School-Based Update- January 2021

Reminder: All schools are virtual the week of January 4th.

Our staff team has been working hard to keep as many matches connected as possible. Maintaining communication with our Littles has been tough and we want to thank you for your willingness to stick with your Little as we try to assist them through this pandemic. Our staff has been working with each of our four school systems on scenarios, plans, and options to keep each of you connected so your relationship can flourish. Each of our four counties are different and decisions have to be made from the top down. If your Little does not have updated/correct contact information from the school, please know the schools are trying to update our list with the new registration information so we can reach out and hopefully connect with them.

School-based Bigs will get more specific details via email from their Match Specialist. If you need their contact information, it is on the next page. See below for an overview.

**Mobile County:**
- Great news--the School System has approved our Bigs with Littles who have returned to traditional school to meet every other week for 30 minutes in person. We are working diligently with individual schools to determine the days and times. Your Match Specialist will update you on this option as soon as we’ve heard back from our partnering schools.
- For our Bigs who don’t feel comfortable going into the school system or whose Little is doing school virtually, your Match Specialist will update you on the next steps for virtual meetings that BBBS staff will host bi-monthly based on the Littles schedule and will provide an agreement for guidelines for this school year.
- If you are one of our School-based matches who is hoping to transition to Community-based, Ian Bicko on our team can provide you with an update.
- As we continue to learn if your Little has returned to in-person school, staying virtual or sadly, isn’t enrolled in the system, your Match Specialist will be in touch with you to plan accordingly.

**Baldwin County** is two-fold:
1. For Littles attending in-person school, our Match Specialist will be taking devices on campus, getting the Littles out of class twice a week on a scheduled day and time, and connecting them with their Bigs via zoom.
2. For our Littles attending virtual school, we are working to determine what each family is capable of connecting with since they cannot use their school devices.

**Escambia County** is offering 3 ways for the students to return: In-person school, remote learning, and Virtual School.

**Monroe County** is remote learning for the first 9 weeks and will be able to use their devices at a scheduled time and on a specific platform. We are working with the school to secure the days and time and will notify each match once secured. More information will follow, please contact your Match Specialist with any questions.
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**Vision:** All youth achieve their full potential.
**Mission:** Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.