



Dear BUA students and families,

With the start of BU classes yesterday, we now have all of our students – including seniors – back with us! BU undergraduates are also back on campus. We expect a significant number of positive tests in that population in the coming days and encourage our BUA students to remain cautious, even as the number of positive tests at BUA continues to decline.

### **Recent Positive Tests Results**

Since I last wrote on 1/14, we learned of three students and two staff members who tested positive through BU testing. We have followed our typical protocols in all cases, including notification of close contacts and isolation of all community members who tested positive. While we would like those numbers to be zero (and hope they soon will be), we are encouraged by the downward trend. We will continue weekly updates on positive cases and other changes for the time being.

### **Free KN95 Masks**

The University is making KN95 masks available to all students, faculty, and staff, and is already distributing those at on-campus testing locations; students can receive four masks. BU has also recently updated its [mask recommendations](#), suggesting “high-quality disposable masks work correctly and consistently.”

### **Moving to Unmonitored Testing**

The University has announced that beginning in February (date TBD), all students will be shifting to unmonitored COVID testing (currently they are being observed by a Healthway staff member); the faculty and staff have been following this unmonitored protocol since the fall. Students will pick up testing kits from a kiosk and make an appointment to drop those kits off once they have conducted the swab. We will share more details as we have them.

### **Continuing Twice-Weekly Testing**

As a reminder, students who do not **test Monday or Tuesday** will not be permitted to attend in-person classes or activities on Wednesday (but must come to campus for a test); students who do not **test Thursday or Friday** will not be permitted to attend classes on Monday, unless they have received a negative result on a PCR test from a weekend test. Please note, most University courses do not offer the option to join by Zoom.

### **Booster Requirement**

A reminder that BUA requires all eligible students to receive a booster and **upload evidence of that booster by February 4 or as soon after that as eligibility allows.** For instructions on how to upload proof of a booster, please see the relevant section on the [BUA COVID Protocols](#) page. As we do for other required vaccinations, we will accommodate medical and religious exemptions to this policy.

### **Community Moments**

We hope to see many of you at the winter play this weekend and the community skate tonight! Please keep an eye out for notices about the upcoming semi-formal dance, ski trip, and other events.

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If you have any questions, please reach out to us at [academy@bu.edu](mailto:academy@bu.edu). You can find more details about BUA COVID protocols on this [page](#). Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christopher Kolovos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christopher" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kolovos".

Chris Kolovos  
Head of School