



August 20, 2020 Community/FTU Fall Reopening Meeting Minutes

What were we considering when we began to devise the Fall Semester Opening:

- Faculty/staff surveys - June by administrators, July by BTU reps
- Family survey - July
- Virtual community meeting - July 9
- BCPSS guidance/draft reopening plan - July 28
- Faculty/staff virtual meeting - August 6
- Family technology needs survey - August 10
- CDC guidance for schools
- Bard College guidance/early college conversations
- Federal funding opportunities + priorities
- SY20 Q4 data analysis
- Exceptional learning consultation

Here's what you had to say and we heard you:

- More real-time class sessions and teacher interaction
- Predictable timelines for assigning and turning in work
- A common online learning platform
 - NOTE: We will be using Google Classroom and Zoom
- Support for students' mental health
- Support for any learning gaps that may have occurred in the spring
 - NOTE: You'll hear more about our English/math tutoring program!

What to Expect September-October:

Daily schedule

- Will replicate a regular school day, with classes beginning at 8:30 and ending at 3:20.
- Remember that we have moved to a new "bell" schedule: 5 periods, 65 minutes each.
- There will be a 50-minute lunch break at 1:10 p.m.
- Wednesdays are a reading day for office hours, small groups, etc. but still a school day.

SO...do I have to sit in front of a computer 7 hours a day? No. Teachers will vary content delivery, small group, and individual work during class periods -- just like we would in person.

Cohort scheduling

- All four grade levels are being scheduled as cohorts/pods. This is so that when we are in person (eventually), students remain in the same room and only teachers move.
- This means that there will be no add/drop for Year 1s and 2s this semester.
- Counselors have scheduled college students for courses based on their needs.

Expectations for students

- Attendance every day, in person
 - Talk to your instructors if this is going to be a challenge. We know some of you are sharing devices, have unreliable internet, etc.
- Complete an exit ticket or other sort of “end product” at the end of each class to show your stuff.
- Participate in our English and/or math tutoring program if your teacher assigns you to it.
- Turn in assignments on Fridays
- Negotiate make-up work needs/timelines with your teachers if you need it. (You’ll receive a new make-up work policy in your student handbook this year)
- Observe the Code of Conduct and Bard School Practices Manual expectations in your online classes.
- Maintain academic integrity in your work. (You’ll receive a new academic integrity policy in your student handbook this year)
- Grading goes back to the way it was before the spring closure -- categories are weighted by individual teachers, check your syllabi for details (NOTE: we do not follow the BCPSS “70/30” schema)
- Ask for help: We have counseling resources, office hours, and a clearer student grievance policy this year to support you.

Resources

- Bard emails for students
- Regular email updates (please contact Dr. Gamber, fgamber@bhsec.bard.edu, if you have not been getting her emails)
- Website resource list/parent and student guides/teacher emails
- Counseling (Melchior, Hoyt, Bubba, Ellis, Sharp)
- Tutoring
- Exceptional learning team (Schmitt, Goisovich, Espahbodi) - CLIPs no longer in use, back to IEPs and 504s, amendments possible
- Virtual lunch (daily)
- Chromebooks and hot spots

Special events

- Supply Pick-up Sept 1-Sept 4. **One grade per day, email instructions to come**
- Google Classroom tutorial, 1 pm AND 5 pm, Sept. 4
- Back to Bard Night, Sept. 8
- Bard Gear Online Campaign Begins Sept. 8
- Virtual community meetings: Mondays at 7, starting Sept. 14
- Civic engagement speaker series: begins Sept. 15 rsvp here for our first speaker featuring Christopher Scott from the Independent Lens film *True Conviction*:
<https://forms.gle/2nyysNn37HNnky4F9>

- Class of 2021 Inauguration, Sept. 24
- Class of 2022 Matriculation, Oct. 1
- FAFSA Night, Oct. 5
- Virtual Talent Show, Oct. 13

What to do Now to prepare

- **Access your schedule in Campus Portal**
 - If you need your access code again, email Ms. Mountcastle at gmountcastle@bcps.k12.md.us
 - Schedules should be finalized by Sept. 1
- **Find your professors' email addresses at**
<https://baltimore.bard.edu/our-people/faculty/>
- **Attend a training session on Google Classroom**
 - Date: Sept. 4 at 1 pm or 5 pm
- **Pick up school-provided supplies at school Sept. 1-4**
 - We will send more info about this
- **Make sure your address and phone number are correct in Campus Portal**
 - Ms. Mountcastle can assist with updates.

School supplies Needed

A few basics will help...we recommend:

- A laptop or Chromebook with headphones (school currently has very limited supply to lend)
- **Important note:** City Schools have said that families can start going to schools on August 24 to pick up devices. We do **NOT** currently have any more Chromebooks or hot spots to lend.
We are working very hard to procure more devices before September 8. As soon as they are available, we will contact you about picking them up.
- A notebook or binder with dividers for each class (you will have 5)
- A planner to help you stay organized
- Writing implements for note taking
- 4 AAA batteries for graphing calculator (all students enrolled in a math class; you will borrow the calculator from Bard)

Q&A

- What do I do if my Bard email isn't working?
Contact our Dean of Students Mr. Bond at mbond@bhsec.bard.edu
- I can't access my Infinite Campus, what do I do?
Contact our school secretary Ms. Mountcastle at gmountcastle@bhsec.bard.edu
- I'm new to the district, how do I get access to Infinite Campus?
Each new student enrolled from Out of District will gain access to Infinite Campus once their information has been input into the system. You may contact Ms. Mountcastle to get an update in status.

- Since Wednesday is a reading and office hours day, do I need to log into class?
Short answer Yes. We still have to follow the city guidelines pertaining to student attendance and contact hours.
- Will we have fall sports?
So far, the sports program will continue to be postponed until further notice from BCPSS.
- Who are the Y2 seminar professors?
Ms. McLeod, Mr. Flaherty, and Dr. Craig
- All classes will be attended synchronously, but each class will be recorded and uploaded with 7 days to access and view before it is removed.
- Starting Monday August 24th Dr. Gamber and Ms. Mountcastle will be on-site Monday thru Friday from 8:30 to 3:20 and can accept outstanding documents such as immunization records that may need to be dropped off. CDC guidelines will be followed to gain entry into the building which include wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth, having your temperature taken, and answering a few simple health questions.

Be you. Be challenged. Be ready for life.

Bard High School Early College Baltimore

Stay in touch: In addition to our website baltimore.bard.edu and email baltimore@bhsec.bard.edu, you can find us here:

Instagram: @bardbaltimore

Facebook: @BardBaltimore

Twitter: @BardBaltimore