



Isaac E. Young Middle School

Growing Minds of All Kinds

August 26, 2020

Dear IEYMS School Community,

Welcome to the start of a new school year! Let me begin by thanking you for your support and understanding as we all grapple with the events of these uncertain times. We take the obligation of educating and caring for your children very seriously and are grateful for your partnership. I am proud of the way that our IEYMS students and staff faced the demands and challenges that were placed before them last school year. The success that we achieved and the strides that we will continue to make are not possible without you, our dedicated IEYMS parents. Although not the way we traditionally open school in September, we are excited to meet our new and returning scholars and to launch the year. I extend a special greeting to families who are new to New Rochelle and IEYMS.

Given the continually evolving situation, we understand there will be concerns and questions related to what school will look like. While achieving excellence in education remains our top priority, we must do so in ways that protect our students, our staff, and the greater community to the best extent possible. I ask in advance that you remain supportive and understanding as we work through the various phases of planning for school. Although we are opening in a virtual model, we will transition to a hybrid model when directed by the district. [This letter provides details related to a virtual school opening only. Specific details about the hybrid model will be addressed in a separate communication.](#)

In our virtual classrooms, we will continue to encourage students to be courageous leaders, to ask questions, to build positive peer relationships, to challenge themselves, to advocate for themselves and others, to resolve conflict in healthy and appropriate ways, to believe in themselves, and to take advantage of all that life has to offer. We will continue to have high standards and expectations for every student regarding academic performance, ownership of behavior, civic responsibility, and positive, respectful interactions with others.

These values remain of the utmost importance. We proudly ask each of our students to commit to and hold themselves accountable to these expectations even in the virtual classroom.

I look forward to working with you as we collaborate in the best interest of your child.

In partnership,

Tawanda Robinson, Ed. D.

Principal

Virtual School Schedule: The first day of school for students will be September 9, 2020. The schedules below are for Virtual School only. The Hybrid School schedule will change to allow for staggered arrival and dismissal.

6th grade core subjects are scheduled in longer blocks of time. Daily enrichment and SEL instruction are built into the day. It is indicated on the schedule as SOAR.

Grade 6 Daily Schedule	Start	End
Period 1 B1	8:20	9:14
Period 2	9:17	10:05
Period 3	10:08	10:56
Period 4 B2	11:00	12:10
Period 5	12:13	1:01
Period 6 B1 Enrichment-SEL	1:04	1:47
Period 7 B3	1:50	2:25
Period 8 B3	2:25	3:00

Grades 7 and 8 Daily Schedule	Start	End
Period 1	8:30	9:18
Period 2	9:21	10:09
Period 3	10:12	11:00
Period 4	11:03	11:51
Period 5	11:54	12:42
Period 6	12:45	1:33
Period 7	1:36	2:24
Period 8	2:27	3:15

*Parents should expect their children to receive virtual instruction as indicated on the child's schedule. During the year, not every class meets every day. Classes that are scheduled to meet every day will meet every day virtually. Classes that meet every other day or every four days, will meet as such. To learn how often a class meets, look at the schedule. We operate on a four-day cycle. On the schedule, look for days. If you see 1,2,3,4 that indicates the class meets every day. If you see 1,3 **OR** 2,4 that indicates the class meets every other day. If you only see one number listed under days, that means the class meets once every 4 days. We will provide a monthly calendar of days to assist you in keeping track of what day we are on. September 14 will be a DAY 1.*

Teaching and Learning

Effective instruction is a cornerstone of student learning. Every effort will be made to ensure that all students receive a high-quality, culturally responsive, and appropriate education regardless of the entry plan.

- Teachers and support staff are committed to meeting the learning needs of all students whether in person or in a virtual model.
- Instruction will take place daily by period as indicated on the student's schedule.
- Teachers will use a variety of instructional strategies such as small group instruction, whole group instruction, independent practice, Accountable Talk, and conferring to facilitate learning.
- Teachers will be in the virtual classroom during the time scheduled for the class.
- Students are expected to be active learners and responsible students who complete all work assigned whether in a virtual or hybrid model of school.
- Work will be graded, and students will receive appropriate feedback.
- Students will be assessed at frequent intervals. Assessments may include tests, quizzes, projects, portfolios, writing assessments, presentations, labs, learning response logs, questioning, observations, live and recorded presentations, and meaningful homework.
- Children with specific learning needs and students requiring specially designed instruction will receive all modifications, services, and accommodations as per their Individualized Educational Plan.
- All academic programs will take place virtually.

Student Support Services

School Counselors, social workers, and psychologists will support the academic, behavioral, and social emotional development of all students. Students who receive mandated counseling and those who may require additional layers of support will receive those services virtually. In a few select cases, a student may be invited to the school when those services cannot be reasonably provided virtually. School counselors will deliver comprehensive guidance services through various online formats. School counselors will schedule virtual individual and group meetings with students to develop and monitor individual Academic Success Plans. School counselors, social workers, and psychologists will be available from 8:20-3:30 to support students and families. Information regarding how to access support services will be shared in a separate communication.

Expectations for Behavior

Students are expected to contribute to building and maintaining an inclusive virtual classroom culture. We expect that students are respectful, responsible, and ready to learn every day. We expect that students adhere to the norms and protocols established by the teacher in the virtual classroom. It is important that students do not share the class codes with others. Only those students who are assigned to the course should be in the Google classroom. The New Rochelle Code of Conduct is applicable while in any school model.

