April 16, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am reaching out to you as the School Counseling Department Chairperson. I want you to know that even though our school building is not open, we are here to support your children during this time. We will be reaching out to students via Schoology, Naviance, and/or email periodically to check in with them periodically and provide needed support. Counselor’s office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9am-11am, and Tuesday, Thursday, 12pm-2pm. Here is a list of our staff and their caseload:

- Ms. Monahan A-G jmonahan@bcps.org
- Ms. Gould H-O rjuanteguy@bcps.org
- Ms. Tavernia P-Z atavernia@bcps.org
- Ms. Weston College Counselor lweston@bcps.org

Please be aware of the following limitations of virtual counseling (counseling via email). Counseling is most effective when it includes non-verbal communication such as facial expressions and body language. Virtual counseling does not allow for this. Additionally, there can be limitations to a counselor’s ability to ensure confidentiality during virtual counseling sessions.

If you or your child are not comfortable with the limitations that accompany virtual counseling, you have the right to decline virtual school counseling services. In order to opt out of virtual counseling services, please reply to me at atavernia@bcps.org indicating that you decline services at this time. If you are comfortable with your child participating in virtual counseling, you do not need to do anything at this time.

Please reach out to your child’s counselor via email if you need assistance or if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Andrea Tavernia*

*School Counseling Chair*