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October 1, 2020

Dear BRCPS Families,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and good spirits, in spite of these challenging times. I would like to extend a special welcome to all of our new BRCPS families! We are honored that you have entrusted us with the education and wellbeing of your children.

I am writing to provide an update on where we are in our reopening plans. As you are aware, we began the school year on September 14th fully remote. Building off of the chromebooks we distributed in Spring of last year, we distributed an additional 350 chromebooks to families to make remote instruction accessible this year. We are in the process of providing hot spots to families who have identified needs with internet connectivity. We know there were some challenges in the first couple of days but most if not all of those issues have been resolved. We thank you for your patience and support! We have also begun some in person instruction for our highest needs students.

Our next phase of reopening will be a hybrid model. As we stated in our reopening plan, we can only transition to this model when it is safe to do so. We have been monitoring city data by zip code on a weekly basis since the beginning of August. Unfortunately, the COVID numbers are moving in the wrong direction and the city of Boston has moved into the red category. In addition to this, the neighborhoods where the majority of our students live have seen a disproportionate rise in COVID numbers in the past few weeks. We will continue to monitor this data to make a determination on our next direction. This will hopefully be a move to hybrid, but if the data continues to rise it could also result in us being fully remote for all students and closing our building to students and staff. As much as we would like to provide a definitive date for moving to hybrid we are unable to do so until the data in the city, specifically the neighborhoods where our students live, declines for at least three consecutive weeks. The most important thing that we can all do for our school community and the larger community is keep up the safety measures outlined by the CDC.

We will keep you updated with any shifts in our decision making. Please continue to reach out to your classroom teachers, Mrs. Lueken, Ms. Assiraj, our new Family Engagement Coordinator, Ms. Rivera, or me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexandra Buckmire".

Head of School

abuckmire@brcps.school