will meet parents at side door near the Library.**

**Grades 1-8: At 2:50 PM one classroom teacher from each grade will walk these students to the designated waiting areas while maintaining social distance.**

**Parents waiting outside will hold sign provided by school visible of students' name, grade, and teacher.**

### **Bus Dismissal:**

**Main Office will begin calling the first bus as communicated by designated staff beginning at 2:40 PM.**

**Students are to report to the Cafetorium and will be led to board their bus.**

**Students are to report to the Cafetorium the same "route" followed for arrival.**

These are preliminary plans. Please know that the situation on hand is fluid and anything can change at a moment's notice and we must be prepared to adjust and accommodate. These are unprecedented times. I ask that you keep an open mind as always and be patient as we navigate through these difficult times.

We continue to collaborate with district to provide us with guidance on what virtual classrooms are going to look like and will share additional plan in the upcoming weeks, but know that Discovery staff is ready to welcome your children both in-person or through distance learning. Discovery is a strong school community and I know that I can always count on your support.

I will continue to communicate with you, as information becomes available to me. For up to date news, please check district website page @ [www.bridgeportedu.net](http://www.bridgeportedu.net)

Please stay safe and well.

Sangeeta

Sangeeta Bella, Principal