

August 21, 2020

Dear YES Prep Families,

It's hard to believe we are kicking off the new school year already! **The first day of school for students is Monday, Aug. 24. All students will be learning 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.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought significant changes to the school experience as we know it and this new reality requires a new vision of excellence. YES Prep is committed to reopening our schools in a way that prioritizes the health of students and staff; that is responsive to the rapidly evolving pandemic; and that ensures all students continue to learn. We are so excited and REIGNITED to start the 20-21 school year and we want to make sure you have everything you need to set your child up for success.

Back to School Family Resources

To meet that commitment, YES Prep has created a checklist to assist families as you prepare for the first day of school and virtual learning. Please take time this weekend and complete each item in this checklist below by the evening of Sunday, August 23 to ensure you have everything you need to be ready for next week. You can also access a printable version of the checklist [here](#).

First Day of School Family Checklist

Step 1: Enroll for the 2020-21 School Year

Have you completed the re-enrollment process for returning and new families?

- **YES.** Go to Step 2.
- **NO.** Click [here](#) to complete re-enrollment and view how-to videos.

Step 2: Access YES Prep Online Learning

- A. Do you have a device for your child(ren) to use for YES Prep Online Learning?
 - **YES.** If you are using a YES Prep issued device, go to question B.
 - **YES.** I am using a personal device. NOTE: You will need access to Microsoft Office to prepare your device for YES Prep Online Learning. Click [here](#) for instructions on how to download and install Office 365 Pro.
 - **NO.** Call your [school front office](#) during office hours. They will provide next steps.
- B. Do you have access to reliable internet?
 - **YES.** Go to question C.
 - **NO.** Please complete [this form](#) to request assistance with internet access.
- C. Have you connected your device to the internet?
 - **YES.** Go to question D.
 - **NO.** Connect your device to the available WiFi to use your apps.
- D. Have you accessed your Microsoft Teams account and are you ready to use it?
 - Elementary Families: YES. Go to Step 3. NO. Watch this [Tech Overview video](#) and review our [Tech Support webpage](#).
 - Secondary Families (6 - 12): YES. Go to question E. NO. Watch this [Tech Overview video](#) and review our [Tech Support webpage](#).
- E. Secondary Students: Do you know how to access your Skyward account and view your daily schedule?
 - **YES.** Go to Step 3.
 - **NO.** Watch: Watch "[Viewing Schedules in Skyward - Student Access](#)" video



Step 3: Prepare for the First Day of School

- Read communication from your school for first day of school updates.
- Set up a place where your student can focus. Have access to plug in their computer, access the WiFi and write. Set out supplies like headphones and school supplies.
- Charge your device the night before. Charge your hotspot if you have one.
- Ensure you know when and how to access your first Teams class.
- Have your username and password easily accessible.
- Log onto your computer and be ready 15 minutes in advance of your first class:

Elementary Students: Check for your [first live learning block on your week one schedule](#)

Secondary students: Log in by 8:15 AM.

YES Prep Eisenhower students: Log in by 6:55 AM

YES Prep Hoffman students: Log in by 7:40 AM

YES Prep Northbrook MS students: Log in by 8:15 AM

YES Prep Northbrook HS students: Log in by 8:00 AM

Additionally, please visit www.yesprep.org/reignited to access various resources and information that will assist families as you prepare for virtual learning. This webpage is a hub for information on:

- An overview of our [virtual learning program](#)
- Insight into [a virtual learning day for elementary students](#)
- An overview and access to [key distance learning tools and technology support](#)
- Access to [meals](#) during virtual learning
- [Family resources](#) and more

Reopening “In Person” Plans and FAQs

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. We maintain the option provided by TEA to request up to four additional weeks of online learning through Oct. 19 if needed.

To learn more about our in-person reopening 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](#).

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 with the latest developments.

We look forward to welcoming our students back online next week!

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

Thank you