

August 14, 2020

Good evening CHS families,

I hope everyone is enjoying a relaxing and safe summer. We are looking forward to the new school year and to meeting the challenges of an all-virtual learning and instructional model. Once we were informed of the decision to be remote until the end of the first semester, members of our school's Leadership Team had an opportunity to collaborate regarding our virtual bell schedule for the fall. We carefully considered student social emotional and academic needs, stakeholder input and the impact of COVID-19 on our school community. We will implement a 4x4 semester meeting schedule for our students. This means that students will take four of their eight courses in the first semester every day. They will take the other four courses every day in the second semester. The overwhelming reason for this decision is twofold. During a new model for learning, students will be able to focus on four classes rather than eight for each semester. During a new model for instruction, teachers will be able to focus on planning for and implementing instruction for three classes rather than six. There were also some system parameters that needed to be followed when creating the schedule:

- Bell schedule hours must be scheduled no earlier than 8:00 am and no later than 3:00 pm from Monday – Friday to include office hours
- Counseling office hours must be scheduled and posted – 3.5 hours per day
- Must include 10-minute transition period between classes
- Social Emotional learning must be scheduled through content classes, counseling or a period.
- Teachers should have 90 minutes (4-period day) of posted daily office time to provide students/families with opportunities to ask individual/small group questions.

A copy of our virtual bell schedule is attached [CATONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SCHEDULE 2020.pdf](#) to this message and is shown below. It will be posted on our school website and in Schoology. Individual student schedules will be available in [BCPS One](#) by August 21, 2020.

**CATONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 2020-21 FALL SEMESTER STUDENT SCHEDULE**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Minutes</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8:00 – 9:00		<b>Independent Work Time</b>				
9:00 - 9:50	50	Period 1	Period 1	Asynchronous learning; department meetings (when needed); faculty meetings (when needed); PLC's; Common Planning; Professional Learning (when needed)	Period 1	Period 1
10:00 – 10:50	50	Period 2	Period 2		Period 2	Period 2
11:00- 12:00	60	<b>LUNCH</b>			<b>LUNCH</b>	
12:00 – 12:50	50	Period 3	Period 3		Period 3	Period 3
1:00- 1:50	50	Period 4	Period 4		Period 4	Period 4
1:50 – 3:00		<b>Independent Work Time/ Access Office Hours</b>				

School will begin for students on September 8, 2020. Teachers will be on duty Monday through Friday with Wednesday held as a day for targeted student intervention, asynchronous (anytime) instruction, individual and collaborative planning, and professional learning. Teachers will take student attendance daily and will adhere to traditional grading and reporting procedures as outlined in the *BCPS Grading and Reporting Procedures Manual*.

Our goal is to work together to support our students, families and staff during these challenging times. Please continue to provide ongoing feedback to teachers, counselors and school administrators about your student's experience and needs throughout the first semester.

For more information, please view the BCPS Reopening Plan.

Take care and be well,

Principal Ames