

Hello BMA Families,

As we diligently work to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year, the administration team continuously updates our reopening plans with the health and safety of the students and staff a priority. We want to provide the safest learning environment for our students and teachers. We carefully review the updates from our Governor and Mayor regarding COVID-19 to make the best decisions for our staff, students, and families. With that in mind, we have decided to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. The first day of school will be Tuesday, September 8 for both distance learning and in-person learning students. The school year will be extended until June 11. **Please note that this is a change from last week's newsletter.** We feel this is the best decision currently.

**Please read the details below for important information and forms.**

- **First Day of School** - The 2020-2021 school year will start Tuesday, September 8, 2020 and will end Friday, June 11, 2021.
  - Quarter 1: September 8 – November 6
  - Quarter 2: November 9 – January 29
  - Quarter 3: February 1 – April 9
  - Quarter 4: April 12 – June 11
- **Immunization Record** - All students participating in In-Person Learning will be **REQUIRED** to have an up-to-date shot record on file before they can start classes. The office will reach out to you if your child needs to turn in an updated shot record prior to school opening.
- **Required Forms:**
  - **In-Person Learning** - The COVID Waiver (attached) is a **MANDATORY** waiver required by the LA Department of Education for all students who selected in-person learning. **Please understand that no student can be accepted into in-person learning without a signed COVID Waiver.**
  - **Distance Learning** – Parents and students who chose Distance Learning will be **required** to read consent to the BMA's Video and Teleconferencing Form (attached). **This form must be signed and submitted to the school office by Friday, August 17. Students will not be provided with access to distance learning classes without a signed Video and Teleconferencing Form.**
- **Mandatory Zoom Parent Orientation Dates** - Zoom Login information will be emailed closer to the scheduled orientation dates.
  - Grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>                      Tuesday, August 25 at 10:00 am
  - Grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>                      Tuesday, August 25 at 2:00 pm
  - Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>                      Wednesday, August 26 at 11:00 am
  - Grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>                      Thursday, August 27 at 10:00 am
  - Grades PK2 – K                      Thursday, August 27 at 2:00 pm

We realize that information is changing rapidly and the COVID pandemic has caused Louisiana schools to constantly reevaluate in order to keep children, staff and families safe. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we move forward to successfully educate your children during this unprecedented year.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office at (504) 246-5121.**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

*Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)*

Sincerely,

**Jonathan Sorapuru**

Administrator