

Frequently Asked Questions (4-6-2020)

From the moment that schools were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the division has been focused on feeding children and continuing student learning. Thank you for your patience as we have transitioned to providing learning opportunities from a distance.

From March 16-27 student assignments were primarily review material, but as of March 30, assignments will provide students with exposure to fourth quarter objectives to minimize learning gaps. Guidance from the Virginia Department of Education is received almost daily and has helped us to address many other items, some needing the state Board of Education or General Assembly action to provide local flexibility in graduating and promoting students.

The following FAQ document will provide answers to frequently asked questions. As new information becomes available will be communicated to you through division/school website posts, Facebook posts, and/or School Messenger.

We are experiencing both a health and an economic crisis and we understand the great challenges that families are facing. We miss having students at school and we want to maintain the connections that were created in our classrooms. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of assistance.

What resources are available to me during this time of school closure?

There is a [FAQ](#) page from the Virginia Department of Education.

Bath County Public Schools also has a list of [resources](#).

Are school buildings open?

Schools and the central office are closed to the public. School personnel are available by phone or email on Monday – Thursday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

How are we going to finish the 4th quarter of the school year?

Students in Grades Pre-K – 7

Students that were on target to promote to the next grade level on March 13, 2020, will promote upon successful completion of final learning modules. Specific learning objectives will be identified that were not taught prior to March 13, 2020. Final learning modules will be created to cover these learning objectives to allow students the opportunity to be prepared for success in subsequent courses.

Final learning modules will be provided using paper and/or online resources for students in pre-K through 7th grade. Learning objectives not taught prior to March 13, 2020, will be embedded in subsequent courses during the 2020 – 2021 school year.

Students not on target to promote on March 13, 2020, will be provided every opportunity during the period of school closure to develop the necessary skills to be successful in the next grade level. As usual, students that are not ready to promote at the end of the academic calendar will be provided the opportunity to attend summer school. For the 2019 – 2020 school year, summer school attendance may be required for students performing below grade level.

The division is exploring the possibility of administering reading and math SOL's in the fall of 2020 to identify learning gaps. These SOL's will not have any negative impact on schools or students but will provide a baseline used to show growth as measured by spring 2021 SOL's.

High School - Please see the document titled [High School Graduation/Advancement Plan](#) on the division's COVID-19 webpage.

Updates regarding AP/SAT/ACT/JRGS/Dual Enrollment/Virtual Virginia/Driver's Education.

AP Exams - BCCHS students are taking the following AP exams: AP Biology: Units 1-6, Human Geography: Units 1-5, AP US History: Units 1-7. Traditional face-to-face exam administrations will not take place. Students will take a 45-minute online free-response exam at home. Two alternate testing dates will be determined and announced later. Students will be informed when additional information is received.

Per College Board AP, "The full exam schedule, specific free-response question types that will be on each AP Exam and additional testing details will be available by April 3. We'll also unlock any relevant free-response questions in AP Classroom for digital use so students can access all practice questions of the type that will appear on the exam."

SAT Testing - Due to closure of all VA schools on March 13, 2020, BCCHS was unable to administer the SAT on the original SAT School Day March 25, 2020. According to College Board, they have canceled all May administrations. "Currently, the next SAT is scheduled for the first weekend of June. We will make a decision about whether we can safely hold that administration as soon as it is feasible, given the evolving public health situation." Students registered for SAT should be alert for announcements directly from SAT.

ACT Testing - Per ACT, "ACT has rescheduled its April 4 national test date to June 13 across the U.S. in response to concerns about the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19.) All students registered for the April 4 test date will receive an email from ACT in the next few days informing them of the postponement and instructions for free rescheduling to June 13 or a future national test date." Students registered for ACT should be alert for announcements directly from ACT.

Dual Enrollment - Continuing online.

Jackson River Governor's School - Continuing online.

Virtual Virginia - Continuing online.

Driver's Ed - Students have completed the instruction portion of course. "Behind the Wheel" training is suspended until further notice due to school closure and social distancing requirements. DMV is closed.

How and when will assignments/packets be delivered and picked-up?

Students in grades PK – 3 will be given instructional packets at least every two weeks with meal delivery. The expectation is that students return completed work at least every two weeks. Work can be turned in to the schools on Monday – Thursday between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Students in grades 4 – 7 will be assigned to a Microsoft Team(s) and will complete work electronically. Students in grades 4 – 7 that don't have access to the internet will be given instructional packets to complete. The timeline for returning completed packets will vary by teacher.

Students in grades 8 – 12 will complete courses electronically. If a student does not have access to the internet, off-line instructional packets will be delivered via USBs. Specific students receiving special services may receive paper packets. The USBs and paper packets will generally be available for exchange every two weeks on meal delivery day. Currently, off-line instructional packets may be exchanged per parent/guardian request, at MES, VES, or BCCHS.

Will assignments be graded?

Elementary - Assignments will be graded and put into the grade book. The grade will serve to document the student's performance and growth. The grade will only improve the student's grade from March 13.

High School -

Courses Earning a Credit

BCHS teachers will make every effort to ensure that every student has an equal and reasonable opportunity to earn their best grade. We do expect our students to do their part. Please contact your teachers with any questions or issues that may arise.

Upon successful completion of BCCHS coursework per standards determined by the teacher, students will receive a standard credit or locally awarded verified credit. To determine that the student has gained the level of knowledge necessary to be successful in subsequent coursework teachers may include any one, or a combination, of the following: record of completion of teacher assignments indicating a satisfactory level of course knowledge, an end-of-year summative assessment, a project-based assessment, or a portfolio.

Third Quarter Grading

Assignments given before our sudden departure on Friday (3/13/2020) were considered gradable assignments for Third Quarter. No assignments given after 3/13, 2020 were considered for Third Quarter grade. However, assignments given after March 13 may be considered for Fourth Quarter.

