



Berean
CHRISTIAN

2020-2021

REOPENING TOGETHER



Developing Our Plan

DEAR BEREAN FAMILY

I am pleased to announce that Berean Christian High School is planning to reopen for the first day of school on **August 17th, one week later than initially scheduled**. While we were considering a path to a full reopening of five days per week, we found that particular instructional model to be outside of established parameters for safe operation under the current conditions in our region. We discovered this while praying, developing, and working through our *Decision-Making Matrix*, a collection of factors we deemed essential for determining how to carry out the divine mission of our school without sacrificing the safety of our entire community. With the Lord's help, and wisdom gleaned from the *Matrix*, we have concluded that the best path forward is to launch the year with a **hybrid instructional model** where we will welcome half of our students back to campus each day. For more information regarding the **hybrid model**, see "Level III" on pages 10-12.

And while I will not describe every detail of our process, I would like to give you a snapshot view of how we arrived at our conclusion and how we will objectively navigate future changes to our instructional model.

What we did and what we took into consideration as we developed our plan:

- We prayed
- We pondered the theological principles surrounding the reopening of our school
- We considered our philosophy and mission – "to develop lifelong followers of Christ"
- We looked at parent feedback from the *COVID-19 Future Reopening Survey*
- We spoke with our teachers and staff one by one
- We analyzed the recommendations and mandates from national and regional health authorities¹
- We mapped out and assessed our school infrastructure
- We evaluated the "peer-reviewed" science regarding Coronavirus in the school setting²
- We met weekly with other ACSI member schools to gather and share helpful information
- We monitored [current conditions](#)³ and [news from the CDC](#)⁴ and [CCCHD](#)⁵
- We prayed



Developing Our Plan

(CONTINUED)

After seeking clarity and gathering information, we listed the factors that would comprise our Decision-Making Matrix. They include the following:

- School Philosophy
- Regional COVID-19 Impact
- Social Distancing Requirements
- Number of Berean Students
- Staff and Student Safety
- Spiritual Formation
- Academic Rigor
- Social-Emotional Needs
- Models of Instruction
- School Infrastructure
- Transportation
- Support Services

And while all of the factors brought us clarity, we recognized three interconnected and decisive operational elements within the Matrix: (1) the effective reproduction rate of Coronavirus in our region, (2) the physical distancing mandates from the CCCHD, and (3) the number of Berean students. Because of our research surrounding factors (1) and (2), and our desire to base our current and future decisions on data, we determined to weigh the "Regional COVID-19 Impact" measure very heavily through something known to epidemiologists as the [R-effective number](#).⁶ The R-effective number is determined by regional health authorities and indicates COVID-19's exponential progression (> 1) or regression (< 1) in our particular county. As you will see in the pages that follow, Berean's instructional model, both now and in the future, will look to the R-effective number⁷ to determine our **probable** mitigation response. And while we will be working closely with local health authorities before any significant changes are made, **we will begin the year with the hybrid model which is described within the following guidelines (as of July 15, 2020):**

- Level I – Zero Transmission, R-effective = 0 (Normal School Routine)
- Level II – Mild Transmission, R-effective $\leq .8$ (Proactive Protocols)
- Level III – Moderate Transmission, R-effective $> .8$ (Proactive Protocols and Hybrid Learning)
- Level IV – High Transmission, R-effective > 1.3 (Remote Learning Imposed by the CCCHD)



Developing Our Plan

(CONTINUED)

While we have a framework for navigating the everchanging modeling curves of the Coronavirus, our hope and trust is in our great God, who is in absolute control of this and every circumstance of life (cf. 2 Sam 10:12; Matt 10:29; Eph 1:11). We are looking forward to the day when we can gather at Berean in our usual way, and there are some encouraging signs⁸ that may happen sooner than expected. If the R-effective levels decrease in the next month, we may even be able to return to our pre-COVID-19 regular schedule. But until that happens, we have faith that the Lord will enable us to remain flexible and accomplish our mission to “develop lifelong followers of Jesus Christ.”

Please know that our teachers will be back on campus for *In-Service* during the weeks of August 3rd and 10th. They will use their time to implement new health protocols, communicate with their students, and install new instructional frameworks to both safeguard and enhance learning beginning on the 17th. **Please make sure your student can check and respond to email between August 10th and 14th as teachers will be getting them up to speed with new technology and classroom procedures.**

May we all remain confident in the goodness and care of our great God!

