

Update on BUSD's School Reopening Plan

May 19, 2021

DONDE SEA QUE APRENDAS
APRENDEMOS JUNTOS

Berkeley Unified School District



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Berkeley Unified School District



This Evening's Meeting

The background of the slide is a light gray image showing the silhouettes of a large group of graduates. They are all wearing graduation caps and gowns. Many of their hands are raised in the air, reaching towards the top of the frame, suggesting a celebratory moment like a commencement ceremony.

1. Fall Reopening
2. Fall Distance Learning Update



Fall: Full School Reopening

"On June 30, midnight, the statute in the state of California will make that crystal clear that that (in-person attendance) is indeed a requirement."

Gavin Newsom, May 13, 2021

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a white face mask with red floral patterns and a blue jacket with a colorful pattern, is giving a thumbs up. She is standing outdoors on a grassy area with a large rock in the background.

Fall: Full School Reopening

"Governor Newsom's May Budget Proposal assumes a return to full-time, in-person instruction for the 2021-22 school year as the default for all students and schools. It allows for independent study to be the only allowable option for students and families."



Fall, 2021:

Reasons for Confidence about On-Campus Learning

- Strong signals from the Governor that Distance Learning requirements will be eliminated, to be replaced by Independent Learning
- Staff has had the opportunity to be vaccinated
- Ongoing vaccine availability for young people, including students who are 12 and over
- Many experts are predicting that authorization for COVID vaccines for elementary school students will come in September
- The ongoing use of many safety protocols will create additional levels of safety

Fall, 2021: Full Reopening, Contingency Planning

"What If" Questions	Responses
More restrictive COVID protocols come back into place due to a viral surge?	We are planning ahead for five full days per week by scheduling students now such that they are in as few cohorts as possible in case restrictions require cohorting and/or outbreaks cause quarantine
Social distancing and class size become more restrictive?	We are planning to reorganize room assignments so that larger groups of students are assigned to the largest rooms; and we are installing additional outdoor classrooms
An AQI/Smoke event requires us to close schools?	In the event that AQI/smoke event requires schools to be closed, we may be able to continue instruction via online learning.
A Planned Power Shortage (PSPS) takes place?	In the event that windows must be closed and there is no power, we will consult with COB Public Health about remaining open.

The background of the slide is a light gray with a pattern of dark gray silhouettes. These silhouettes include numerous graduation caps (mortarboards) scattered across the frame, and in the lower portion, several hands are raised in a celebratory gesture, suggesting a graduation ceremony. The overall aesthetic is clean and academic.

Independent Study

Fall, 2021:

Responses
from
Current
Distance
Learning
Elementary
Families

	n	In Person	DL Medical	DL Personal
Elementary	205	77.56% 159	11.71% 24	10.73% 22

Fall, 2021: Berkeley Independent Study

Features of the current BIS model:

K-8: In each meeting, the BIS teacher and home teacher collaborate together on assignments that will best support the student's progress. 30 hours of teaching a week. The main role of the BIS teacher/coach is to provide the curriculum to support the home teacher (parent/guardian) to teach and supervise instruction. The BIS teacher assesses student progress weekly.

9-12: Students meet with their teacher once a week for 90 minutes. The parent is a home teacher and has to have approximately 20-25 hours per week available to participate in this program.

As one option for the Fall, the BIS program could be expanded by adding additional FTE to current teachers, hiring additional BIS teachers, or by paying hourly per diem as students are added.



Fall, 2021:

Berkeley Independent Study Decisions and Issues

- Enrollment:
 - Will BIS/DL families maintain enrollment in their current school?
 - Will families be permitted to move back and forth between in-person enrollment and BIS/DL, or will enrollment be required for the full school year?
- Enrichment:
 - BUSD will not be able to provide a full set of online enrichment and elective courses because all teachers will be required to teach full-time on campus.

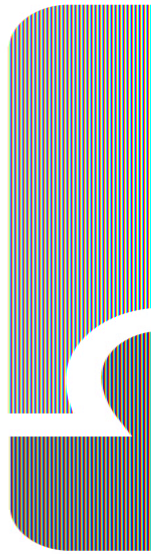
A background image showing a group of people, including children and adults, smiling and holding flowers. The image is faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

Independent Study, Next Steps

1. Develop family communications about Berkeley Independent Study for 21-22, with consideration of
 - a. Special Education
 - b. TWI
2. Communicate further with families about BIS, including opportunities for live interactions with families and staff
3. Consider increase BIS based on a 1 FTE/20 students formula
4. Consider the use of the existing BIS enrollment procedure

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As many students return to their school campus for in-person learning, others will remain in distance learning for the remainder of the school year. We want to assure all students, families, and staff that wherever you learn (or teach), we are one community with shared values and goals for our students. We learn together.