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*Buchanan District*

Dr. JONATHAN D. RUSS  
*Superintendent*

## **Superintendent Update – February 12, 2021**

Dear Botetourt County Students, Staff, Parents, and Community:

The Botetourt County School Board approved a motion to bring back all students, grades PK-12, beginning Monday, March 1, 2021. This decision will effectively end the Hybrid A/B Day option. Students will either attend school four days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday) or participate in 100% remote learning. Wednesdays will remain a remote learning day. This allows our teachers to support our remote learners, and our custodial and maintenance staff to sanitize our facilities and buses.

As we bring back more students, we will do our best to abide by physical distancing requirements and other mitigation strategies; however, I acknowledge that this will not be possible in all classrooms and other areas. Our custodians will continue to clean and sanitize high-touch surfaces throughout the day, teachers will continue to sanitize their classrooms between class transitions, and all students and staff will still be required to wear a mask each day.

This decision has set many departments in motion to prepare for our students' return. Transportation is verifying bus routes, school administrators and their staff are planning to rearrange classrooms, and cafeteria staff are preparing for serving an increased number of daily meals and accommodating everyone in their dining areas. As these plans unfold we will communicate them through School Messenger, on the division website, and using social media.

There is a lot of work ahead of us, but I know that as a community we will be ready for students to return on March 1. Thank you very much, and have a wonderful evening!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan D. Russ". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

Jonathan D. Russ, Ed.D.  
Superintendent