



# Binghamton City School District

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September 2021

Dear Binghamton Families,

It is wonderful to once again be experiencing the excitement that comes with a new school year. While health and safety remain at the top of our minds, we are thrilled to reunite our school community, and have our students back where they belong – in our schools each day, learning from their teachers and peers. New experiences, relationships, progress, and achievements are ahead for every student. I am confident in our district's ability to provide our students with a safe environment to access the quality education that they deserve. I truly appreciate the care and precautions that you and your children are taking to make in-person learning possible.

The set of COVID protocols has been posted to the [district website here](#). The district will be following a new set of quarantine protocols, in the event of COVID-19 exposures. Please review these guidelines, along with this [infographic](#), and note that quarantine guidance is subject to change and is under the direction of the NYS Department of Health. We will also be following New York State Governor Kathy Hochul's instruction to test weekly any school employees who have not yet been vaccinated. The local health department is offering a pre-registration opportunity for testing symptomatic students. If this is something your family is interested in, you can [find additional information here](#).

Strong school-to-home communication is tremendously important to student success. Please frequently visit the calendar on our district website, [www.binghamtonschools.org](http://www.binghamtonschools.org), for the most up-to-date information on school events. We have a number of methods for keeping our school community informed about what's happening throughout our district and buildings. Our district website is an excellent resource for information and updates. Follow the district's social media platforms (we're on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!) for regular news and updates. Download the BCSD custom mobile app to your smartphone, enabling alerts as another way to stay connected and informed. Families with children who are engaged in BCSD sports programs can also download Team Snap for the latest information on our sports programs. Finally, we encourage you to sign up for Parent Portal, and please contact the main office of your child's school to ensure your current contact information is on file.

From the first day of school to the last, please continue to 'B' connected and involved in your child's academic journey. By doing things like reading with them, communicating with their teachers, or attending school events, you are supporting and encouraging your student's education. We thank you for being our partners in their learning. I look forward to a wonderful school year with many outstanding achievements for our students inside and outside of the classroom!

With Patriot Pride,

Tonia Thompson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

***Educating, empowering and challenging all students to become productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.***