

November 9, 2020

Dear Families,

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy.

Last month, the State designated your school as located in a “red zone,” requiring the closure of your school building and a transition to fully remote teaching and learning.

On Friday, November 6, the State of New York made some important announcements regarding its designation of geographic zones reflecting elevated levels of COVID-19 transmission. I am writing today to explain how this affects your school and important next steps.

Here is today’s update:

- Your school’s geographic area is now identified as an “orange zone.” While moving to an orange zone lifts restrictions on some businesses and organizations, school buildings in these zones remain closed until further notice.
- Fully remote teaching and learning will continue for all students.

You can find a map of the orange zone, and other specially designated zones at nyc.gov/covidzones.

I know that for many of you, it is disappointing that your building will remain closed. We know nothing can replace in-person learning. But we continue to support your child’s teachers and all school staff to ensure they have a strong, engaging learning experience focused on academic excellence, community-building, and social-emotional support. We remain committed to academic success for your child—no matter where they are learning.

Once again, the Mayor and I consider your family’s health and safety, and that of everyone in your school community, to be our top priority, and we have pledged to keep it at the forefront of everything we do. I know that by continuing to work together, we can effectively fight back against COVID-19.

It’s up to all of us, no matter where we are, to remain vigilant in taking the steps we know are so important in preventing the spread of this virus. Remember the “Core Four”: wash your hands, wear a face covering, keep six feet of distance from others, and stay home if you’re feeling sick. These are critically important steps that all of us can take every day.

We will continue to unequivocally support you, and everyone in the DOE family, as this public health crisis continues to evolve. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child’s school with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Carranza
Chancellor, New York City Department of Education