



New York City Department of Education  
Elijah G. Stroud Public School – PS 316  
*SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS*

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Dear P.S. 316 Families,

We are just now nearing the end of this extraordinary school year and I have been so proud of the way we were able to stay connected to each other, and of the wonderful efforts exhibited by our students, our teachers and staff members, and our parent partners.

Teaching and learning remotely has presented us with many challenges; yet our students, parents, and teachers have shown extraordinary resilience, strength, courage, and dedication in ensuring that all of our students receive the quality education they are so entitled to receive. All of our P.S 316 staff members send our sincere thanks to all of our parent partners for such incredible collaboration and dedication.

As we finish up this year, please see below for some important information:

- If you borrowed a laptop or other materials from P.S. 316 for remote learning, we will let you know when it's time to return those items. We will start with our 5th graders and any other students not returning to P.S. 316 in the fall. Please be on the lookout for an email from us about returning the laptop.
- At this time, we are still not permitted to allow students into the building to pick up items from school, unless it is an urgent need (i.e., medication). We will let you know when we are able to bring students in for this.

### **NEXT SCHOOL YEAR:**

There is still very little information about what next year may look like for our students and teachers. I know that this may be the cause for a great deal of anxiety, and also makes it very difficult for you to prepare, logistically and mentally.

Even though we are still unsure as to how the next school year will develop, please know that we will be transparent and maintain close communication with you every step of the way.

Here's what we know and don't know as of today:

- We know that we will need to comply with social distancing guidelines in school, which will impact the number of children we have in school and in specific classrooms at any given time.

As a result, we expect to have some version of blended learning--where students have some in-person (at school) instruction and some remote learning.

- We do not yet know what blended learning model we will adopt. Although the DOE has put out some examples (e.g., every other day, or one week on, one week off) our actual room capacities will impact how we divide up students and structure in-school vs. out-of-school time.
- We are expecting significant cuts to our school budget. Our goal is to work creatively with our budget to maintain current staffing levels and programs. We know we may have to make difficult choices, but we don't know specifics yet, as we do not have our preliminary budgets at this time.
- We do not yet know to what extent individual schools will have autonomy to create their blended learning programs, or whether these decisions will be made at the city and state level.
- We do not expect to be able to finalize our schedules until later in the summer. Even then, we may have to be flexible as we respond to the pandemic.
- The DOE has not yet released the school year calendar, but we will share it when we do. As a result, we don't know the first day of school, but we expect it to be sometime during the week after Labor Day.
- I will be meeting regularly with the School Leadership Team (SLT) over the summer, as well as with the Executive Leadership of the PTA and hope to provide other opportunities for you to get information as it emerges, and to ask questions.

Please complete the [NYC DOE Return to School Survey](#) for parents by June 30, so the DOE can gather information about fall possibilities that would be best for students and families. Please also read a [letter from Chancellor Carranza](#) with current updates about fall reopening.

Before closing, I want to give you all another GREAT BIG THANK YOU! Thank you for your ever-support of your kids and of P.S. 316 and its staff. While our teachers worked magic on their end, we know we have also asked you to do sometimes-impossible things, and you have managed to do them so graciously! We are so very grateful!!

I truly hope summer brings some relaxation and fun for you and your families!

Sincerely,

Olga Maluf  
Principal