



BOYD COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD ACADEMY

12307 Midland Trail Road
Ashland, KY 41102

Carla Malone
Director

Phone: (606) 928-7110
Fax: (606) 928-7104

August 19, 2020

Dear Boyd County Early Childhood Academy Families,

Thank you for your patience and understanding over the last several months as our Reopening Team, Board of Education, and other stakeholders have been collaborating to work on a safe and practical reopening plan.

However, in response to Governor Beshear's recommendation to delay in-person instruction until September 28, 2020, our Board of Education approved an amended school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. A copy of the amended calendar is located on the district webpage, and our Head Start/Preschool will follow those same dates. The first day of school for Head Start/Preschool students will now be September 9, 2020. Students, who selected in-person instruction, will begin with Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) on September 9th. Students, who registered for virtual learning, will also begin instruction on September 9th. Our screening date is Tuesday, September 1, 2020. You will be notified as to the time of your child's appointment and what procedures to follow. Classroom teachers will be contacting parents September 2nd through September 4th. They will have login information, daily schedules, etc.

Please note that our teachers and administrators have worked hard to prepare for the upcoming NTI Days. Here are a few NTI changes/updates that will take place in the upcoming school year:

- Specific platforms have been identified for non-traditional instruction days as well as our virtual learning. These platforms include ABCMouse, Seesaw, and Google Meet. Teachers have been training, and will continue to train until school begins, on how to effectively instruct students, virtually, using these platforms during NTI Days.
- New content, not only review, will be delivered by teachers during NTI Days. If you do not have internet access, we can mail a paper packet, which will be similar to last year's NTI activities.
- The district has purchased REMIND as a common communication platform that helps educators communicate with students and parents.
- The Preschool/Head Start Director will have access to teachers' virtual classrooms to monitor instruction on NTI Days as she would if children were in school buildings for in-person instruction.

While we understand that it was a tough decision for families regarding the choice of traditional (in-person/NTI) versus virtual learning, we ask that after 4:00 p.m. on August 21st, no requests be made for additional changes at this time. We must be able to plan for staffing needs and scheduling, so the school year can start smoothly. We will still allow a "grace" period for possible changes to occur after school begins. We ask that parents wait until Wednesday, September 23rd, to request changes from virtual to traditional or traditional to virtual. Any requested changes will tentatively occur on Monday, September 28th.

Finally, I encourage you to continue assisting your child with wearing a face covering for busing purposes, washing their hands, and following the Centers for Disease Control and KY Department of Public Health Guidelines. As always, I appreciate all you do to support Boyd County Public Schools in educating your child.

Sincerely,

Superintendent