

Dear Brays Oaks Families:

We hope everyone is staying safe! As we near the beginning of the school year, we want to provide you with regular updates regarding the re-opening of school. Please note that we will continually update <http://tinyurl.com/brayscovid19> with information as it comes up – check this site as well as our campus Instagram account (@yesprepb raysoaks) regularly for the most up to date information.

Parent Town Halls

We have so many updates to share around the start of the school year, and we would like to hold parent town hall meetings via Microsoft Teams to share plans and answer questions. Please save the date for the following meetings:

- Wednesday, August 5th at 5:30pm – Parent Meeting in Spanish
- Thursday, August 6th at 5:30pm – Parent Meeting in English

We will email out the link to join the event by Monday, August 3rd. You will be able to attend the event from a computer, tablet, or your phone.

First Day of Instruction and Revised Academic Calendar

As Mr. DiBella shared in his most recent family email:

- The first day of school for YES Prep has been moved to **Monday, August 24th** to better line up with the HISD calendar and give us more time to prepare for re-opening.
- **All instruction will be fully virtual until at least Friday, September 18th and the soonest we would allow for the option for in-person instruction is Monday, September 21st.** This date may change based on the state of COVID in the Houston community.
- Families will continue to have the choice of opting into virtual instruction or in-person instruction even after we re-open in person. We will offer a virtual option for the entire school year. After the first nine weeks of school, we will send out a survey for you to change your learning option based on your family preferences for the second grading period.
- Our academic calendar for the 20-21 school year is available [here](#).
- We have a document of Frequently Asked Questions from YES Prep available [here](#).

What Online Learning Will Look Like

We have had more time to prepare, and online learning will look significantly different than it did during the spring. [You can preview more information on our re-opening guide](#) and here are some notes:

- Students will engage in classes from 8:30am – 3:45pm daily. The schedule is below:

8:30am - 10:10am	1 st Block
10:15am - 11:45am	2 nd Block
11:45pm – 12:40pm	Lunch/Tutorials/Advisory
12:40pm - 2:10pm	3 rd Block
2:15pm - 3:45pm	4 th Block

- All classes will be offered in a “live” or synchronous manner, meaning that students will need to log-in for each class at a specific time daily. Each class will also have a component where students work independently on assignments.
- Teachers will hold tutorials during the second half of each block and during lunch.

What In-Person Instruction Will Look Like

Students will follow the exact same schedule in-person that they will follow virtually. We have begun to develop strong health and safety procedures for re-opening, and [you can access them here](#). Some key notes:

- Students will be required to wear masks at all times.
- We will take all students and staff temperature daily before exiting their bus/car. Any student or staff demonstrating symptoms of COVID will be asked to leave right away, and we ask that parents are prepared to take students home.
- Students will remain in the same cohort and classroom all day, including for lunch and breakfast. Teachers will move, not students.
- Students will have access to 1-1 technology.
- Students will be required to sanitize their hands following regular intervals during the day.
- We will adhere to social distancing procedures when possible, and this is dependent on the number of students who return to campus.

Re-Enrollment and Learning Option Survey

We know that there have been many challenges with Skyward and we really appreciate your flexibility as we move to a new Student Information System!

- Our learning options survey closed on Friday, July 24th in Skyward. We will provide another learning option survey for families at the end of the first quarter to opt into in-person or virtual learning.
- If you need help with re-enrollment forms or Skyward, please email Ms. Lopez, Operations Coordinator, at kenia.lopez@yesprep.org and Mr. McMahan, Director of Campus Operations, at matthew.mcmahan@yesprep.org and they can support you!

Technology and Supply Distribution

During the week of August 17, we will have a designated day for you to pick up laptops, novels, and other school supplies for your students. We will share more information with you via email and social media!

Revised Uniform Policy

Based on feedback from students and parents, we have revised the uniform policy for the 20-21 school year. [The entire policy is available here](#). Please note the following:

- **Shirts:** Students can wear either a YES Prep t-shirt or a YES Prep polo every day. Shirts do not need to be tucked in.
- **Pants:** Students can wear jeans or khaki any day. Pants cannot have any holes.
- **Outer-layers:** Students can wear a YES Prep or college-branded outer-layer every day.

Uniforms will only be required for in-person learning. You can purchase uniforms at www.yesprepuniforms.com.

Office Hours

Our Front Office Team is available by phone from 9:00am – 12:00pm on Mondays – Fridays. You can reach them at (713) 967-8400. You can also schedule an appointment for in-person support with Ms. Lopez by emailing her at kenia.lopez@yesprep.org.

We are so looking forward to connecting with everyone and we are here if you have questions!

Stephanie Gounder

Principal, YES Prep Brays Oaks