

August 7, 2020

Dear YES Prep Families,

We hope this message finds you and your family safe and well. With the first day of school fast approaching we wanted to provide you with some more updates in preparation of the new school year. Thank you for taking the time to read this message in its entirety. Please know that YES Prep remains committed to supporting students and families and continues to be laser focused on safety and maximizing student learning as we plan ahead for the 2020-2021 school year.

We want to remind you that the **first day of school for the 2020-21 school year is Monday, Aug. 24.** ***This date applies to all campuses- partnership campuses included. All students will learn online for at least the first four weeks of school** with live and recorded class instruction, daily schedules, assignments and personalized support for every student.

Campuses are tentatively set to reopen on Monday, Sept. 21—as conditions permit. We will continuously assess conditions and work closely with state, local and health officials to determine if additional online-only learning is required.

Device Distribution

Device distribution kicks off at various campuses next week, starting Monday, August 10. YES Prep will offer devices and/or Wi-Fi to all students in grades K – 12 in need, whether they're learning virtually or in-person (when we reopen campuses). Please complete this [survey](#), if your student is in need of a device.

Distribution for High school students, who indicate they need a device on the survey will receive a YES Prep device from their home campus the week of August 10. Distribution for elementary and middle school families, who indicate they need a device on the survey will receive a YES Prep device from their home campus the week of August 17.

Due to the overwhelming demand for devices across the country, we will distribute devices as we continue to receive them throughout the first semester to achieve 1:1 for ALL students. Campus-specific distribution details are being announced by campuses via social media, campus websites, and calls. If you have any specific questions, please call your campus front office number Monday – Friday between the hours of 9 AM – 12 PM. Again, if your student is in need of a device to complete virtual learning, please complete this [survey](#).

Meals Service Survey

YES Prep is continuing its commitment to provide nutritious meals to all students this school year whether they are learning virtually or in person. YES Prep's Child Nutrition Department is asking for all parents to complete the [2020-2021 Virtual Learning Meals Service Survey](#) in order to best serve students and families during this new school year. The survey will end on Friday, September 4 and responses will help with planning and meal distribution efforts.

Beginning August 24, meals will continue to be available for pick up every Monday at all non-partnership YES Prep campuses starting 9 AM - 1 PM until further notice. Partnership families can access meal services at their district campus (Aldine or Spring Branch), or, families can choose to access the YES Prep Meal Service.



Uniforms

YES Prep will waive the uniform policy for students for the Fall Semester. YES Prep understands the COVID-19 pandemic has created or increased the economic challenges our families face. We hope that relaxing the uniform requirements will provide some relief for families as they prepare for this school year. Students will follow the “free dress” policy as outlined in the Individual Campus Supplement for their school. Within this guidance, students still have the option of wearing a YES Prep issued uniform. We will use first semester to gather input from our students and families to make a decision regarding uniforms for the Spring Semester and ensure family voice and values are included in the long-term decision.

Athletics for 2020-2021 School Year

As part of our ongoing commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff, and after much consideration and reviewing of all options for YES Prep athletics, YES Prep will postpone all in person athletic programming until at least November.

Sports are valuable experiences that bring so many possibilities and opportunities, but we believe the current focus should be with families and how to support them during this pandemic.

YES Prep will continue to monitor the guidance of health officials and re-evaluate the conditions at the end of October to determine the status of athletic programming and next steps. In addition, YES Prep will be offering virtual athletic programming that will include sport specific training and the introduction of the [E-sports program](#) during this time. If you have any questions, please reach out to your athletic director.

Re-enrollment

If you haven't already done so, all new and returning families should complete the re-enrollment process to ensure we have the most accurate information to best serve all our students and families. Completing re-enrollment also holds your student's spot at YES Prep for this upcoming 2020-2021 school year. More detailed instructions on how to complete re-enrollment can be found in our [Reopening Guide for Families](#) and at yesprep.org/reopening. (Please note this does NOT apply to our Spring Branch Partnership Schools: YES Prep Northbrook MS and YES Prep Northbrook HS.)

Reopening Plans and FAQs

To learn more about our plans and protocols for the 2020-2021 school year, including health and safety measures to help keep the virus out of our schools, see our [Frequently Asked Reopening Questions](#). More detailed information on our learning program options and re-enrollment instructions can be found in our [Reopening Guide for Families](#) and at yesprep.org/reopening. And see our latest updated YES Prep School Year 2020-2021 Academic Calendar [here](#).

We appreciate your patience as we navigate these unprecedented and fluctuating circumstances. We will continue to monitor guidelines and recommendations from state and local officials and we will continue to update our website, yesprep.org/covid19, with the latest developments and resources to community services.

We look forward to welcoming our students back online on August 24!

Thank you

**For students at partnership schools in Aldine and Spring Branch ISD, the first day of school will be August 24, 2020. However, we continue working with school district officials on plans for when in-person instruction will begin for our students.*