



Public School 3

We fly We soar We achieve

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Friday, October 2, 2020

Good Afternoon,

I am happy to report that we have a very successful first week of in person instruction. It was great to see many of our students in person and work with them for their first days. As we plan for the weeks to come, I would like to provide some updates and to clarify some challenges.

Blended Remote Learning

As the school year progresses and we receive any additional resources from the DOE, we will look to strengthen our blended remote program (the at home days for in person students).

Beginning on Monday, October 5th, all blended remote students will receive Social Studies live instruction for one period per day. This will provide students who are blended remote students 5 periods of live instruction in Social Studies over a 10 day window. Students will continue with the same schedule for Music and Science. Over a 10 day period, students will receive 3 periods of live science instruction and 2 periods of music instruction.

Here is the blended/remote schedule:

At home: Cohort A/B Cohort B Cohort A Cohort B Cohort A

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Kindergarten	Science 8:45	Music 8:45	Music 8:45	Science 8:45	Science 8:45
	SS - 12:25	SS - 12:25	SS - 12:25	SS - 12:25	SS - 12:25
First	Science 9:17	Music 9:17	Music 9:17	Science 9:17	Science 9:17
	SS - 1:12	SS - 1:12	SS - 1:12	SS - 1:12	SS - 1:12
Second	Science 10:04	Music 10:04	Music 10:04	Science 10:04	Science 10:04
	SS -1:12	SS -1:12	SS -1:12	SS -1:12	SS -1:12
Third	Science 11:38	Science 11:38	Science 11:38	Music 11:38	Music 11:38
	SS - 10:04	SS - 10:04	SS - 10:04	SS - 10:04	SS - 10:04
Fourth	Science 12:25	Science 12:25	Science 12:25	Music 12:25	Music 12:25
	SS-9:17	SS-9:17	SS-9:17	SS-9:17	SS-9:17
Fifth	Science 1:12	Science 1:12	Science 1:12	Music 1:12	Music 1:12
	SS -10:51	SS -10:51	SS -10:51	SS -10:51	SS -10:51

Bussing

Please note that the points of contact for all general education bussing inquiries are Dawn Peterman and Sandy Mitchell. They are working with our morning and afternoon bus drivers to determine more specific pick up and drop off times. We should have better knowledge of the times for bussing next week. Michelle Catalano is the point person for door to door bussing.

Grading Policies

There are two unique grading policies for this school year.

Here is the grading policies for blended instruction:

Kindergarten		
ELA Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Math Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Social Studies & Science Pass/Fail
Grade 1		
ELA Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Math Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Social Studies & Science Pass/Fail
Grade 2		
ELA Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Math Assessments 50% Quizzes 25% Classwork 15% At "Home" work 10%	Social Studies & Science Pass/Fail
Grade 3		
ELA Assessments 50% Quizzes/Proj/Labs 20% Classwork 20% Homework 10%	Math Assessments 50% Quizzes/Proj/Labs 20% Classwork 20% Homework 10%	Social Studies & Science Pass/Fail
Grades 4- ELA & Math		Grade 5- ELA & Math
Assessments 50% Quizzes / Projects / Labs 20% Classwork 20% Homework 10% SS/Sci -P/F		Assessments 50% Quizzes / Projects / Labs 20% Classwork 20% Homework 10% SS/Sci- P/F
Cluster Classes (PE, Music)		
Grades will be Pass or Fail with individual comments		

Here is the **grading policy** for students that are **fully remote**:

Grade	ELA	Math	Social Studies and Science
Kindergarten	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 15% Homework 15%	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 15% Homework 15%	Pass/Fail
First	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 15% Homework 15%	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 15% Homework 15%	Pass/Fail
Second	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 20% Homework 10%	Classwork 40% Assessments 30% Quizzes 20% Homework 10%	Pass/Fail
Third	Classwork 50% Assessments 25% Homework 25%	Classwork 50% Assessments 25% Homework 25%	Pass/Fail
Fourth	Classwork 40% Assessments 25% Participation/Live Attendance 25% Homework 10%	Classwork 40% Assessments 25% Participation/Live Attendance 25% Homework 10%	Pass/Fail
Fifth	Classwork 40% Assessments 25% Participation/Live Attendance 25% Homework 10%	Classwork 40% Assessments 25% Participation/Live Attendance 25% Homework 10%	Pass/Fail

Computer Devices

80 new IPADs have been ordered to support all students who have requested a device for remote learning. The delivery of those devices will take approximately least 3-4 weeks. Once additional funds become available, we will be making more technology purchases.

I-Ready

We are working toward launching I-Ready very soon. Students will still need to log into Clever to access I-Ready. I-Ready is an online platform that provides video instruction for both Math and English Language Arts. It is computer adaptive and will adjust lessons that students are engaged based on an individual student's needs.

As part of the I-Ready package, students will need to complete a diagnostic assessment online. This applies to both Math and ELA. A potential issue may arise due to a lack of devices to perform the assessments. The diagnostics are to be completed within the following testing windows:

- Kindergarten are three 20 minute sessions.
- First grade are two 20 to 30 minute sessions.
- Second thru Fifth are two 40 to 50 minute sessions.

Outdoor Learning

We have ordered 300 PS 3 vinyl stadium seats to be used outside by students. We expect the delivery of those seats from October 13-16th. All outdoor learning areas at PS 3 are contained within the perimeter of the sidewalk surrounding the school. We have established clear safety protocols for when staff are outside, including the requirement that staff have a radio for emergencies. Please continue to send in permission slips so students are able to enjoy learning outside. Also, as the weather becomes cooler, please have your student bring an appropriate jacket/sweater for when they are outside.

Attendance

The DOE has adjusted their attendance requirements for students who are in the Blended Remote category. Therefore, the DOE is now allowing students to be marked present for the remote portion of the blended schedule if they “engaged in asynchronous instruction during the scheduled school day” as defined by the DOE’s Instructional Guidelines. If you believe that your child was marked absent incorrectly on a blended remote day this week, please reach out to the classroom teacher.

COVID Testing

Students and staff members will begin randomized testing in all school buildings during the month of October. This is only for students in grades 1-12, students in PK and K will not participate. The tests are different from the nose swabs utilized at citywide testing centers. They are smaller swabs (similar to Q-Tips), where only the anterior section of the nose is swabbed. The test is not as invasive as other swab tests. A PS 3 staff member (either a paraprofessional or school aide) will be escorting students and staying with students while they are tested. Please continue to send in those permission slips that were sent home in a separate email.

Etiquette for Online Learning

Please remind our students of some items of etiquette for when they are online.

1. Please do not record without the permission of all participants.
2. Please have your video on so that the teacher can ensure your engagement.
3. Please mute yourself unless you are engaged in a discussion or questioning.
4. Please dress as if you are attending school in person.
5. Please find a quiet spot where you can focus on what the teacher is doing.

Monday

On Monday, October 5th, Cohort A will be in person at PS 3. We have added to the www.ps3blueherons.org/calendar page the dates for Cohorts for the next few months.

This hybrid model of education is new to all of us and we will all learn day by day and work to continue to improve as we learn. Please be patient and continue our lines of communication so that we can create the best experience for all of our students.

Thank you,
Elmer Myers