

# School Closure Update

## May 6, 2019

### **Governor Update**

Just to reiterate yesterday's message from the Governor, all NJ school districts will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Maywood will continue its distance learning platform for the remainder of the school year. Once we have information as to what will and will not be required for summer ESY as well as remediation programs we will notify all families. Lastly, Maywood has two snow days left that haven't been used. We will make a decision by next week as to how those days will be given back. The options being considered include extending the length of the Memorial Day weekend or ending classes earlier than the original last day of school. Please stay tuned.

### **Guidance Videos on Website**

Please log on to the website via the link below to see the two new mindfulness videos that our guidance team has put together, entitled Balloon and Energy Ball.

<https://www.maywoodschools.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=8&ModuleInstanceID=3406&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=9675&PageID=9>

### **Teacher Appreciation Video**

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the Teacher Appreciation video montage of student pictures. The incredible work done by our PTOs is greatly appreciated. In case you have yet to see it, please refer to the link below.

<https://www.maywoodschools.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=8&ModuleInstanceID=3406&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=9696&PageID=9>

## **Mental Health Resources**

We again reiterate the importance of all of our mental health particularly during these stressful times. All mental health resources are found in the various updates of the past month that may be found on the website. I also want to draw your attention to additional information that may be found in the google doc below and attached as a pdf.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gz\\_uH-br2y00xPjntlbQBI6n1eSGPh6XE7EBdWMIXVo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gz_uH-br2y00xPjntlbQBI6n1eSGPh6XE7EBdWMIXVo/edit?usp=sharing)

## **Family Fun Night- THURSDAY, MAY 7**

Family fun night on Thursday has the potential to be an all time best. The theme is WHO AM I? In honor of our teachers we will use teacher baby pictures for this challenge. Some of the pictures will be provided with hints and others will not. Either way, this night will be epic !

Be on the lookout for the link in a 7 pm email Thursday evening!

## **Catch Up Days**

So as to plan accordingly we would like to provide you with the upcoming Catch Up dates. They are May 11, May 20, June 1 & June 10.

## **Grade 8 Parent Info**

Hello all, I hope all is well. It seems like the inevitable communication from the Governor yesterday took a little longer than expected. In any event, at least it puts closure on the waiting game and allows us to work to ensure that the end of the year for our graduating 8th graders can be as memorable as possible.

The news of yesterday simply confirmed what we have been planning for in all internal discussions, PTO discussions and student council discussions and that is that the Washington DC trip is OFF and the typical graduation ceremony will be altered. With these two items now confirmed, we will

continue to add to the brainstorming list that has been assembled over the past few weeks.

This list is in the form of a Google Doc and we ask you as grade 8 parents to jot down any and all ideas so that we can capture ideas that may not have already been thought of already.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0\\_Xk0\\_JzBC4T0HZhawQljDuG3sZAevQHfczLtDMYSQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0_Xk0_JzBC4T0HZhawQljDuG3sZAevQHfczLtDMYSQ/edit?usp=sharing)

### **Grade 8 Virtual Parent Meeting**

Tuesday, May 12

6:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/yew-eyuq-yvt>

The meeting will be a review of the brainstorming ideas as well as any related updates as far as the DC trip and Graduation items are concerned. In order to have a good discussion, we ask you to please add brainstorming ideas to the google doc before the 12th.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0\\_Xk0\\_JzBC4T0HZhawQljDuG3sZAevQHfczLtDMYSQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0_Xk0_JzBC4T0HZhawQljDuG3sZAevQHfczLtDMYSQ/edit?usp=sharing)

Here is what we are certain of as you consider writing down your ideas:

#### Washington DC

- Washington DC Trip is OFF
- Any and all ideas that are considered regarding a substitute event will not be overnight in nature
- The deposits paid by Grade 8 parents towards DC (\$50) will be refunded asap.
- The money fundraised that has taken place this year building up for the DC trip will be used as follows:
  - To assist with payment for an alternative to DC
  - Out of the ordinary virtual graduation expenses
  - The purchase of T-shirts for all graduates

- The purchase of lawn signs will be provided to each graduate in honor of this unique graduation experience.
- The Student Council would like to donate funds to a COVID-19 fundraiser.
- Funds will also be rolled over for future grade levels, as is done in previous years.

## Graduation

- We polled the Grade 8 students and asked what they preferred from the following options:
  - Virtual Graduation ONLY
  - Virtual and Fall or Winter In-Person Graduation
  - Fall or Winter In-Person Graduation ONLY
  
- Survey Results
  - Total of 68 responses
  - 53% want in- person
  - 43% want in-person and virtual
  - 4% want virtual ONLY

The results of the poll showed that they are in favor of some form of a virtual graduation event followed up by an in-person event in the fall or winter, if possible.

