

May 2020 Newsletter

Remote Learning will continue through the end of school year

We have just been advised by the State that schools will not re-open this year; remote learning will continue through the end of this school year. Here is a message from our Lead Person regarding the state of Remote Learning at BelovED:

BEOVED'S REMOTE LEARNING PLAN

BelovED Community Charter School ("BelovED") has implemented a remote learning program that: (i) ensures its students have access to technology and our online instructional program; (ii) provides substantive instruction and school work and attempts to keep our students on pace with our regular curriculum so they are prepared for the next grade level; (iii) ensures instruction and work is appropriately modified for our students with special needs; and (iv) ensures our students and families are provided with breakfast and lunch per the mandates of the state's food programs.

Access to Technology

BelovED is and has been fully committed to ensuring that every student has access to technology and broadband services. Here are the steps we took to achieve this goal:

When we learned that all Jersey City schools would be closed, our technology team -- headed by our Director of Operations -- sent out a survey to families to see if they needed any technology to accommodate our remote learning platforms, such as Google Classroom. Upon receipt of that information, we followed up individually with each family to schedule a time to pick up a chromebook or talk with our tech team about ways to access various broadband services.

Our Academy Deans notified us of families that did not complete the survey and we closely monitored students who failed to turn in assignments during the first week of the school closure. We followed up with these families and several expressed a need for additional technology because multiple siblings were endeavoring to share one computer, and this was negatively impacting their ability to complete their assignments. So we also provided an extra chromebook to these families.

We have our tech team readily available -- from 8 am to 5 pm -- to address any concerns that families are having in regards to technology -- and our tech team often responds to issues well past 5 pm.

By the end of week one, more than 95% of families had access. By week two, we had reached all but a couple of families. By week three, we had heard from every family.

Our Academy Deans and teachers continue to track the progress of each student to ensure that any work that is not getting completed is not due to their lack of access to technology. We are aware that this is a moving target and situations change rapidly. As such, we remain in constant contact with families.

Finally, we recently circulated an additional survey that measured, among other things, our students' access to technology and the various platforms. The response was overwhelmingly positive in terms of families (and students) being able to access their school work.

Access to our Curriculum

Because of the familiarity and usage of Google Classroom by many staff members, we elected to use this platform to post assignments and respond to any questions. This began immediately (week of March 16th). The assignments followed the pacing of our curriculum. In striving to maintain a sense of normalcy, all work must be posted prior to the start of our regular school day and is broken down generally as follows:

*Direct instruction toward mastering a standard

*Classwork

*Exemplars on how to complete the classwork and/or various opportunities for parents and students to connect with teachers or Academy Leaders with questions concerning any assignment.

*Homework

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Our goal was to maintain the same level of instruction while ensuring that students could refer to exemplars on how to complete an assignment. Once our staff felt comfortable with this platform and students were submitting the work, we added videos to supplement the instruction. Specifically, these videos were either created by teachers to further guide our students or by other well-known academic sites that walk through each step of learning and mastering a standard. Finally, we have added “office hours” and other set times for students to ask specific questions regarding any lesson or assignment.

In addition to providing opportunities for students to reach out and ask questions, our teachers and leaders use an Assignment Tracker to proactively contact students who fall below a certain percentage for completing assignments. Because we are unable to meet with students face-to-face, we want to be as proactive as possible to ensure our students remain on track. Based on our data to date, we have not seen much of a decline in our assignment completion percentages since we started remote learning.

To ensure we are keeping pace with our curriculum and that students are mastering the academic standards for their grade level, we are providing online assessments for our students, tracking the data, and undertaking re-teaching as necessary. The student learning data is being reviewed in one-on-one check-ins, department meetings, and in meetings with the various grade spans (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9th grade).

Finally, as noted above, we are constantly reaching out for feedback. Via the above-mentioned survey, parents provided incredibly helpful feedback regarding the platforms we are using as well as the work being provided on a daily basis by staff.

Access for all Learners

Services have been and will continue to be provided to meet the needs of all scholars. Since March 16th, the SPED, ELL, Related Services, Specialists, and Counseling Departments have all been working to assist our scholars. The SPED, Specialists, and ELL staff are providing instruction by modifying lessons and providing small group meetings with certain scholars through Google Meets.

The teachers within these departments have been working closely with their select group of scholars, enabling the homeroom and content teachers to work more closely with a smaller group of scholars. In addition, our ELL staff and other multilingual staff members have been reaching out through phone and email to translate for parents who have difficulty with

English so they understand the schoolwork and can appropriately support our instruction of their children.

Meanwhile, our Counselors and Social Workers have been providing their usual services through email, phone calls, and Google Meets sessions, while also providing materials and resources to parents, scholars, and staff to assist with dealing with the pandemic. Speech and Occupational Therapists (OT) initially provided services through email to scholars by guiding scholars in the performance of tasks. In light of the recent change in telehealth laws, Speech and Occupational Therapists are increasing providing services through Google Meets.

All of our staff members have worked very closely with the homeroom and content teachers to ensure that the scholars have been given all the tools needed to continue to grow in their education.

