



Amended Student Start Date
Press Release
July 15, 2020

The Bacon County School System continues to make plans for the 2020-2021 school year. At the July 14th BOE Work Session, the board voted to adopt an alternate start date for students. Bacon County numbers for COVID-19 remain high. Therefore, the BCSD has amended the 20-21 SY calendar year to delay the student start date from August 3, 2020 to **August 10, 2020**.

A delayed start date will allow our administrators, teachers, and staff additional time (extended pre-planning) at the beginning of the year to prepare for COVID-19 safety guidelines that will be implemented for the 20-21 SY.

Teachers/Staff will return as scheduled on July 27th. The pre-planning schedule for teachers/staff will be “extended” from one week to nine days (July 27th through August 6th).

Key Changes to the 20-21 Calendar Year

The revised calendar will include 17 professional learning days for teachers/staff and 173 instructional days for students.

There will be 9 (rather than 4) extended pre-planning/professional learning days at the beginning of the school year. The additional professional learning days will allow the district to focus on training and preparing staff for COVID-19 safety protocols and procedures.

Students will now return to school Monday, August 10th rather than Monday, August 3rd.

Click Here for 20-21 [Proposed Amended Calendar](#)

Our goal is to bring back our students and staff as safely as possible for in-person learning on August 10th. Safety procedures are of the utmost importance for our school year to be a successful one. The Bacon County Board of Education continues to collaborate with the Georgia Department of Education, the Governor’s Office and the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Students will have two options for returning to school. **Traditional** (face to face), which will begin on August 10th at each school **OR** a **Virtual Online Option**.



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Traditional Learning Plan

The Bacon County School System will offer a traditional learning option for those parents and students who are ready for their children to return to in-person learning. The traditional learning plan will include safety measures and protocols for COVID-19. Our school system has worked diligently to put procedures in place to protect those that choose this plan.

Virtual Learning Option

The Bacon County School System will offer a virtual learning option for those parents who are not ready for their children to return to in-person learning.

- An application will be required and parents must agree to a semester long commitment to apply for online learning.
- Parents must provide sufficient technology which includes a device such as a laptop, Chromebook, or desktop to apply for online learning. A cell phone does not constitute a device for educational purposes.
- Parents must provide internet access to apply for online learning.
- Students participating in virtual learning will be **ineligible** for extra-curricular activities.

An application will be available at all schools and on the system webpage beginning **July 21, 2020**. The deadline to enroll for virtual learning will be **July 27, 2020**. Virtual learning requires a supportive parent or adult for the digital learning experience to be successful, especially for PK-3 students.

Virtual Learning Services

- Bacon County Schools will use Edgenuity to outsource virtual learning. Students will be assigned an Edgenuity teacher and courses for the semester. Bacon County teachers will not be facilitating the virtual learning option.

Please note that these dates are subject to change due to the uncertainty of times. If you have questions or concerns, please email covid19@bcriders.com .