- Brainstorming Ideas
  - Virtual Zoom or Meet Ceremony
  - T-shirts for all graduates that will focus on the motto of MAYWOODSTRONG
  - Caps and Gowns will be provided regardless of how graduation takes place.
  - Yearbooks will be provided to each graduate
  - Diplomas will be handed out to each graduate

- Lawn Signs will be designed and provided to each graduate signifying how proud we are of them as MAS graduates in the face of these circumstances.
- Graduation Parade

### **Thanks**

A big thank you to the community for the overwhelming response to the Food Drive. In two days last week we were able to collect an enormous amount of essentials for families in need. We thank you and the Maywood Rotary for their efforts as well.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

All kindergarten registration has shifted to our website. Any in person registration and screenings will take place at a later time. However, it is important to register online at [maywoodschoools.org](http://maywoodschoools.org) prior to May 15th. We ask everyone to please spread the word to those in the community you know who expect to register their child for kindergarten for the 20-21 school year.

### **Becton**

Beginning with the current 8th grade class and all Maywood classes that will follow, Becton Regional High School will be our new high school partner. Over the past few weeks the district has engaged with the Becton community to create alternative plans then the typical on campus, in person tours. 8th graders met virtually on two occasions, with the admin team at Becton and then with the Becton student council. This was followed by a parent meeting with the Becton admin team and the subject area supervisors, athletic director and guidance department. Meetings have also taken place with Maywood admin and Becton sports coaches. Please find below an info sheet for all of our parents.

District Website

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/>

Guidance/Scheduling

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/Guidance/>

Program of Studies/Course Offerings

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/Guidance/Program%20of%20Studies.pdf?1588685317>

CST/Special Services

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/District/Special%20Services/>

Career Exploration Internship Program

<http://bectonceip.weebly.com/>

Teacher Websites

<https://app.oucoursesystems.com/school/menu/2026>

Parent Information Page

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/Parents/>

Athletics Information

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/Athletics/>

Clubs

<http://www.bectonhs.org/bhs/Clubs/>

Student Newspaper

<https://brhscatseyeview.org/>

State-of-the-Art Facility & School Growth

- Becton Regional HS boasts a state-of-the-art facility with advanced STEAM labs for growing programs such as Robotics, Fashion, Interior &

Graphic Design, Engineering, Computer Science, Digital Photography, and Forensics.

- The \$28 million expansion project has created a facility that will fit Maywood students comfortably, with the potential for continued growth on the horizon.
- Becton has a beautiful two-floor modern media center and technology hub and an impressive gymnasium and total health & weight facility.
- Becton Regional is currently building an almost million dollar state-of-the-art Communications and Broadcasting Studio.
- The high school has plans for a new Culinary Studio, Advanced CAD Lab and Virtual Design Construction Program.
- Beautiful new turf fields and a refurbished running track are being started as you read this.
- Becton's facilities have a capacity that can facilitate upwards of 1,000 students, with a current enrollment of approximately 500 students.

### Academic Excellence

- Becton Regional is a FUTURE READY committed, and soon to be certified, district.
- Becton is ranked as the best high school in its district factor grouping.
- Becton has received NJDOE Model High School Recognition.
- The BECTON Infinity College-Like Schedule is one of the most innovative high school schedules on the market right now and the only one in Bergen County.
  - Six out of eight classes meet per day allowing for LESS STRESS & MORE FOCUS, increased flexibility, individualized instruction, and is known for connecting students' passions and interests to academic and emotional competencies.
- The schedule allows for a COMMON STUDENT LUNCH where students are afforded the opportunity to use the gym, play sports, use the library, meet with a club, or just decompress with their friends.
- Becton Regional HS requires its students to graduate with a minimum of 140 credits, well above the state minimum of 120 credits. This gives

Becton students a competitive edge when competing for post-secondary opportunities with other HS students.

- Becton Regional HS has a diverse selection of college & career/technology education (CTE)-focused advanced placement (AP), enrichment and specialized, and exploratory courses for both college and non-college bound learners.
  - Some career-focused courses include Computer Science, Programming, Statistics, Entrepreneurship, Web Page Design, Forensics, Engineering, Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Interior Design, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Digital Photography, Criminal Justice, Law, Holocaust, Film & Literature, Theatre/Drama, College & Career Writing, Journalism, Anatomy & Physiology, Computer Science, & Television Broadcasting/Communications.
- Expansive Dual Enrollment College Course offerings- Becton Regional HS has essentially created a “mini-college” within its school by partnering with local colleges to significantly increase dual-enrollment college course offerings.
- A three to five-day afternoon college experience program has been added for seniors.
- Small class sizes give students the individualized attention they deserve.
- The high school has developed a Broadcasting/Communications & Media Tech Program with Montclair State University

#### Focus on 21st Century College & Career Readiness Paradigm

- Becton continues to commit to technology advancements and focus on 21st Century College & Career Readiness initiatives.
- Similar to Maywood’s technology platforms and goals, Becton Regional HS has leveraged the power of technology and digital learning to deepen the educational experiences for its students by implementing a 1:1

digital learning community throughout the high school using Google Apps for Education (G.A.F.E.).

