



Fall Opening

2020-2021



A Reimagining TPS 2020 Committee has been established with the deliberate goal of ensuring that TPS is well prepared to serve our faculty, students, and families for the anticipated opening in the fall of 2020. This team of administrators, faculty, medical professionals, and Board of Trustee members is developing plans and protocols for in-person learning in the fall while enhancing our distance learning program and curriculum should we need to pivot quickly.



We will continue to be informed by guidance from NYS, the CDC, and the Department of Health. Additionally, we are leveraging best practices from NAIS, NYSAIS, and peer schools, as we create an educational program and experience focused on safety while continuing to be robust, engaging, and joyful for our students.



All of us at TPS remain committed to our rigorous academics, strong character education, and the special relationships formed here. Safely and responsibly, we will continue to provide a meaningful TPS experience for students, faculty, and families.

Our intentionally small size will allow us to implement an in-person program that meets health and safety protocols while delivering our mission to know and *celebrate each child*.

What to Expect:

- Pre-K–1st grade families should expect to visit classrooms beginning the week of August 24 to become more familiar with health protocols (handwashing, social distancing, navigating the classroom/building). Details will be sent directly to Pre-K–1st grade families by their teachers in late July. Families should plan to visit the school for no more than 1-2 hours for 2-3 days.
- All students should expect to visit the school at least once during the week of August 31 for a 'dry run' before the first day. This will be organized by division, and teachers will share details in August.
- September 8 will be our first day back to school.



Facilities:

All aspects of the students' day are being reviewed and modified as needed: arrival, dismissal, class size, events, cubbies/lockers, moving through the building, specialty classes, recess, PE/athletics, etc. Common spaces will be clearly labeled, and classroom size managed to comply with social distancing guidelines. We are exploring options for cameras

in the classroom to accommodate students who cannot be present due to special circumstances, such as illness, need to quarantine, or an underlying medical condition.

Materials:

All students will have their own complete set of materials. In Pre-K—K, since play, interaction, and negotiation are essential components of early childhood development, we are establishing cleaning protocols to ensure students wash their hands regularly. All playing materials will be closely monitored and regularly sanitized.



Health/Cleaning Protocols:

While we are still awaiting guidelines, we will be prepared to take temperatures upon arrival, if deemed necessary. Social distancing guidelines will be maintained at all times. Protocols regarding face-coverings will be communicated once they are released. Students will wash their hands with soap and water frequently throughout the day, especially before entering and exiting a space. Hand sanitizer will be placed in every classroom and throughout the building. Cleaning routines are being modified to ensure continued disinfecting throughout the day. There will be limitations on visitors and protocols for parents entering the building.

Food Services:

We are working with FLIK to determine the best solution for food-service. The TPS family-style dining program is a hallmark of the school and encourages faculty-student interaction, manners, and healthy eating. We are assessing dining room capacity, food delivery processes, and the possibility of pre-packed lunches while maintaining the healthy and balanced food choices that our students know and love.



Distance Learning Preparations:

We are enhancing our distance learning program should we need to pivot to virtual instruction. Students' schedules will reflect their in-school schedules, including all daily classes, with a balance of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Primary school students will benefit from more specialty classes and small group/individualized instruction. All faculty will look to incorporate innovative and engaging assignments and tools into their programs.



Faculty Professional Development:

This summer, in addition to subject-related training, teachers are receiving professional development focused explicitly on distance learning tools and curriculum design. All faculty will look to incorporate innovative and engaging assignments and tools into their fall programs.



Have a Great Summer!

We look forward to welcoming our students and families back in
Fall 2020!