Nicholas Harris

Principal, Berean Christian High School

OUR DECISION MAKING MATRIX FACTORS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ✓ School Philosophy | ✓ Academic Rigor |
| ✓ Regional COVID-19 Impact | ✓ Social-Emotional Needs |
| ✓ Social Distancing Requirements | ✓ Models of Instruction |
| ✓ Number of Berean Students | ✓ School Infrastructure |
| ✓ Staff and Student Safety | ✓ Transportation |
| ✓ Spiritual Formation | ✓ Support Services |



Level One

STANDARD MEASURES

R-effective in CCC = 0

Zero Transmission

- Zero Impact on Public Health

Level One Plan

- ~100 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Normal School Routines and Procedures
- Enhanced Cleaning Measures

Level Two

PROACTIVE MEASURES

R-effective in CCC ≤ .8

Low Transmission/Low Severity

- Low Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 4-6 Feet

Level Two Plan

- ~100 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health and Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance and Cleaning

Level Three

HYBRID INSTRUCTION AND PROACTIVE MEASURES

R-effective in CCC > .8

Moderate Transmission

- Moderate Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 4-6 Feet

Level Three Plan

- ~ 50 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health & Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance & Cleaning

Level Four

REMOTE LEARNING

Must be Imposed by California Health Officials

High Transmission

- High Impact on Public Health

Level Four Plan

- ~ 0 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Imposed by California Health Officials
- Live Remote Learning
- Thorough school cleaning

Level One

STANDARD MEASURES

R-effective in CCC = 0

Zero Transmission

- Zero Impact on Public Health

Level One Plan

- ≈100 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Normal School Routines and Procedures
- Enhanced Cleaning Measures



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Level One - Standard Measures

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES

Instructional Model

- Traditional Instructional Model – five days/week, seven-period (3) and block schedule (2)
- ~100 percent of the student population on campus

Prevention

- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and the optional use of face coverings
 - Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
 - Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols
 - Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
 - Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks/coverings from home
- Ensure that classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with soap
- Allow staff to wear face masks/coverings, and other appropriate PPE as desired
 - Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 24 hours to return to school)
 - Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
 - Conduct deep cleaning of the school prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings

during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)

- Encourage staff members to get the flu shot (level 1 - 4)
- Prepare inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals

Classroom

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff

Transportation

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers
- Allow bus drivers and students to wear face masks/coverings
- Postpone field trips for the first semester
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Air out buses when not in use

Lunch

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Provide a cashless option for the Student Store

Passing Periods

- Allow students and staff to wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings
- Clean high-touch surfaces throughout the school day (use of EPA approved cleaning products)

Large Gatherings

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Allow students and staff to wear face masks/coverings
- Follow CCCHD directives for maximum occupancy
- Follow NCS directives for athletic competition

Level Two

PROACTIVE MEASURES

R-effective in CCC $\leq .8$

Low Transmission/Low Severity

- Low Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 4-6 Feet

Level Two Plan

- \approx 100 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health and Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance and Cleaning



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Level Two - Proactive Measures

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES

Instructional Model

- Traditional Instructional Model – five days/week, seven-period (3) and block schedule (2)
- ~100 percent of the student population on campus
- Facilitate remote learning for students who are unable to attend school

Prevention

- Require social distancing 4-6 feet campus-wide (levels 2-3)
- Require face masks for students
- Require a face mask or a face shield for teachers
- Require daily health screening and verification via app or staff (this protocol is recommended to begin on August 3rd with parental monitoring)
- Require hand sanitation upon arrival at school (outdoor sinks and sanitizer are available)
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Ensure that classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with soap
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 72 hours to return to school)
- Employ a procedure to monitor illnesses/absences
- Designate a quarantine protocol for a positive test result

- Prohibit visitors on campus
- Designate a quarantine room for students experiencing symptoms
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)
- Encourage staff members to get the flu shot (level 1 - 4)
- Resupply inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals
- Turn off water fountains and advise students and staff to bring water bottles from home

Classroom

- Require all students and staff to wear face coverings
- Use the master schedule to balance class numbers as much as possible
- Establish at least a 6-foot distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks
- Space students at least 4-6 feet apart (where possible)
- Maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable)
- Limit physical interactions (partner and group work)
- Promote the frequent use of classroom sinks for handwashing
- Instruct students regarding hygiene etiquette
- Identify and utilize outdoor spaces (as weather permits)



Level Two - Proactive Measures

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES CONTINUED

Transportation

- Implement self-screening of students and bus driver for symptoms using an app or other approved method
- Seat students at least four to six feet apart on buses and six feet from the driver
- Adhere to physical distancing when getting on/off the bus
- Ensure that bus driver and students comply with the most up-to-date face-covering order (as of July 2020, masks are required)
- Open windows for better ventilation
- Seat siblings together
- Eliminate field trips

Lunch

- Require students to eat lunch outside when weather permits or in classrooms with social distancing measures
- Limit food sales to the outdoor window
- Recommend student hand washing before and after lunch
- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- Provide a cashless Student Store option
- Avoid sharing of foods and utensils

Passing Periods

- Provide additional time for transition (if needed)
- Designate areas of the hallways (i.e., lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated
- Minimize the congregating of students

Large Gatherings

- Prohibit large gatherings where social distancing cannot

be maintained (e.g., faculty meetings, performances, chapels)

- Record or livestream Chapel to classrooms (teachers facilitate discussions)
- Close the Teachers' Lounge (to the extent practicable)
- Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by CCCHD
- Discourage the congregating of students in parking lots and common areas
- Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e., gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces as weather permits) for social distancing purposes.
- Follow the CDC, CIF, and NCS guidelines for sporting events and practices