Access to our Food Program

We are very proud of our food delivery program. Most days, we deliver over 310 grab-and-go breakfasts and lunches, which we believe is an incredibly high percentage given the size of our School. In addition to our highly committed Operations Staff and strong data tracking, we attribute our success largely to the ability to deliver food to our families using our BelovED busses.

Specifically, unlike most schools, BelovED has long invested in a system to bus our students to and from school. We have set routes and pick up students at bus stops near to their home throughout the school year. At present, BelovED is using these routes to deliver food to our students at these bus stops. To minimize contact, we deliver meals on Mondays (2 meals), Wednesdays (2 meals) and Fridays (1 meal)

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In addition, families may pick up meals at the School on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. In fact, we even continued the delivery of food over our spring break. On Wednesday (April 15th), we delivered over 400 meals to our families.

We believe that this has had a huge impact on supporting our families during this crisis. Indeed, we have received great feedback from families, who have expressed deep gratitude to our Operations Team. We will continue to assess our delivery system and make any changes necessary to further support our families.

Sincerely,

Ken Schultz
Lead Person

BelovED Gives Back

As you know, the theme of the 2020 Book Fair was BelovED Gives Back. Shortly after our week long Book Fair/Read Across America full of fun events and activities for our community, we transitioned into remote learning as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This week, we began the "gives back" phase of our Book Fair by donating 35 meals to the Jersey City Medical Center EMS station, which was prepared by a small, local business, O'Leary's Publik House. We sent 35 individual meals of fried chicken and 3 bean rice, along with two large bags of fruit gummies and granola bars for when the paramedics are on the road.

While we remain #BelovEDStrong, we want to make sure to support those who are keeping us strong, safe and healthy!

If you haven't checked out BelovED's video message to our students, please do!

Special guests include Jonathan Hilliman of the New York Giants, Kyle Palmieri of the New Jersey Devils, Justin Fatica of Virtues First, and Sergeant Cumberbatch of the Port Authority Bi-State Coalition! Thanks to Mr. Long for reaching out to these amazing supporters of our community!

Throughout everything, we remain #BelovEDStrong

<https://www.wevideo.com/view/1681890298>



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8th Grade Graduation Update

In light of current and anticipated social distancing requirements and restrictions on large gatherings, Beloved Community Charter School will be moving to a virtual graduation. This very difficult decision was made with the safety of our scholars, staff, and families in mind. The virtual graduation will take place on June 19, 2020.

To the extent possible, the virtual graduation ceremony will replicate many components of an in-person graduation ceremony, including student speeches, messages from 8th Grade teachers and deans, and student recognition. The ceremony will be posted on our website and social media pages for families to view from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

We will distribute caps & gowns, yearbooks, class rings and diplomas on June 19th as well. This distribution will be a drive-through pick up process as we will take all necessary precautions and implement social distancing measures. You may pick up your items at Beloved Community Charter School's Elementary School building at 508 Grand Street at the times listed below:

- 8A may pick up from 9:00am--10:00am on Friday, June 19, 2020
- 8B may pick up from 10:00am--11:00am on Friday, June 19, 2020
- 8C may pick up from 11:00am--12:00pm on Friday, June 19, 2020
- 8D may pick up from 12:00--1:00pm on Friday, June 19, 2020

Please make sure to observe social distancing measures when you pick up your items on June 19th. We will provide a background and balloon arch in case you are interested in photo opportunities for your graduate. You may choose to decorate your car and have as many family members come with you as you like. Should you not feel comfortable participating, we can mail the diploma to you.

Although we acknowledge an in-person ceremony is preferable, in order to provide each scholar the opportunity to be recognized at this significant milestone, we must plan immediately to execute a virtual ceremony in the event an in-person graduation is not possible. As we move forward with planning and identifying details for the virtual graduation ceremony, we will continue to communicate to scholars and families. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us provide a unique and memorable graduation for all of our scholars and families.



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Middle School Honor Roll List for Trimester 2

Summa Cum Laude is a distinction earned when a scholar has no grade lower than an A+ (97%) in all subjects for the term.

Ria Gray	8C	Summa Cum Laude
David Zhu	7A	Summa Cum Laude

Magna Cum Laude is a distinction earned when a scholar has no grade lower than a A (90%) in all subjects for the term.

Samantha Almazan	6C	Magna Cum Laude
Rainn Amante	6B	Magna Cum Laude
Vinny Armando	6A	Magna Cum Laude
Shrihan Chourikar	6A	Magna Cum Laude
Marium Mubashir	6B	Magna Cum Laude
Sahith Patcha	6B	Magna Cum Laude
Anthony Sindiong	6D	Magna Cum Laude

Emily Bascom	7C	Magna Cum Laude
Nicholas Casciano	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Alexa Czaplicki	7B	Magna Cum Laude
Chloe David	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Angel Galang	7C	Magna Cum Laude
Jeremiah Iverson	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Oyinoluwa Jolaosho	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Sharon Olujobi	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Sharon Ramirez	7D	Magna Cum Laude
Jayla Roman	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Chloe Anne Rosales	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Srimoyee Roy	7A	Magna Cum Laude
Vianca Villalobos	7B	Magna Cum Laude

Andrea Armando	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Tiffany Esteban	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Angelica Harris	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Janrex Panlilio	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Alreza Paz	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Jaylynn Robles	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Jayden Rodriguez	8C	Magna Cum Laude
Emily Zheng	8C	Magna Cum Laude

Cum Laude is a distinction earned when a scholar has no grade lower than a B (83%) in all subjects for the term.

