

HONEYGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RETURN TO SCHOOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FEBRUARY 15, 2021



The purpose of this document is to begin to answer *frequently asked questions* and provide more specific information for our school family. We understand that the decision to return your child to the schoolhouse, or to remain virtual, is an important and personal decision. Each family will need to weigh the pros and cons in making this decision.

Much of this document is taken directly from the BCPS Reopening Plan with edits specifically related to Honeygo Elementary School. For more information the BCPS plan can be accessed at:

[BCPS Reopening Plan](#)

While we are thrilled that more than 68% of our students at Honeygo will be participating in hybrid learning, we recognize the many challenges that we are planning for around appropriate social distancing and mitigation strategies. We are now finalizing these **significant changes** to our usual Honeygo routines and practices.

We promise to our school family, that we are committed to make the return to school a welcoming and positive experience for all our learners both virtual and hybrid.

Please keep in mind, updates and information continue to be shared and at times new information may impact or change protocols and policies that are currently in place.

What is the phase-in process for students?

Students will return to school in a phased-in process. Honeygo Elementary students in Pre-School-Grade 2 will return in the hybrid model on March 1st. Students in grades 3-5 will return in the hybrid model on April 6th.

Who	Return Week Of
Phases I and II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in Public Separate Day Schools Students in Preschool – Grade 2 	March 1
Phase III: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in Grades 3-12 with special needs served outside general education Select Career and Technical Education students notified by school 	March 15
Phase IV: Remaining students in Grades 6 and 9	March 22
Phase IV: Remaining students in Grades 3 – 5, 7 – 8, and 10 – 12	April 6

What are the hours of the school day for students? How will schedules look different from March 1-March 12 and then again from March 15- end of the school year?

The return to learning in the school buildings requires all school schedules to change back to their regular bell schedules beginning March 1. The Honeygo day is from 9:20am-3:50pm.

From March 1st to March 12th, Honeygo’s Preschool-Grade 2 students in Cohorts A and B will attend school from 9:20 am to 1:50 pm. This is like a two-hour early dismissal. We will be sharing a schedule for the students participating virtually each day soon.

For these two weeks, parents can anticipate all of our students (Grades 3-5) to also have new schedules with their virtual school day lasting from 9:20-3:50pm each day. These updated schedules are being finalized and will be sent soon.

Beginning on March 15th, all students’ school days will be 9:20-3:50pm with no early dismissals for any grade levels.

What do the cohorts mean?

Parents have noted on surveys their preference for students to return to school or remain virtual. Students returning to school are assigned “cohorts” or groups by BCPS. They are assigned to Cohort A or B. Students that will continue to work virtually will be assigned to Cohort C. Students with siblings at Honeygo Elementary are assigned to the same cohort. In addition, students with siblings at other BCPS schools are assigned to the same cohort.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cohort A: In-Person Cohort B: Virtual	Cohort A: In-Person Cohort B: Virtual	All Students: Virtual	Cohort B: In-Person Cohort A: Virtual	Cohort B: In-Person Cohort A: Virtual
Cohort C: Virtual			Cohort C: Virtual	

If I do not want my child to return to school on March 1st, can my child return later?

Yes, if a parent chooses to have their child learn virtually at this time and later decides that their child should return to the schoolhouse the child may return to school after March 1st. As stated in the BCPS Reopening Plan, there will be a process for parents to change this decision. A separate communication was sent with the link to request a change from virtual to in-person learning. If the request is made during a specific window, the start date is noted for that child to return to school is shown below.

Honeygo’s cohort assignments for our Preschool-Grade 2 students went out this past Friday via email. Cohort information for students in Grades 3-5 will be emailed to parents Friday, February 19th. Please keep in mind that if you have selected hybrid instruction for your child and at any time you wish you change your child to fully virtual instruction, please just send an email to krosenberger@bcps.org.

Audience	Request Date Window (Window closes at 5:00 pm on Fridays)	Start Dates (Start dates applicable to the start day of the individual phases)
Phase 1 - Public Separate Day Schools and Phase 2- Pre- School through Grade 2	Survey window- February 5	Week of March 1
	February 6- February 19	Week of March 8
	February 20 – March 5	Week of March 22
	March 6 – March 12	Week of April 6
Phase 3 – OGE Special Education programs Grades 3 - 12 and Select CTE programs	Survey window- February 12	Week of March 15
	February 13- February 26	Week of March 22
	February 27 – March 12	Week of April 6
Phase 4- Grades 3 through 12	Survey window – March 12	Week of March 22 (Grades 6 & 9 only)
		Week of April 6
ALL	March 13 – March 26	Week of April 19
	March 27- April 9	Week of May 3
	April 10 – April 23	Week of May 17
	April 24 – May 7	Week of May 31

What health and safety protocols will be in place at the school?

Hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout the building. Students will have access to sinks for hand washing. High touch areas will be cleaned frequently throughout the day. An isolation room has been established for students that demonstrate COVID-like symptoms. PPE has been purchased for school staff and the building. Ventilation, circulation, and filtration systems have been checked and are functioning as designed. Safety is the priority for our students and staff.

Will my child be able to receive breakfast at school?

All students will be able to receive a free breakfast upon their arrival at school. Breakfast will be individually packaged items in a bag for a “grab and go” format. There will not be choices of breakfast items for students. Students will eat breakfast in the classroom.

Will my child be able to receive lunch at school? What will lunch look like for my child?

All students will be able to receive a free lunch. Lunch will be individually packaged items in a bag for a “grab and go” format. There will not be choices of lunch items. BCPS will continue to provide meals at the middle school and high school locations for virtual students. Some Honeygo students will eat in the cafeteria and some in their classrooms in order to meet the necessary social distance guidelines. Students will not be able to get out of their seats and walk around to visit one another during lunch.

