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THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

February 11, 2021

GRADE 8 SCHOOL REOPENING FAMILY LETTER

Dear Families,

We hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We appreciate your ongoing flexibility as we work to reopen school buildings safely.

We are writing to share your child's in-person schedule for when we reopen for in-person learning for blended learning students across grades **6-8 on Thursday, February 25**.

If you opted for in-person learning, below you will find your student's schedule, and additional information about providing consent for in-school COVID-19 testing by the first day your child returns to the school building. This consent form is required in order for your child to be able to participate in in-person learning.

Grade 8 Blended Schedule:

ALL GRADE 8 STUDENTS WILL RETURN TO SCHOOL ON A BLENDED SCHEDULE (WHICH WAS IN PLACE WHEN SCHOOL BUILDINGS ORIGINALLY CLOSED). BEGINNING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25th, 2021 GROUP B STUDENTS WILL BE IN THE BUILDING FOR IN PERSON INSTRUCTION.

February 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 B	26 B	27	28

March 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1 A	2 A	3 A	4 B	5 B	6	7
8 B	9 A	10 A	11 B	12 B	13	14
15 A	16 A	17 A	18 B	19 B	20	21
22 B	23 A	24 A	25 B	26 B	27	28
29	30	31				
VAC	VAC	VAC				

Grade 8 Remote Schedule:

ALL GRADE 8 FULLY REMOTE STUDENTS WILL REMAIN FULLY REMOTE. REMOTE STUDENT SCHEDULES WILL REMAIN THE SAME

All blended grade 8 students will move to a 3/2 weekly schedule. This schedule is the same as the schedule that existed before all school buildings were closed. Please note these days may change as our school works to provide in-person instruction to as many students as possible as and as frequently as possible. In addition, the changes to student schedules may result in adjustments to teaching assignments, although we will try very hard to minimize those. We understand the bond that students develop with their teachers and will work to build on these positive relationships while also increasing in-person instructional time for your child.

Below you will find a good deal of important information to ensure a smooth transition and strong, supportive blended educational experience for your child. We thank you for entrusting your children in our care and are excited about the opportunity to resume in-person learning.

What do I need to do to return to my school building?

****PLEASE NOTE – IF YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED A CONSENT FOR WEEKLY TESTING, NO FURTHER ACTION IS NEEDED AT THIS TIME.**

In order for your child to return to in-person learning, you must submit the consent form for in-school weekly COVID-19 testing by the first day your child returns to their school building. Testing will happen weekly for a random selection of staff and students in your child’s school. Given the ongoing fight against a citywide resurgence of COVID-19, this mandatory weekly testing for COVID-19 is a crucial part of our plan to keep all schools safe.

- The test is quick, safe, and easy. A video showing the testing process is available at schools.nyc.gov/covidtesting.

How do I submit consent?

Submitting consent to have your child tested for COVID-19 in school is quick and easy. **Even if you have already submitted consent, we ask you to do so again to ensure your student has the latest consent form on file.** There are two easy ways to submit:

1) Prior to your child’s first day back in school, fill out the form online using a New York City Schools Account (NYCSA) at mystudent.nyc.

- If you already have a NYCSA account linked to your student(s): Log in, click your student’s name, click “Manage Account,” and then when a dropdown menu appears, click “Consent Forms.” Read the page, and then choose the consent option at the end for your student.
- If you do not already have a NYCSA account: You can create one right away! If you have an account creation code from your school, you can create a full account in approximately five minutes, and then provide consent as described above. If you do not have an account creation code from your school, you can still provide your consent right away by clicking “Manage Consent” under “COVID-19 Testing” and filling out your and your child’s information to provide consent.

2) Print and sign the form and bring it to your child’s school on the first day they are back in the school building. A printable PDF file is available in ten languages at schools.nyc.gov/covidtesting.

Can my child receive an exemption from weekly random testing?

Exemptions will only be granted in certain limited cases:

- For students who need a medical exemption, due to a health condition that would make it unsafe to undergo testing (e.g., facial trauma, nasal surgery), you will be able to submit a

separate form for consideration. This form must be signed by a physician and you must submit medical documentation from a health care provider.

- For students with disabilities who cannot be safely tested in school due to the nature of their disability, you will be able to submit a separate request for an exemption.
- The exemption forms are available at schools.nyc.gov/covidtesting in multiple languages.

What happens if I don't submit consent?

You must submit consent by the day that your child returns to your school building; that is the due date, and we need all students to participate.

- If your child comes to school on their first day back for in-person instruction without a consent form on file, someone on our school staff will contact you to obtain consent.
- **After that, students without consent forms on file, who do not have a medical or disability-based exemption submitted, will be moved to fully remote instruction immediately.**

What happens if my child does not attend school for their in-person learning days?

We expect your child to be present in the building during their scheduled in-person days. If a blended learning student does not attend school during their **first week** of scheduled in-person classes, we will reach out to you to confirm if you still want your in-person seat. While we will maintain flexibility for families who have legitimate reasons for not being able to attend in-person, we cannot continue to hold spots for students who aren't attending because teachers, resources, and classrooms would not be used to their full capacity. If your child does not attend consistently and without a legitimate reason, we will move your child into fully remote learning.

We know that you opted into blended learning because you are eager to have your child attend school in-person, which we are excited about as well. We understand that circumstances may change and if you would now prefer to keep your child fully remote, please resubmit the [learning preference survey](#) or contact our school at (718) 763-4701 or email Ms. D'Aleo at ddaleo@schools.nyc.gov.

Will this be a challenging transition for my child?

We recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic, and resulting changes to our typical school routines, have had a significant impact on each of us. Increased stress and anxiety are common responses to the experience of uncertainty and/or constant change. We understand that transitioning in and out schools can be traumatic to young people and we are committed to supporting your child's social-emotional wellness as well their academic achievement.

We thank you for your partnership and value the critical role that you play in your child's success.

Sincerely,

Anthony Cusumano
Principal