Shrouk Aboukalila	6A Cum Laude
Tristan Alonso	6A Cum Laude
Lheanna Balatbat	6C Cum Laude
Jessica Bodian	6C Cum Laude
Denise Enerio	6C Cum Laude
Ritchell Estipona	6B Cum Laude
Yaribeth Lima	6B Cum Laude
Emmanuel Mejia	6C Cum Laude
Kaylah Newton	6D Cum Laude
Erick Owusu-Cobby	6D Cum Laude
Marcel Quinones	6C Cum Laude
Ruth Salgado	6D Cum Laude
Emely Segarra	6D Cum Laude
Vivien Sumcad	6D Cum Laude
Jayden Torres	6A Cum Laude
Dylan Vargas	6D Cum Laude
Serenity Wheeler	6D Cum Laude
Derek Almazan	7B Cum Laude
Zack Aziz	7B Cum Laude
Jeremie Cabrera	7C Cum Laude
Nicole Chua	7C Cum Laude
Shaila Duarte-Moran	7D Cum Laude
Lauren Florendo	7B Cum Laude
Abanoub Fouad	7C Cum Laude
Simone Gilliard	7D Cum Laude
Mariam Halim	7B Cum Laude
Clavon Jackson	7A Cum Laude
Madison Jackson	7D Cum Laude
Joel Marrero	7B Cum Laude
Adisah Mohammed	7D Cum Laude
Breanna Nedderman	7C Cum Laude
Victor Ortiz	7A Cum Laude
Angel San Elias	7A Cum Laude
Marlene Segarra	7C Cum Laude
Edward Hernandez	7B Cum Laude
Colin Philippe Vitug	7A Cum Laude
Edward Zheng	7B Cum Laude

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Cum Laude, cont.

Aya Louzi	8C Cum Laude
Sameer Majid	8A Cum Laude
Faith Marasigan	8D Cum Laude
Sylvia Olivares	8C Cum Laude
Anusha Alam	8C Cum Laude
Jasmine Ballesteros	8D Cum Laude
Reyina Boereau	8A Cum Laude
Alexander Lopez	8C Cum Laude
Faith Marasigan	8D Cum Laude
Ariana Persaud	8C Cum Laude
Jared Izack Rodil	8C Cum Laude
Nicole Rodriguez	8D Cum Laude
Jeremy Turingan	8C Cum Laude
Bola Zakhary	8C Cum Laude

9th Grade Honor Roll

Below are the 9th-grade Trimester 2 Honor Roll and Growth Mindset Awards. Elite Honor Roll is awarded to students who have grades of 95+ in all subjects. High Honor roll is awarded to students who have grades of 90+ in all grades. Honor Roll is awarded to students who have grades of 85+ in all subjects.

Amaya Jimenez Elite Honor Roll
Khadija Souare Elite Honor Roll

Salma Chahiedine High Honor Roll
Adonis Ibrahim High Honor Roll
Chloe Laygo High Honor Roll
Ariana Miller High Honor Roll
Diorianni Pepin High Honor Roll
A'Blessin Robinson High Honor Roll
Makiyah Sanders High Honor Roll

Duha Aboukalila	Honor Roll	Eddie Pastrana	Honor Roll
Hayley Alvarado	Honor Roll	Julian Punzal	Honor Roll
Abdou Ceesay	Honor Roll	Wade Ramos	Honor Roll
Kiara Cooper	Honor Roll	Melanie Reyes	Honor Roll
Richie Garcia	Honor Roll	Shanaya Smith	Honor Roll
Kathleen Gatan	Honor Roll	Timothy Snyder	Honor Roll
Nasir Grant	Honor Roll	Samantha Sonsona	Honor Roll
Youstina Keresto	Honor Roll	Jeremiah Terson	Honor Roll
Abdulmoiz Malik	Honor Roll	Lanell Williams	Honor Roll
Asiya Muhammad	Honor Roll		

Growth Mindset Awards

Growth Mindset Awards are awarded to those students who demonstrated Greatest Improvement between Trimesters 1 and 2

Hasmera Clayton	US1
Travis Charles	US 1
Mehraeel Demian	Spanish
Ramoncito Cayetano	Spansih
Samuel Orozco	Math
Abigail DeLeon	Math
Sophia Paredes	Math
Jose Aguilar	Math
Usoni Rodriguez	ELA
Augustin Iskander	ELA
Joan Onsongo	Biology
Yarlin Henriquez	Biology
Nasir Grant	Art
Cornel Desrosier	Art