What will my child’s school day look like in person? What will my child’s school day look like virtually?

Students in both the virtual and in-person environment may work concurrently. There are times that the instruction will include both sets of students while other times, some students may work virtually while the teacher meets with the students in the classroom or vice versa. BCPS has shared the following as an example. However, Honeygo families will receive grade level specific schedules like what was received this summer prior to the year starting.

Lesson Component	Virtual Cohorts	In-Person Cohort
Outcomes	Concurrent <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unpack Objectives• Anticipatory Set	
Think About It	Chat Post	Class Discussion
Learn About It	Concurrent <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher Modeling• Direct Instruction	
Try It	Small Group Instruction	Independent Practice
Show What You Know	Formative Assessment	

What will the classroom look like for my child?

Students will work at a desk or table with social distancing in place. The lesson will allow in person and virtual students to interact with one another both on the computer and in the classroom. Social distancing will be always in place. Therefore, students will not be seated in groups together around the room. Students will not move to centers, rather the center may be at their desk or virtually. In special area classes, students will remain socially distanced in these learning spaces as well.

Students will not use lockers at this time. All materials/belongings will be held in their backpack during the school day, which will be hung on the back of their chair in the classroom.

Students can bring a personal water bottle to school to keep at their desk. Water fountains will not be available at this time.

What will recess look like for my child?

Students will continue to have recess daily. Recess will take place outside except in rainy or extreme weather conditions. Each class will have a designated area for outdoor recess. Students will wear masks and maintain social distancing. Playground equipment will not be available at this time. Recess may include specific activities that allow students to exercise and some measure of socialization.

What safety measures are being taken for students that ride the bus?



Buses will operate at a limited capacity, up to one person per seat with appropriate distance behind the driver. There will be assigned seating on the bus. Students that live in the same household may sit together. Students (and the driver) will be expected to wear their masks from the bus stop, during the ride, and into the schoolhouse. High touch areas will be cleaned frequently.

Will my child have to wear a mask all day? Will my child have an opportunity for a mask break during the day?

Students will be required to wear a mask on the bus and throughout the school day, even during recess. Students will be provided with opportunities for short mask breaks throughout the day, in keeping with all other mitigation strategies.

What happens if my child is exposed Covid-19?

Students who develop symptoms will be removed from their classrooms and cared for in isolation rooms. They will be sent home immediately and excluded from in-person school per the COVID-like Illness Protocol and COVID Nursing Procedure. Any persons with close contact with the student will be notified and excluded from in person school. Students will be excluded from schools for 10 days unless they have a negative COVID test and/or are diagnosed with a specific condition other than COVID-19.

What are the expectations for screening students before sending to school?

There will be a Wellness checklist for parents to complete daily stating whether students have been in close contact to anyone who tested positive with Covid-19, waiting for Covid-19 test results, have any Covid-19 symptoms, etc... This form will be collected monthly by the classroom teacher.

What are the protocols for parents?

The building will maintain a limited number of people throughout the day. Visitors and volunteers will not be permitted in the building. Parents and those registering new students will complete this process online. All meetings and conferences will be held virtually at this time. When dropping off or picking up a student, parents will remain in their vehicle during the arrival and dismissal process. We will be sharing updated Honeygo arrival and dismissal routines in order to meet the expectations established by BCPS.



What does my child need to bring to school each day? What about my child's device?

Each grade level will be sharing expectations with their students' families regarding school supplies. All students will need to bring their fully charged device to school each day, as most assignments will continue to be assigned, delivered, and submitted via Schoology. In the event of a teacher absence, it is possible that your child's instruction for the day may be provided virtually from another teacher at Honeygo while an adult is assigned to provide the students attending in person supervision throughout the day.

How can I prepare my child for his/her return to school?

There are many ways to prepare your child for the transition back to the schoolhouse. First, it is important to present the change in a positive way. Take time to answer any questions your child may have and let them know that school is a safe place. Be clear as to what the changes may look like (or what school might look like for our youngest students) and tell them the "why" behind the differences. For example, why we need to practice social distancing and why we need to wear a mask. This is a familiar expectation if your family has experienced grocery shopping or other events outside the home. Set a routine for sleep and being prepared for school in advance. This will help your child physically prepare for the change. Please keep in mind that it will take some time for everyone to adjust and get used to the new routines and expectations.

What plans are the Honeygo staff making to provide parents additional information as we move into this next phase of teaching and learning?

Our Honeygo Reopening Team has been doing tremendous work preparing for the transition to hybrid learning. We currently have over 100 students in Preschool-Grade 2 students coming on March 1 and March 2 (Cohort A) and an additional 100 learners (Cohort B) joining us each Thursday and Friday each week.

Families of students in Grades 3-5 will receive their cohort assignments by Friday evening, February 19th. We anticipate at least another 100 learners joining us beginning April 6 in in Cohort A and 100+ in Cohort B.

Our teachers and staff who work with students in Preschool-Grade 2 are returning to the school building February 22nd and students will have a modified schedule that week so that teachers can prepare their classrooms for this change to hybrid learning.

Transportation assignments for our Preschool-Grade 2 students will be finalized by transportation one week prior to the March 1 start date.

All revised grade level schedules will be sent very soon so that parents and students can make plans for the adjusted schedules.

Please know that we recognize our families want more information about what school will look like in this hybrid model. We appreciate your patience and recognition that while this transition is a welcomed opportunity and valuable for our students, as we work through the challenges presented and the significant changes to our regular school routines, we will need our parents' and communities support more than ever.
