

Shrewsbury Borough School

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Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

Brent A. MacConnell
Superintendent

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September 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you back to the Shrewsbury Borough School for the start of the 2020-2021 school year! Whether your child will be attending our in-person Hybrid Program or as a Remote Learning Option student, we are excited to start this year and to see our students back and engaged in high quality, intensive learning!

The key to our success this year is our partnership with you and your family. Our goal at all times is to provide your child with a safe, secure, and healthy learning environment in which they can thrive as students in every aspect of their development. We count on your cooperation and good faith in keeping sick children out of school as a precautionary measure for the safety and health of everyone at SBS.

My greatest fear is that we see an outbreak of COVID-19 locally at SBS as a result of irresponsible or lax behavior outside of the school and that it then impacts every student and employee in our school. We truly need to be a team and we need to embrace the same shared values towards the health and safety of everyone here. Most important to our success this year:

The SBS Culture of Health, Safety, & Responsibility

- Practice stringent social distancing at all times and positively reinforce this with your children and family;
- Wear masks correctly and with fidelity; emphasize barrier masks positively and stress their necessity for everyone at all times, even when not in school;
- Practice frequent, thorough handwashing and personal hygiene habits; positively emphasize handwashing and the use of safe hand sanitizers;
- Respond to our daily health screening tool honestly and accurately every day; refrain from sending your children to school if they are symptomatic or if they may have been exposed
- Observe hallway traffic patterns, staying to the right at all times, and follow signs and markers with social distancing cues;
- Do not congregate before and after school on school grounds; arrive promptly for school and leave immediately after the school day help everyone safe;
- Observe these important tenets of health and safety on the way to school and on the way home.

CareCheck Health Screener

- Parents will receive a text or phone call at 7:00 AM from CareCheck, our health screening program.
- The health screener will ask you 8 questions regarding the health of your child or your children that you should answer honestly and accurately. You will only need to respond to one survey rather than fill out a survey for multiple children.

- If your child or any of your children are sick or ill, please do not send them to school. You should also make a determination as to whether other children or other members of your family are sick and consider keeping everyone home to prevent potential infection at school.

Sick Students

- Please contact your pediatrician or family physician for specific guidance on how to handle a child who is sick or ill. You should also contact the School Nurse to let her know and provide as much information as possible.

Report the absence or late arrival, by:

1. Please call 732-747-0882 press 1 and leave a message after the tone.
 2. Email SBS via the SPTA App found on the SPTA website
 3. Email SBS directly at: absent@sbs-nj.org
- If your child has a fever, please keep your child at home from school and consult your pediatrician or family physician.
 - You should ask your doctor whether they advise sending siblings to school if another child is sick or ill. We encourage you to keep your children home as a precaution if another child or member of your family is ill.

Social Distancing at SBS

- Students should utilize signage and placards in and around SBS to maintain appropriate social distancing at all times.
- Please discuss appropriate social distancing with your child or children while traveling to school, during the school day, and on the way home each day.

Masks

- As per current guidance provided by the CDC and NJDOH, students should wear a cloth or medical grade barrier mask to school. Student masks should be easy for students to operate by themselves. **Bandanas and gators are not acceptable masks for students during the school day or on school grounds.**
- Students should wear their masks when walking or riding their bikes to school.
- All parents and visitors are required to wear masks at SBS and on school grounds.

Morning Drop Off and Arrival Procedures

- PreK and Kindergarten students should use the Kindergarten Entrance (located on the Parking Lot Side of the building). Staff will be available to assist students as they disembark from vehicles.
- Students in Grades 1-8 should come to the Main Entrance of SBS at the front of the school.
- Older siblings may accompany and assist younger siblings and use the Kindergarten
- All students will have their temperature screened upon entry to school. Students are to hold their wrist up to one of the sensors of the screening unit in order for their temperature to be screened.
- Students will head directly to their classrooms for homeroom.
- Students should follow signage and placards to ensure social distancing.
- Students are required to wear their masks at all times on school grounds.
- Students will not be permitted to congregate after school for any reason.

- Students will maintain appropriate social distance when waiting to be picked up and/or leaving school grounds for home.
- All parents and visitors are required to observe social distancing at SBS and on school grounds.

Dismissal Procedures

- Students will be dismissed at 12:30 PM each day.
- PreK and K students will be dismissed from the Kindergarten Entrance (located on the Parking Lot Side of the building).
- Grade 1 & 2 will be dismissed from the Main Entrance at the front of the school.
- Grade 3 & 4 will be dismissed from the Bell Entrance by the Bell Circle at the front of the school.
- Grade 5, 6, 7, & 8 will be dismissed from the Middle School Entrance located between the Bell Circle Entrance and the Library Media Center Courtyard.
- Students are required to wear their masks at all times on school grounds.
- Students will not be permitted to congregate after school for any reason.
- Students will maintain appropriate social distance when waiting to be picked up and/or leaving school grounds for home.

Physical Education Class

- Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for gym class as students will be outside for class unless there is inclement weather.
- Students will not be permitted to change or utilize locker rooms for gym class for any reason.

Middle School Class Changes

- Faculty and staff members will be present whenever classes switch in the Middle School. Students will be closely supervised to ensure that they report directly to their next class.
- Students are not permitted to congregate or loiter in the hallways at any time.
- Students are not permitted to use any lockers in hallways or in classrooms in the Middle School.

This COVID-19 pandemic has demanded that we all be flexible, adaptable, compassionate, and patient. It has also demanded that we embrace the imperfection that surrounds us every day in our lives. We will be working closely with each of you as partners in keeping our school community safe and healthy this school year. We are eager to see everyone on Thursday and Friday and I thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation with our reopening. With your help, we will find our way forward.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance at any time.

Very sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell

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