



**Town of Bedford**

97 McMahon Road

[Bedfordps.org](http://Bedfordps.org)

## Superintendent Update

If you need this document translated, please call your child's school principal - Si necesita este documento traducido, por favor comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo - Se você precisa este documento traduzido, entre em contato com a escola dos seus filhos - Si vous avez besoin de traduire ce document, s'il vous plaît contacter l'école de votre enfant - 如果你需要这份文件翻译，请联系您的孩子的学校 - إذا كنت تحتاج /تحتاجين إلى ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية يرجى الاتصال بمدرسة، - طفلك/طفلاتك

Friday, September 10, 2021

Hello Bedford School Community,

[COVID-19 Page, protocols, videos, test and stay sign up, and other COVID-19 information](#)

We have added a COVID-19 information page to our website. It can be reached via the yellow banner on the home page or at [BPS COVID Information Page](#) The page contains information from DESE, DPH, AAP, and CDC. It also contains a short four minute video that does a great job reviewing the DESE/DPH Guidance for Schools [ArxEd COVID Video](#) It also has a link so that you can sign up for our testing program which includes symptomatic testing, routine COVID-19 safety checks, and the "test and stay" program. When you enroll you are automatically enrolled in all three parts of the program. Feel free to use this link [BPS COVID-19 Testing Sign Up Link](#) This link is also available in each of the COVID-19 letters that have recently been sent out. It looks like this:

**Please sign up for Symptomatic testing, Routine COVID safety checks, and our "Test and Stay" Protocol [HERE](#)**

Thank you to the Bedford Department of Health and Human Services for putting our school COVID-19 cases on the town's COVID-19 Statistics Page at [Town of Bedford COVID-19 Statistics Page](#)

We urge everyone to sign up for the testing program as an additional protective measure. Keep in mind that Test and Stay allows non-symptomatic close contacts to come to school, get tested and if negative go to class. If a child tests positive they are sent home. Symptomatic testing is used when a student starts to have symptoms of COVID-19 at school; students should not

come to school if they are feeling sick while at home. Routine COVID-19 safety checks (previously called Pooled testing) allows students and staff to be tested on a regular basis. This year each of us will be providing two samples so that in the case of a positive pool each individual can be tested in the lab and the positive COVID-19 case easily identified. The samples will be taken via nasal swab at school.

Please keep in mind that to date our test and stay program has not revealed any in-school transmission.

#### September 11, 2001

Tomorrow is the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, a solemn day for each of us as individuals and as a nation. On the morning of September 11, 2001, extremists hijacked four airplanes from east coast airports, including our own Logan International Airport. Two of those planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center, a third hit the Pentagon, and a fourth crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Nearly 3,000 people were killed during these attacks. Tomorrow we will commemorate this solemn anniversary. For more information on the September 11, 2001 attacks please navigate to [The 911 Museum and Memorial](#) or [The History Channel 9/11 page](#)

#### Yom Kippur 9/15

“G'mar chatima tova” to all of our families observing Yom Kippur on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. The greeting “G'mar chatima tova” translates to “May you be sealed in the Book of Life.” Yom Kippur is a Day of Atonement and is one of the most important holidays in the Jewish faith. For more information about Yom Kippur please navigate to [History Channel Yom Kippur](#)

#### Latinx Heritage Month 9/15-10/15

Hispanic Heritage Month is an annual celebration of the history and culture of the U.S. Latinx and Hispanic communities in the United States. The event, which spans from September 15 to October 15, commemorates how those communities have influenced and contributed to American society at large. For more information on this topic please go to [History Channel Latinx and Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

#### National Suicide Prevention Month

Please be aware that September is National Suicide Prevention Month. All month long mental health advocates, prevention organizations, schools, and community groups will be highlighting ways we can unite and promote suicide prevention awareness. For more information please go to <https://afsp.org/national-suicide-prevention-week>

As always, thank you for your patience, your participation, and your continued commitment to our schools,

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad  
Superintendent