



News & Updates

Compiled by Lydia Ruiz-Ferreira, D14 Family Support Coordinator

November 5, 2020

From D14 Superintendent and CEC 14 President:

Dear District 14 Parents and Families,

Thank you for the dedication and support for your schools you demonstrated by holding and running in PA/ PTA and SLT elections in October. The majority of our schools have held their elections. Family participation and engagement in this process has been exemplary despite the complications of virtual elections.

On behalf of District 14 and CEC 14 Leadership, we want to congratulate all newly elected and re-elected PA/ PTA Presidents and Executive Boards. You are vital and critical partners in your individual schools and in the district community, representing our families and advocating for our students.

Thank you for volunteering your time, skills, and talents even as we experienced collective trauma and uncertainty.

November has been named Family Empowerment Month by the New York City Department of Education. There could not be a better time to welcome Parent Leaders into their new roles.

We hope to engage with you at district, Presidents' Council and CEC meetings and that we can turn that engagement into tangible action that families and school communities experience in their daily lives. We want to hear from all school communities as we work to improve and enhance our district and move toward the shared goals of inclusivity, equity, elevating student and family voice, and improving learning for all students.

Alicja Winnicki, Superintendent Tajh Sutton, CEC President

LEARNING HEROES

FACE
NYC Department of Education
Office of Family and Community Empowerment

November: Family Empowerment Month

PARENTS AS LEARNING HEROES:
Tips and Resources for a Different Kind of School Year

NYC parents, we've got your back and want to celebrate you! Join us for this interactive workshop to get simple ideas and free resources to support learning and life skills at home. We'll also help you get ready for parent-teacher conferences as partnering with teachers has never been more important. We're in this together!

PADRES COMO HÉROES DE APRENDIZAJE:
Consejos y recursos para un año escolar diferente

¡Padres de NYC, te queremos celebrar! Acompáñenos en este taller interactivo para obtener ideas sencillas y recursos gratuitos (en español) para apoyar el aprendizaje y las habilidades para la vida en casa. También le ayudaremos a preparar para las conferencias de padres y maestros, ya que la asociación con los maestros nunca ha sido más importante. Juntos podemos!

DATES AND ZOOM REGISTRATION LINKS:

NOVEMBER 3 · 9:30-10:30 AM
[Click Here to Register »](#)

NOVEMBER 4 · 6-7 PM (En Español)
[Haz clic aquí para registrarte »](#)

NOVEMBER 10 · 6-7 PM
[Click Here to Register »](#)

NOVEMBER 16 · 6-7 PM
(Translation provided on this date)
[Click Here to Register »](#)

For more information and resources contact FACE@schools.nyc.gov and visit belearninghero.org.

Blended Learning Opt-In Window for Families

Monday, November 2 – Sunday, November 15: Blended Learning Opt-In Window for Families

Families requesting to change from 100% remote to blended learning should complete and submit the Learning Preference Survey during this window.

<https://www.nycenet.edu/surveys/Guardian>

Weeks of November 30 & December 7: Students Begin In-Person Learning

Updates can be found at

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020>.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/choose-your-learning-preference-for-the-2020-2021-school-year>

CSD14 PA/PTA Elections:

20 out of 26 schools in D14 have held their elections 2020 -2021 PA/PTA elections. The remaining schools have rescheduled their elections to take place within the next two weeks.

Parent Teacher Conferences

The first round of parent-teacher conferences begins on **November 4**. In accordance with the DOE-UFT Remote Work Memorandum of Agreement, all parent-teacher conferences (i.e. afternoon and evening) as set forth in the collective bargaining agreement shall be conducted remotely for the 2020–21 school year. However, meetings with parents and caregivers may occur in-person, on a day other than the scheduled parent-teacher conference date, at a mutually-agreeable date and time during the contractual workday; such meeting(s) should be conducted in a manner consistent with the school safety plan. Additional guidance about parent-teacher conferences can be found on the [DOE website](#).

Device Update

The DOE has ordered another 100,000 iPads to support students. Delivery of those devices will

commence to schools as soon as the week of November 9th.

Learning Bridges Enrollment Update

Learning Bridges is a program, new for the 2020–21 school year, that provides free childcare options for families of children from 3-K through grade 8, on days when students are scheduled for remote learning. The first phase of enrollment prioritized access for high-needs students, including students living in shelters; student-group sizes were kept small out of an abundance of caution for health and safety.