Other

- Sign Notice and Release form

Level Three

HYBRID INSTRUCTION AND
PROACTIVE MEASURES

R-effective in CCC > .8

Moderate Transmission

- Moderate Impact on Public Health
- Social Distancing of 4-6 Feet

Level Three Plan

- ≈ 50 Percent of Students on Campus
- Proactive Health & Wellness Measures
- Proactive Maintenance & Cleaning



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Level Three - Hybrid Instruction and Proactive Measures

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES

Instructional Model

- Implement Hybrid Instruction – A/B Alternating Rotation Model
- Provide four days of instruction, two on-campus days alternating with two distance learning days (~50 percent of the student population on campus/day)
- Divide students into two groups labeled A and B; A group will attend classes on campus on Monday and Wednesday; B group will be on campus Tuesday and Thursday; engage students in live distance learning on the days they are not on campus
- Reserve Friday's for individual/small group tutoring, online office hours, department planning, and grading
- Employ Renweb 1, Google Classroom and Zoom as Berean's online components
- Facilitate remote learning for students who are unable to attend school

Prevention

- Require social distancing 4-6 feet campus-wide (levels 2-3)
- Require face masks for students
- Require a face mask or face shield for teachers
- Require daily health screening and verification via app or staff (this protocol is recommended to begin on August 3rd with parental monitoring)
- Require hand sanitation upon arrival at school (outdoor sinks and sanitizer are available)
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Ensure that classroom sinks are in working order and supplied with soap
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms,

- preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school-specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use (use of EPA approved cleaning products)
- Employ a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (students & staff must be symptom-free for 72 hours to return to school)
- Employ a procedure to monitor illnesses/absences
- Designate a quarantine protocol for a positive test result
- Prohibit visitors on campus
- Designate a quarantine room for students experiencing symptoms
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable)
- Encourage staff members to get the flu shot (level 1 - 4)
- Resupply inventory of gloves and EPA approved chemicals
- Turn off water fountains and advise students and staff to bring water bottles from home



Level Three - Hybrid Instruction and Proactive Measures

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES CONTINUED

Classroom

- Require all students and staff to wear face coverings
- Use the master schedule to balance class numbers as much as possible
- Establish at least a 6-foot distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks
- Space students at least 4-6 feet apart (where possible)
- Maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable)
- Limit physical interactions (no partner or group work)
- Promote the frequent use of classroom sinks for handwashing
- Instruct students regarding hygiene etiquette
- Identify and utilize outdoor spaces (as weather permits)

Transportation

- Implement self-screening of students and bus driver for symptoms using an app or other approved method
- Seat students at least four to six feet apart on buses and six feet from the driver
- Adhere to physical distancing when getting on/off the bus
- Ensure that bus driver and students comply with the most up-to-date face-covering order (as of July 2020, masks are required)
- Open windows for better ventilation
- Seat siblings together
- Eliminate field trips

Lunch

- Require students to eat lunch outside when weather permits or in classrooms with social distancing measures
- Limit food sales to the outdoor window
- Recommend student hand washing before and after

lunch

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- Provide a cashless Student Store option
- Avoid sharing of foods and utensils

Passing Periods

- Provide additional time for transition (if needed)
- Designate areas of the hallways (i.e., lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated
- Minimize the congregating of students

Large Gatherings

- Prohibit large gatherings where social distancing cannot be maintained (e.g., faculty meetings, performances, chapels)
- Record or livestream Chapel to classrooms (teachers facilitate discussions)
- Close the Teachers' Lounge (to the extent practicable)
- Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by CCCHD
- Discourage the congregating of students in parking lots and common areas
- Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e., gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing purposes.
- Follow the CDC, CIF, and NCS guidelines for sporting events and practices

Other

- Sign Notice and Release form

Level Four

REMOTE LEARNING

***Must be Imposed by
California Health Officials***

High Transmission

- High Impact on Public Health

Level Four Plan

- \approx 0 Percent of the Students on Campus
- Imposed by California Health Officials
- Live Remote Learning
- Thorough School Cleaning



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Level Four - Remote Learning

CAMPUS-WIDE MEASURES

Instructional Model

- Implement live remote learning
- Close school buildings (zero percent of the student population on campus)
- Employ Renweb 1, Google Classroom and Zoom as Berean's online components
- Communicate regularly with parents and students

Prevention

- Clean and disinfect school
- Prepare for reopening

Classroom

- Close school buildings

Transportation

- Close school buildings and cease transportation of students
- Follow all athletic guidelines set forth by CHD and CIF

Lunch

- Close school buildings

Passing Periods

- Close school buildings

Large Gatherings

- Close school buildings



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"Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God. Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?"

Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior, and my God."

Psalm 43:3–5, NIV



Works Cited

IMPORTANT REFERENCES

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7. [*"When will it be over?": An introduction to viral reproduction numbers, R0 and Re*](#)
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