



B.E.S.T. ACADEMY (6-12)
1190 NORTHWEST DRIVE, NW
ATLANTA, GA 30318

DR. TIMOTHY JONES
Principal

Phone: 404-802-4919
Fax: 404-802-4999

April 17, 2020

Hello BEST Families,

We hope you are staying safe and healthy at this time. We know you may have lots of questions and hopefully the updates below will answer some of them. Please feel free to contact me via email at tidjones@atlanta.k12.ga.us if you have any additional questions. We have been working diligently to provide instruction in the new Distance Learning format.

Distance Learning

We are now in Week 5 of Distance Learning and are currently in Phase 2 of APS Distance Learning. Phase 2 actually began Week 3 of Distance Learning once we realized that we would not be returning back to school after two weeks. APS will remain closed for in-person instruction for the remainder of the year per Governor's Kemp order. This is a challenging time for all of us. We are fortunate that APS provided laptops to all middle school students and hotspots to 9th graders prior to the school closures. In order to help our students with online activities 70 laptops were distributed from BEST Academy on March 26th to our families in need of an electronic device. APS provided 20 additional laptops to families on April 3rd if they missed the first initial distribution date.

BEST staff have navigated through Zoom and Google Meet. We have incorporated Nearpod, and explored other innovative resources to keep students engaged. The administrative team is conducting virtual walkthroughs and have observed teachers using charts, Kahoot, Nearpod, USA Test Prep, and inspirational words of encouragement.

Teachers are effectively monitoring which students are participating in digital learning weekly. Students are expected to attend all face-to-face classes and to complete weekly assignments (2 graded assignments/week).

BEST Academy App

Please download the BEST app to receive important information quickly. You can download The B.E.S.T. Academy app in both the [Apple App Store](#) and the [Google Play Store](#) by clicking the hyperlink for your specific device.

Attendance

Teachers are monitoring live sessions to identify students who are participating in digital learning weekly and are recording their participation. Students are expected to attend all live sessions with teachers.

Standardized Assessments

SAT - Currently, the SAT exam administration scheduled in June was cancelled. The next administration will take place in August.. The College Board continues to assess whether it can safely hold that administration. A firm decision from the College Board will be shared with families as soon as it is feasible to do so.



B.E.S.T. ACADEMY (6-12)
1190 NORTHWEST DRIVE, NW
ATLANTA, GA 30318

DR. TIMOTHY JONES
Principal

Phone: 404-802-4919
Fax: 404-802-4999

ACT - When ACT postponed the April 4 test date, registered students received an email from ACT providing instructions for rescheduling on a future ACT test date at no charge. The next test dates are June 13 and July 18.

Milestones/End of Course Tests - All state-required Spring testing, including GKIDS, Georgia Alternate Assessments, and the Georgia Milestones End of Grade and End of Course tests— are cancelled.

Grades

In Phase 2 middle school teachers are continuing to use Google Classroom to provide live sessions with students and assign tasks in Google Classroom. Math and Reading teachers will be implementing the I-Ready platform in the coming weeks. High school teachers are required to assign Edgenuity (online virtual courses) assignments to all high school courses (mostly English, math, science, and social studies) offered on Edgenuity. Teachers are providing two opportunities per week to earn grades on assignments. Enrichment courses are also meeting virtually during the week.

Teachers will continue to utilize state standards and instructional pacing calendars to prevent gaps in learning. Parents have access to grades in Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Summer School

APS has closely monitored COVID 19 to assess the feasibility of opening for summer school; this is not likely. Plans for a summer bridge program in July are being considered. Additional information is forthcoming.

End of Year Activities

Prom - The original date has been cancelled. Potential options may include a future date at another location but this is unlikely. A virtual prom has been suggested and is being explored with help from The 100 Black Men of Atlanta.

Celebrating our Seniors - A committee has been established to develop innovative ideas to celebrate and recognize the Class of 2020.

Celebrating our 8th Graders – A committee has also been established to develop creative ideas to celebrate and recognize the Class of 2024 as they transition from middle school to high school.

Graduation – The school District has partnered with Herff Jones to develop a virtual format for every APS HS. Details are forthcoming.

Parents of Seniors

Please closely monitor your child's progress in all courses. If you have any questions, please reach out to your son's teacher and/or counselor Dr. Emmanuel Oduah (eoduah@atlanta.k12.ga.us). Community Service requirements have been waived for seniors who are otherwise graduation-eligible. Information about refunds or credit for Senior dues will be communicated to parents in the near future. If you are in need of transcript, please reach to Dr. Oduah.



B.E.S.T. ACADEMY (6-12)
1190 NORTHWEST DRIVE, NW
ATLANTA, GA 30318

DR. TIMOTHY JONES
Principal

Phone: 404-802-4919
Fax: 404-802-4999

Food Distribution

Food distribution is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mondays ONLY beginning April 13 at these anchor sites:

- Bunche Middle School - 1925 Niskey Lake Rd., SW, Atlanta, GA 30331
- Cleveland Avenue Elementary School - 2672 Old Hapeville Rd., SW, Atlanta, GA 30315
- Douglass High School - 225 Hamilton E Holmes Dr., NW, Atlanta, GA 30318
- Phoenix Academy (formerly Alonzo Crim High School) - 256 Clifton St., SE, Atlanta, GA 30317
- Sylvan Hills Middle School - 1461 Sylvan Rd., SW, Atlanta, GA 30310
- Hope-Hill Elementary School - 112 Boulevard NE, Atlanta, GA 30312
- King Middle School - 545 Hill St SE, Atlanta, GA 30312
- Young Middle School - 3116 Benjamin E Mays Dr. SW, Atlanta, GA 30311
- *The North Atlanta Cluster and Briarcliff communities will continue to receive distribution support by the ESOL office. For questions contact 404-802-7580.

We truly appreciate your support and patience during this time. We will get past this together.

Sincerely,
Mr. Robert Williams
Assistant Principal