In the coming days, the DOE will broaden access to Learning Bridges programs, so that more families can attend programs, by drawing students from multiple schools to a single Learning Bridges site. In broadening access to Learning Bridges, students will no longer need to attend a matched school to enroll in a program. This additional flexibility will ensure that Learning Bridges seats are available to more schools and as many families as possible. Interested families should complete the Learning Bridges application:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/learning-bridges>, which takes less than five minutes; applications are accepted on a rolling basis and if a school is not listed (non-matched), families should leave those fields blank. Offers are made on a weekly basis and new seats and sites will continue to be added throughout the fall.

This decision to open Learning Bridges to additional schools was made in conjunction with the city's health experts; all Learning Bridges programs will continue to follow rigorous COVID-19 prevention strategies. If your school was previously matched to a Learning Bridges site, families that received offers will continue to have a seat in the program. Please continue to share the information about Learning Bridges with your families.

High School Admissions Information Admission Timeline

The High School application process is not yet opened and no longer closes on December 4th. Families will have additional time to apply.

Registration for the Specialized High School Admissions Test & LaGuardia Auditions is not opened yet and no

longer closed on October 21st. Families will have additional time to register. Dates and locations for both Admissions and Auditions will take place remotely. And the audition dates that HS previously shared will change also. The HS Admission Team will be in touch with HS that have audition programs with next steps.

Virtual Admissions Events

Due to the ongoing public health crisis, in-person HS fairs are not safe for students, families or school staff. Updates for the dates will be forthcoming within the next couple of weeks. Open houses, information sessions and school tours – they strongly recommend that HS only have virtual opportunities for prospective applicants.

Health & Safety

Monthly Random COVID-19 Testing Program - Testing Company Contracts Update

Keeping school buildings open depends upon awareness and immediate action on any COVID-19 concerns in our buildings. To do this, we need students and staff in our buildings to get tested! For more information about the DOE's Random COVID-19 Testing Program, please see the presentation from last week's parent leader briefing on random testing in schools and links below.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_4FI3QahE74fvS_ML_dzZt_Wp5fMHwz/view

If you were unable to make the event, you can watch the recording using link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IWqJUB7WWQa7UT8XJTxHsjfG3klrmZDh/view>

We received a number of questions from parent leaders and advocates about testing and student privacy, and we are pleased to announce that the Doe website has been updated to provide information about agreements with BioReference Laboratories Inc., Fulgent Genetics Inc. and Somos Healthcare Inc.

DOE Website:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/policies/data-privacy-and-security-policies/supplemental-information-for-parents-about-doe-agreements-with-outside-entities>

BioReference Laboratories Inc.

<https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/bioreference-laboratories-inc--agreement.pdf>

Fulgent Genetics Inc.

<https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/fulgent-genetics-agreement.pdf>

Somos Healthcare, Inc.

<https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/somos-agreement.pdf>

We will share answers from the questions raised in the event's chat and Q/A session next week. Here are additional resources:

See the Frequently Asked Questions about the testing program.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/health-and-safety/covid-19-testing>

If you have a NYC Schools Account (NYCSA), you can complete the consent form electronically through the web application. If you revoke consent for testing through NYCSA, please notify your child's school as well. Don't have a New York City Schools Account? Get one today!

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/student-journey/nyc-schools-account>

Read the letter from [Chancellor Carranza about the testing](#) (translations also available).

Paper consent forms are available [here](#).

Video: [How to Use NYCSA to Submit Consent Form](#)

Daily Health Screenings - As always, the health and safety of our students, families, and school staff remain our top priority. All DOE employees, students, families and visitors seeking to enter DOE buildings must complete a health screening before entering DOE facilities. This health screening must be completed on each day of arrival and results will reset at midnight of each day. Upon entering the facility you will be asked to provide the results of your screening either by showing

your phone or a printout of the result. Everyone is encouraged to use the Online Health Screening Tool.

DOE Employee, Students:	Students, Families & Visitors (with no sign in)
https://healthscreening.schools.nyc/	https://healthscreening.schools.nyc/?type=G

Trauma-Informed Care Resources for Families NYC Well:

Free, confidential mental-health services are available 24/7 in over 200 languages. Support is available by calling 888-NYC-WELL (888-692-9355), texting "WELL" to 65173, or via online chat at nyc.gov/nycwell.

