

BULLDOG DIGITAL ACADEMY (BDA)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - MAY 2021



What is the future of the BDA?

The Bulldog Digital Academy was established shortly after the Ohio Legislature passed House Bill 164. This house bill allowed public schools to provide remote learning to their students due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. This law ends remote learning for all school districts at the end of the 2020/2021 school year. We had hoped that House Bill 164 would be extended for years to come and we are still hopeful that this legislation will change. While we await a final decision from the Ohio Legislature we must move forward with a plan to have all students return to the classroom in the fall.

What can a parent/guardian do to encourage legislators to extend House Bill 164?

We encourage all supporters of the Bulldog Digital Academy to contact our State Legislators to let them know that you are in support of the Bulldog Digital Academy (remote learning) and would like to see it continue.

Contact information: Senator Sandra R. Williams
 Senate Building
 1 Capitol Square
 Ground Floor
 Columbus, Ohio 43215
 (614)466-4857

 State Representative Stephanie Howse
 77 South High Street
 10th Floor
 Columbus, Ohio 43215
 (614)719-0011

When will we know for sure if the BDA will be an option for the 2021/2022 school year?

We expect to have confirmation regarding House Bill 164 and the future of the Bulldog Digital Academy by the end of June 2021.

If the BDA is not available, will there still be an option for my child to connect remotely to the classroom?

No, all GHCS District students will be required by law to return to the classroom.

If our children are required to go back into the classroom, what guidelines are in place to ensure the safest environment?

GHCS District has worked diligently this past year to establish a safe environment for all students and staff members at each building. A few protocols that have been implemented for the 2020/2021 school year include, but are not limited to:

- Daily temperature checks
- Hand sanitizer stations
- Air Ionization units in each building
- Open windows for additional air circulation
- Masks – required
- Social Distancing of 3 feet following recommendations from the Board of Health
- Sanitation of desks between classroom changes

What can families/students do to help keep the classroom safe?

- Wear a mask (each school building has masks available if a student forgets to wear one)
- Wash/sanitize hands frequently
- If a child is not feeling well, please remain at home

Are all staff members required to be vaccinated?

No. The Board of Health recommends but does not require school staff members to be vaccinated. In following their recommendations, we encourage all staff and students 16 years and older to get vaccinated. We are happy to report that over half of the Garfield Heights City Schools employees have been vaccinated.

What will the 2021/2022 classroom schedule look like?

At this time, the plan is to have students in the classroom 5 full days per week. If there is an upsurge in Covid-19 cases in the community, we assure you that we are ready to pivot into remote learning very quickly.

My child was in the BDA for the 20/21 school year, what building should he/she report to in 21/22?

Your child will return to his/her previous home school.

What will bus transportation look like if all students are required to be back in classes?

Bus transportation will have two students per seat with masks on. Bus windows will be open for ventilation.