Students had until Monday (3/30/2020) to get gradable assignments turned in. We gave students until Monday (3/30) so students can return their USBs by the meal delivery bus if they wish.

Grades will be available through Parent Portal on April 3, 2020.

Fourth Quarter Grading

Students with a passing grade for assignments given prior to March 13, 2020 will be advanced to the next level of coursework. However, those students who the teacher assesses as deficient in any portion of coursework given after March 13, 2020 will be assigned remediation and reinforcement assignments to complete during the summer or during the next school year.

Assignments given after March 13, 2020 will be assigned a numerical/ letter grade if the grade positively impacts the student's final course grade. Submitted work that would negatively impact a student's final course grade will be assigned a "Pass plus" or "Pass minus" grade. Typically a "Pass minus" will be assigned where there is very little or no evidence of effort or understanding. Assignments assessed as a "Pass minus" may be identified by the teacher as requiring additional remediation or reinforcement during the summer or during the next school year.

What about the BCCHS Prom?

BCCHS is planning to celebrate a special Prom event with Allegheny County High School, Covington High School, and Highlands High School. We appreciate the Covington businesses, City of Covington, and the Allegheny Highlands Chamber of Commerce for making this opportunity possible for our Juniors and Seniors. A date has been tentatively set. Prom is scheduled to take place June 19, 2020 on Main Street in Covington. The rain date will be June 20th. We know that these dates are very close to the release date (June 10) of the current stay order that is in place by our Governor, with that being said please understand that the prom date may have to change if the stay order is extended for a longer stay order. More details to follow.

What about BCHS Graduation and related activities?

The extension until June 10, 2020 for the Governor's social distancing order dashed our hopes for the planned traditional June 6 graduation. Holding our "traditional" Graduation with the usual associated activities (Capping/ Senior Awards Night, Baccalaureate) is the first choice of everyone. Every effort will be made to accommodate a traditional Graduation for our Seniors...They want it, they earned it, and we want to give it to them. However, how long can we wait for restrictions to be lifted to a level where we can have our traditional Graduation? If current COVID-19 social distancing restrictions remain in place through the summer, with no definite future date set for lifting restrictions, we may be forced to begin considering alternatives to a traditional Graduation ceremony. Administration is supportive of keeping every option open to enable a Traditional Graduation. The Senior Sponsors and Graduation Coordinators are working diligently to deliver a traditional Graduation for our Seniors despite the obstacles presented by the uncertainty of the status of social distancing restrictions.

What about Jostens Graduation Announcement delivery?

Jostens is currently planning a "drive up delivery day" on the original scheduled delivery day on Wednesday, April 29th, from 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM outside (behind) the school. The students or parents will drive up, give the Jostens rep their name, and Jostens will deliver their items to them while observing all safety and social distancing requirements. Most students have already paid for their announcements. Unfortunately, the Jostens representative stated that since the announcements were already printed with the June 6, 2020 Graduation date, the announcements cannot be amended. Jostens said that a card can be inserted to announce the revised date if that revised date is determined in time for printing. We will keep Seniors posted on any change to these plans.

What if my child needs assistance?

Teachers will maintain contact with families. If additional assistance is required, contact the teacher or school. Assistance will be provided.

What if technology support is needed? Is Wi-Fi available at school parking lots or in the community?

If technology support is needed, contact your child's teacher or school to request specific help. School "hot spots" are now available for drive-through internet access in the parking lot of each school.

What is the plan for meal distribution?

Meals distribution will continue; no end date has been determined at this time. (Note: Meals will not be delivered during Spring Break, April 6-April 13, but will resume April 15.) Beginning with the week of April 20th, for health and safety concerns, there will no longer be bus delivery for meals. All meals will be picked up once a week on Wednesday from MES or VES. Drive through procedures that maintain social distancing will be established at each elementary school.

How will the contents of student lockers and desks be returned?

After April 13, the contents of elementary student lockers and desks will be bagged and tagged. Textbooks, class books and library books will be collected. All other materials will be returned to the parent of the student in a drive through manner later in April.

BCHS lockers have been emptied and contents bagged and tagged. Drive-through pick up will be scheduled by appointment April 15-17. Textbooks, class books, and library books found in lockers were associated with the student in whose locker where they were found. All books have been returned to our library.

How will band instruments be returned to students?

Please contact Mrs. Hooker by email melindah@bath.k12.va.us or leave a message at the school if you have left your instrument/music at BCHS, MES or VES. All instruments will be available for pick up when students pick up personal items. Mrs. Hooker will also have all the large instruments ready for pick up at that time.

How will student medications be returned to parents?

For any medication not already returned, the school nurse will contact parent/guardian to arrange pick up.

Will there be SOL testing this spring?

The U.S. Department of Education has given Virginia permission to cancel federally mandated Standards of Learning tests during the 2019-2020 school year. For more information, go to the [VDOE COVID-19 FAQ](#) page.

What is the status of VSHL Spring athletics?

All spring sport seasons are cancelled. There is a remote possibility that tournaments may be arranged during the summer. VHSL will be voting on this in their May meeting.

When must student computers/chargers and library books be returned?

We are still in the instructional learning phase of the 2019 – 2020 school year. Therefore, student computers, chargers, library books, textbooks and other school materials must be returned at the end of the school year – June 5, 2020.

Will there be refunds for cancelled field trips/school fundraisers?

Field-trip and fundraiser sponsors, or the students' school, may be contacted regarding specific fundraiser or field trip refunds.

As information regarding preschool registration, kindergarten registration, non-resident applications and 2020 – 2021 enrollment becomes available, it will be added to this document.