



Welcome back Baggett Bear families!

We are so excited to open our doors soon to our students for the upcoming school year! Please know that we are working to ensure a safe learning environment for all students and staff. That said, there will be some changes to our daily operations as we begin the new school year. I apologize for the length; however, we have a large amount of information to share.

Open House

(Open House information was also shared last week via email)

We will have two days and times for Open House for students and parents according to the criteria below. Please carefully review each description to know how to plan your experience. We respectfully ask that only the student and parents attend Open House.

Open House sessions will take place as follows:

Wednesday, July 29 from 3:00-6:00 PM: Only kindergarten students beginning the school year with in-person instruction:

Thursday, July 30 from 3:00-6:00 PM: Only 1st-5th grade students beginning the school year with in-person instruction **and** who are new to our school. These students and parents may visit anytime between 3:00 and 6:00 on Thursday, July 30.

**If you are new to Baggett and have both a Kindergartener and 1st-5th grader(s) starting the year with in-person instruction, you will have the opportunity to briefly visit all of your children's homeroom teachers during your Wednesday, July 29 Kindergarten visit.*

Returning 1st-5th grade Baggett Bears who will attend school in-person, and Kindergarten-5th grade students who will attend school through the Paulding Virtual Academy (PVA) will participate in virtual Open House. We will have videos posted to our school website introducing grade levels and area teachers as well as virtual tours of individual classrooms and the school building to help reorient students and parents after our lengthy time away. Those videos will be posted by 3:00 on Wednesday, July 29. The virtual Open House option can also be used by any families not comfortable with coming to school at this time.

Along with the Open House schedule adjusting this year, some of our processes during Open House have changed as well. *Again, please limit Open House visitors to students and parents only.* We will have one-way hallway paths to navigate the building with designated entrances and exits. District and school paperwork will be completed online, making in-person Open House visits much shorter than in the past. Teachers will be prepared to spend 5-10 minutes with families and will schedule follow-up virtual conferences for questions as needed. As always, staff members will be stationed throughout the building to help visiting families travel hallways and find classrooms.

Self-Check and Regulation/Attendance

Please check your child in the mornings before he/she comes to school for temperature and symptoms. If your child shows any symptoms, please keep him/her home. Given the circumstances, there will be no attendance incentives such as Perfect Attendance offered for this school year. *If your child is out sick, please plan to take a picture or scan the excuse and send either through email to your child's classroom teacher or via our school fax at 770-505-0640.*

Visiting School

For the safety of our students and staff, we will not be able to allow visitors into the school building. This includes our volunteers, PTA, eating lunch with students, walking students to class, etc. We understand these will be big changes, and sad ones for many; however, we will have plenty of staff available to comfort students and to get them safely to their classrooms beginning on August 3. Please plan to take pictures, etc. before coming to school on the first day of classes and know that we will do everything in our power to take great care of your children.

Car Riders

Unfortunately, we are discontinuing the option to park and walk students to the front doors or into the building. Adults must remain in their vehicle, proceed through the car rider line, and drop students off there. Again, we will have staff available to help students safely to their classrooms.

Bus Transportation

Bus drivers will be creating morning and afternoon seating charts for students. Hand sanitizer will be available for use as students enter and exit the bus. Bus drivers will be wearing masks and sanitizing the bus between morning and afternoon routes. A thorough cleaning of each bus will take place each evening. *We will not be able to allow students to ride a bus that is not their “normal” bus home with friends.*

Tardy to school

If arriving after 8:00, the student will need to be escorted to the front doors to be signed in.

Outside Items and Food

No outside food may be brought into the building. This includes food items or goodie bags for any type of celebration. Lunchboxes, of course, are allowed. For the safety of our staff and students, ***we will also not be able to accept items that a child may leave at home to be dropped off throughout the day.*** Please make sure your child has his or her belongings before leaving home. If a student were to leave a snack, lunchbox, or water bottle at home, we will make sure the student receives water, a snack, and/or a lunch from the cafeteria. This may be an opportunity for students to begin to learn to be accountable for ensuring they have what they need for school by helping to pack bookbags with binders, shoes for PE, lunches, etc. and having them ready to go before leaving the house.

Breakfast/Lunch/Recess/Specials

Across the school we are working to facilitate social distancing as much as is feasible. At this time, students who wish to purchase breakfast at school will eat in the cafeteria before going to class (we have seating that will allow them to be socially distanced). Kindergarten and 1st grade students will begin the year eating lunch in the cafeteria while 2nd – 5th grade students will eat lunch in their classrooms. All students will be given the opportunity to go through the cafeteria line daily with their teacher.

Students will have specials with their classmates; while observing social distancing requirements.

We understand the importance of breaks and movement opportunities. Although those are built into the instructional day, we will continue to provide outside recess whenever possible. Each class will have their own recess time to avoid prolonged exposure to large groups.

Clubs

At this time, we will not have any clubs before or after school. We will revisit this as things change throughout the school year. This includes Chorus activities, Art Club, FCA, STEM, Community Service, etc.

Safety Measures

Please know that we are taking every feasible precaution to ensure the safety of our students and staff members. Additional custodial staff members are being added to schools district-wide. Each classroom will have Department of Public Health (DPH) approved supplies to clean surfaces as needed throughout the day. Custodial staff will be “fogging” each room as recommended by the DPH. Masks for staff will be provided and are strongly encouraged. Students are encouraged to wear masks based on parental preference. Our water fountains will *not* be in use; however, we have water bottle filling stations located throughout the school. We strongly encourage students to bring water bottles *labeled with their*

names. Please consider also placing your child's name on lunch boxes, jackets, etc. We will not be able to have "community/shared" supplies for students; we ask that you review our supply list posted on the school's website and bring those in for your student in their own plastic bin or pouch for easy access during the school day. We are also trying to decrease the transferring of papers back and forth between home and school as much as possible. Teachers will be sharing more digital options for communicating information for their individual classrooms. Our nurse will be working with the school district and health agencies to ensure safe well and sick visits to the clinic.

We will be reevaluating our practices as we receive changing guidance regarding health and safety. We will update you as needed. Again, we appreciate your grace and patience during these constantly changing times. We look forward to a great start to the school year!