8th Grade Students Enrolled in High School Courses

Algebra 1, Geometry, Living Environment, Studio Art, Latin 1B, Latin 2, Spanish 1B, Spanish 2, Heritage 1B, Heritage 2, Mandarin 1B, Mandarin 2, French 1B, and Italian 1B, are high school credit bearing courses and are taught as such. The level of challenge and the work demands are greater than middle school courses. The grades received in these courses remain on the student's high school transcript and count towards the student's high school GPA. It is of the utmost importance that students in these courses attend class daily and meet the requirements of the course. Students who struggle to meet the demands of a high school course will be removed and placed into the appropriate eighth grade middle school program.

Grading and Report Cards

Students enrolled in middle school courses will receive letter grades A, B, C, D, F. 8th grade students enrolled in high school courses will receive numerical grades. Progress reports and report cards will be available shortly after 5-week and 10-week intervals.

Technology and Chromebooks



Each student will receive a Chromebook and charger to use at home. Chromebooks will be distributed during student orientation. If your child received a Chromebook during last school year, they should use the one they have. If the Chromebook they currently have is not working, they should bring it with them on the day of orientation. Technology support will be available for students.

Accessing Google Classroom

Each student will receive the classroom codes and an invitation to join their classes. Videos, emails, and other resources will be available to show students how to log into the Google classroom. Students will receive further information during orientation.

Attendance

Children must attend virtual class every day. We understand during this time, attendance may be compromised for some students due to illness and family emergencies. We ask that you contact the Attendance Office at 914-576-4362 as soon as you become aware of your child's absence from virtual school. If



your child will miss a class or part of the day (early dismissal) due to a medical appointment or excusable reason, we ask that you contact the school. You may also email us at ieymsattendance@nredlearn.org. Please upload any documentation that you may have regarding your child's absence from school. We recommend that you also notify the teacher.

Communicating with Teachers and Staff

It is important that you communicate with your child's teachers, school counselor, and grade level administrator. The name of your child's school counselor can be found at the top of your child's schedule. Teachers can be reached via email and telephone. Please keep in mind that teachers will be teaching during specific hours and will respond to you within 24 hours. Teacher email address: first initial, last name@nredlearn.org. You can also contact the grade level assistant principals. Each child is assigned an Academic Support Team (School Counselor, Teachers, Administrator). The team is led by the school counselor. Please contact the school counselor if you are concerned about your child's academic, behavioral, or social emotional growth and development.

Mr. Francaviglia can be reached at 576-4834: He is responsible for all of grade 6 and grade 8 last name N-Z

Mr. Trujillo can be reached at 576-4379: He is responsible for all of grade 7 and grade 8 last name A-M

Home Access

It is strongly encouraged that all parents sign up for Home Access. Home Access allows you to view your child's report card and progress report grades, daily attendance, class schedule, and other important information. A parent or guardian can create a Home Access account if their information is on file with the district. It is recommended that all parents and guardians have an active email on file so that you can receive important messages and communications from the school and the district. Google offers free email accounts. Please contact the school at 914-576-4362 to update your records. Someone will be available to assist you via telephone August 31-September 3 between the hours of 9:00-12:00. Beginning September 8, you may contact the school from 8:30-3:30.

Student Email Accounts

Every student has an nredlearn.org school email address. Students will use their school email as one way to submit assignments, access materials, and communicate with the teacher. The email is the student's last name, the first two initials of the first name, the high school graduation year@nredlearn.org.

Graduating year: 6th graders: 2027 7th graders: 2026 8th graders: 2025

For example: John Smith in grade 7, student email would be: Smithjo2026@nredlearn.org

School Supplies

Students will need school supplies as indicated on the school supply list.

School Visitors

Until further notice, visitor access is strictly limited. Parent conferences and other meetings will be held via Zoom, Google Meets, or telephone. If these platforms are unavailable to you, school staff will work with you to determine alternative options.



School Supplies

Grade 6 Color Coded School Supply List

<u>Social Studies</u> (Red)	<u>Science</u> (Green)	<u>Literacy</u> (Purple)	<u>Math</u> (Blue)	<u>General Supplies</u>
-1 marble notebook -2 red plastic pocket folders	-1 marble notebook -1 green plastic pocket folder with prongs.	-2 marble notebooks -2 purple plastic pocket folders	-1 marble graphing notebook -2 blue plastic pocket folders -Calculator: TI-30XIIS	Pencils, blue and black pens, pencil case Colored post it notes Crayons/markers Glue Highlighters Earbuds 3 section spiral notebook

Grades 7 and 8 School Supplies

<p style="text-align: center;">ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 PURPLE plastic two-pocket folder • 2 marble composition notebooks (100 pages) • 1 package of multi-colored Post-It notes 	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 RED plastic folder two-pocket folder • 3 highlighters (different colors) • 1 package section dividers for 3-ring binder
<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 GREEN plastic two-pocket folder • 1 marble composition notebook (100 pages) • 3 packages of loose-leaf paper for binder • 1 package 24-colored pencils 	<p style="text-align: center;">Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 BLUE plastic two-pocket folder • 1 marble composition notebook (100 pages) • 1 Texas Instruments Ti-30X IIS calculator Math 8 • Algebra/Geometry ONLY - Ti-84 plus CE graphing calculator
<p>General Classroom Supplies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 two-inch 3-ring binder (multiple class use) • 3 plastic 2-pocket folders (orange/yellow/black) ~ (for Foreign Lang/Reading & elective classes) • 1 package of graph paper (or a graph paper notebook) • 1 ruler • 2 packages of #2 pencils and 2 packages of blue or black pens (no other colors allowed for assignments) • 1 package of construction paper ~ to be kept at home 	