Help Now NYC: Employment resources, food assistance, health and medical assistance, emotional support and spiritual care are available through Help Now NYC. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/index.page>

November is Family Empowerment Month

Even during these challenging times, we honor the crucial role parents and families play in their children's education, knowing that when schools work together with families to support learning, children are more motivated to succeed, not just in school but also throughout life.

Family Empowerment Month is both an awareness campaign as well as a collection of family-facing trainings, resources, and supports designed so that families and school staff can better partner to support their children.

We know that you are working tirelessly to support families in your school and community and want to celebrate and strengthen those partnerships with you.

Parents as Heroes Workshops

NYC parents, we have your back and want to celebrate you! Join us for this interactive workshop to get simple ideas and free resources to support learning and life skills at home. We will also help you get ready for parent-teacher conferences, as collaborating with teachers has never been more important.

November 10th @ 6pm

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t1zCWNq6R8iYAKVQ1E2GZA

November 16th @ 6pm

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mqrqGkFxTl2Uqx420PPaOA

Spanish:

Taller De Padres : Padres como Héroes de Aprendizaje: Consejos y recursos para un año escolar diferente Fecha: 11/4/2020 6:00pm- 7:00pm (Spanish Workshop (Parent/Caregiver))

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UFT Citywide Parent and Family Virtual Conference

UFT's Virtual Parent and Family Conference will be held online and the theme is Reimagining Parent Voice in the Age of COVID-19.

- **Date:** Saturday, Nov. 7
- **Time:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You can register for the entire day or just one of the two workshop sessions. There are more than 30 workshops to choose from, including meditation

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t1zCWNq6R8iYAKVQ1E2GZA and relaxation, mental health for children, Gifted and Talented program admissions and special education advocacy. To register and learn more, visit: <https://www.uft.org/get-involved/events/virtual-citywide-parent-and-family-vconference>

During the Parent and Family Conference, UFT will be hosting a teen summit for students between the ages of 13 and 18. There will be workshops on topics of interest to teens, such as healthy relationships and standing up to cyberbullying, plus live music and other activities. Your teen can register using the same online form as the parent conference. For young children, UFT is offering "virtual child care" through the screening

programming from the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Haitian Creole Conference Line: 347-966-4114 and enter ID: 262 168 294#



Virtual Field Trips

Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum Virtual Field Trip (All grades)

November 8th @ 11am

<https://www.intrepidmuseum.org/education/access-family-programs>

NY Transit Museum Virtual Field Trip (All grades)

November 11th @ 11am

<https://www.nytransitmuseum.org/program/fp-journey-to-the-past-11-11-20/>

School Re-opening 2020-2021 Family Guide

The School Re-opening 2020-2021 Family Guide provides some information on what the teaching and learning will look like this school year. You will find

universal expectations for how our schools will support every single student every single school day-whether they are participating in fully remote or blended learning. <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/family-guide>

Child Care in NYC – Find a licensed child care program in your neighborhood visit:

<https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/ChildCare/ChildCareList.do#>

Additional Devices Update

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school was previously matched to a Learning Bridges site, families that received offers will continue to have a seat in the program. Please continue to share the information about Learning Bridges with your families.

For questions, email LearningBridges@schools.nyc.gov.

IDNYC

IDNYC has opened 3 sites that are open to the public at Department of Finance locations in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island. These locations are open Mondays through Fridays; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Appointments are required.

Bronx Business Center

3030 Third Avenue, 2nd floor
Bronx, NY 10455

Brooklyn Business Center

210 Joralemon Street, 1st floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Staten Island Business Center

350 Saint Marks Place
Staten Island, NY 10301

There will be rotating pop-up sites throughout the City which will be shared as they are confirmed. Currently we have confirmed the following pop-up location at:

Veterans of Foreign War

31-35 41st Street, Astoria, NY

October 19th - December 18, 2020,

Mondays through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The mobile site will also be available throughout the City, currently confirmed at:

Brooklyn Public Library – Central Library

10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn

October 13-23, 2020 from 10 am – 4 pm Monday - Friday

IDNYC has opened sites for HRA clients only at three HRA centers, open Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm:

- 243 Schermerhorn Street, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, NY
- 12 West 14th Street, 2nd Floor, New York, NY
- 555 East Tremont Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bronx, NY

Meal Service

Beginning on Tuesday, September 29, students learning in-person will receive both breakfast and lunch in school. For students who are learning remotely full-time or students who are at home during their remote days in blended learning, families can pick up free grab-and-go meals from whatever school is most convenient to them from 9am to Noon, Monday through Friday. No signup or registration is necessary, and meals will be set up near entry points for easy access and pickup by students and families.