### Comprehensive Special Education Program and Services

- Becton Regional High School has a comprehensive Child Study Team consisting of school psychologists, social workers, learning disability consultants, and speech therapists.
- Becton provides students with appropriate counseling & academic services to meet their individualized education needs.
- Becton offers a student assistance program providing students with a confidential place for the school to assist with their personal and social-emotional well-being.
- Becton Visions Program = Self-Contained Multiple-Disabled Class (MD) for students ages 14-21 with a full continuum of services provided.
  - Becton Visions Program offers many opportunities for mainstreaming and transition services, such as Community Based Instruction (CBI) and Structured Learning Experiences (SLE).
- New Academic Enrichment Center will provide students with a supportive and individualized learning environment.
  - Teaches productive and core executive functioning learning skills through hands-on strategies and techniques
  - Builds confidence and self-awareness through character development
  - Fosters independence and improves attendance and work maintenance
  - Establishes a cohesive and supportive environment for peers to help each other.

## Athletics & Extracurricular Activities

- Becton Regional High School supports students through a competitive and diverse athletic program.
- Becton encourages and celebrates student participation, and students take tremendous pride in their performance in representing their school and community.
- Maywood students would see immediate individual and team benefits by being afforded the opportunity to be a part of the wide array of extracurriculars, such as clubs, activities, and sports.

## The Becton Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP)

- The Career Exploration Internship Program offers motivated high school seniors a chance to go beyond the formal education of the classroom.
- Students are given the opportunity to “test drive” a career, OR TWO, through quality internships in a field matched to their interests, abilities, and values while building real-world entrepreneurial, analytical, and problem-solving skills necessary to succeed in a 21st century college and career workforce.
- Internship is 3-5 days a week and mimics internships they would experience at the college level and beyond.
- Will be offering Dual Internships beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.
- CEIP is one of only two in the county and one of the BEST IN THE STATE!
- Most students offered jobs after high school, during college, or a promise of a job after college.
- [www.bectonceip.weebly.com](http://www.bectonceip.weebly.com)

### Comprehensive Guidance and Post-Secondary Services

- Becton Regional High School students are accepted into some of the nation's top colleges and universities.
- The Becton Guidance Department works closely with each student through his/her personal high school journey as well as assists each student with his/her post-secondary college & career plans.
- Becton offers students SAT/ACT courses as well as every 10th & 11th grader the opportunity to take the PSAT.
- Students at Becton have the opportunity to earn numerous college credits through various programs prior to graduation.
- Becton Regional honors its students enlisting in the United Armed Forces with a Military Signing Day celebration.
- Becton Regional High School recognizes that post-secondary plans may not include college for many students and strives to offer unique courses, guidance, and experiences for non-college bound learners.

### Positive School Climate & Culture: Health, Wellness, & Kindness

- Becton Regional HS has an extremely positive environment with high expectations for student behavior and a strong focus on students' social-emotional wellbeing, which has created a positive school climate and culture.
- Becton Regional High School promotes health and wellness through its competitive athletic program, physical and health education classes, Environmental Club, and yearly health screenings.
- Becton Regional started an Act of Kindness Award last school year to recognize their kind and respectful students beyond just academics.

- Becton Regional High School opened a Wellness Center in 2018. The Becton Wellness Center provides a calming and safe place where students and teachers can find resources and practice methods to cultivate and maintain physical, emotional, and mental wellness.

### **Parent Resources (Virus Related)**

Families are again encouraged to read and stay updated through official communication channels such as:

[2019 Novel CoronaVirus -Site to be Updated Frequently](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml)

[Communicable Diseases - New Jersey Dept. of Health](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml)

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>

### **Teacher/Parent Resources (Technology/Distance Learning)**

These sites are offering very good tools for free at times as well as ideas to assist in distance learning planning and related activities.

<https://chalkbeat.org/posts/us/2020/03/12/coronavirus-schools-testing-department-of-education/>

<https://www.albert.io/blog/tools-for-distance-learning/>

<https://twitter.com/numbots/status/1238489028053340161?s=09>

[https://educators.brainpop.com/2020/02/19/free-brainpop-access-for-schools-affected-by-the-corona-virus/?utm\\_source=organic&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=coronavirus&utm\\_content=free-access](https://educators.brainpop.com/2020/02/19/free-brainpop-access-for-schools-affected-by-the-corona-virus/?utm_source=organic&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=coronavirus&utm_content=free-access)

<https://newsela.com/about/distance-learning/>

<https://teachercenter.withgoogle.com/resources/general/details?key=ahpzfmd3ZWItZWR1LXRyYWluaW5nLWNlbnRlcXIPR2VuZXJhbFJlc291cmNlGI CAqKzjo8cIDA>

<https://kahoot.com/blog/2020/02/27/kahoot-free-access-schools-higher-education-coronavirus/>

[https://www.engadget.com/amp/2020/03/03/google-makes-hangouts-meet-features-free-in-the-wake-of-coronavirus/?\\_twitter\\_impression=true](https://www.engadget.com/amp/2020/03/03/google-makes-hangouts-meet-features-free-in-the-wake-of-coronavirus/?_twitter_impression=true)

<https://mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning>

<https://t.co/paSYxd8e00>

<https://t.co/FbzInQsl3f>

4thekids.idecorp.com