District 14 Brooklyn Adult Grab and Go locations 3pm – 5pm only

Elementary Schools

P. S. 016 Leonard Dunkley*	157 Wilson Street Brooklyn, NY 11211
P. S. 120 Carlos Tapia	18 Beaver Street Brooklyn, NY 11206
P. S. 250 George H. Lindsay	108 Montrose Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11206

* - Kosher meals available

Middle Schools

J.H.S. 050 John D. Wells	183 South 3 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211
Juan Morel Campos Secondary School	215 Heyward Street Brooklyn, NY 11206
I.S. 318 Eugenio Maria De Hostos	101 Walton Street Brooklyn, NY 11206

High Schools

Williamsburg Preparatory School	257 North 6 Street Brooklyn, NY 11211
The High School for Enterprise, Business and Technology	850 Grand Street Brooklyn, NY 11211

Technology Support

If you have issues with technology for learning at home, visit DOE support pages: (ex. DOE Accounts, NYCSA,

iPads, Zoom etc.).

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support>

If you still have issues, fill out the Technical Support for Families form:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/techsupport> and we will get in touch.

DHS Mobile Connectivity for Students

Beginning on October 19, families with children in DHS shelters now have a dedicated Department of Education (DOE) IT helpline to troubleshoot connectivity issues and other DOE iPad related challenges. Families living in shelter have been notified of this new service which is available Monday – Friday at 718-935-5100, option 5. The DOE with Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DOITT) support is testing DOE iPads at DHS family shelter locations that have been identified as having reported connectivity issues. If needed, these iPads will be switched to a different cellular provider. DHS is conducting a survey of families to better understand connectivity issues and DOE iPad testing will move through DHS family shelters on a priority basis.

Gentle Reminders

Free and Low-Cost Internet Options

There are several free or low-cost internet options available to New York City students and families:

Comcast – Offering free public Wi-Fi for 60 Days to families who do not have a subscription already.

Call: 1-855-846-8376 for English Enrollment

Call: 1-855-765-6995 for Spanish Enrollment

<https://corporate.comcast.com/press/releases/internet-essentials-low-income-broadband-coronavirus-pandemic>

Charter Communications/Spectrum - Charter will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription and at any service level up to 100 Mbps.

Call: 1-844-488-8395

<https://corporate.charter.com/newsroom/charter-to-offer-free-access-to-spectrum-broadband-and-wifi-for-60-days-for-new-K12-and-college-student-households-and-more>

Charter offers **Spectrum Internet Assists**, a plan that starts at \$14.99/month. To qualify, one or more members

of your household must be a recipient of one of the following assistance programs:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Supplemental Security Income (for applicants age 65+ only)
<https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist>

Altice USA - Altice offers Altice Advantage, a plan that starts at \$14.99/month. For households with K-12 and/or college students who may be displaced due to school closures and who do not currently have home internet access, we are offering our Altice Advantage 30 Mbps broadband solution for free for 60 days to any new customer household within our footprint.

To qualify, you must be:

- ✓ eligible for--or participate in--the National School Lunch Program (NSLP); or
- ✓ a New York City resident who attends a New York City public school; or
- ✓ eligible for--or receive--Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and 65 years of age or older; or
- ✓ a veteran and receive state or federal public assistance.

Call: 866 – 200 – 9522 to enroll in Optimum Region

Call: 888 – 633 – 0030 to enroll in Suddenlink Region

<https://www.alticeadvantageinternet.com/>

Verizon - Verizon offers the Lifeline Program, a plan that starts at \$19.99/month. To qualify:

- ✓ Your annual income is at 135% or less than of the U.S. federal poverty guidelines
- ✓ You, or someone in your household, participates in a qualifying federal assistance program:
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as food stamps), or
 - Medicaid, or
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
 - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
 - Tribal Programs (and live on federally-recognized Tribal lands)

For more eligibility information, visit <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/do-i-qualify/#programs>

Free Internet Sites in NYC

There are many places across the city where you can connect to internet for free. Locations include:

- ✓ All branches of the New York Public Library – <https://www.nycgo.com/attractions/new-york-public-library/>
- ✓ Several public spaces in Lower Manhattan - <https://www.downtownny.com/wifi>
- ✓ LinkNYC kiosks - <https://www.link.nyc/>