

September 18, 2020

Dear YES Prep Families,

We hope this message finds you safe and well. As you know, we have been working on a full-scale effort to prepare for the safe return of students to campuses. Just a reminder that **all YES Prep students will continue learning online through Sept. 25**. For those who choose in-person learning, we are planning a **phased-in campus reopening—as conditions permit—starting Monday, September 28 beginning with elementary students**. Please refer to the [table](#) below to see the reopening timeline and visit [yesprep.org/reignited](https://yesprep.org/reignited) for more details. We have a few more updates for you below. Thank you for reading this message in its entirety for important details.

**REMINDER: Complete Your Round 2 YES Prep Program Survey: Choose Between Online at Home or In Person at School**

Thank you to all the families of students in Group One (elementary K-2) for completing your program option survey! For Group Two (Grades 6, 9, and 12) and Group Three (Grades 7, 8, 10, and 11), your deadlines to complete the Program Option Survey are soon! See [table](#) below. A reminder that families are able to choose between two learning programs for the 2020-2021 school year: **YES Prep In Person at School**, or **YES Prep Online at Home**.

- The survey for program selection for ALL students, K-12, launched on September 11, 2020, and will close on different dates for different student groups (see dates in table below).
- If you did NOT complete the first survey in July, your selection was **defaulted** to YES Prep **In Person at School** and will remain defaulted to In Person at School unless you retake this survey.
- If you wish to remain in your originally selected program, no action is required, and your originally selected program will stay active.
- Please note, in October, all students and families will be provided an additional opportunity to make a different program selection **for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grading cycle that begins on Wednesday, November 4**.
- In order to complete your learning program selection survey you will need to login to our Skyward Family Access Center by visiting <https://skyward.iscorp.com/YESPrepTXStu>. For instructions to complete survey click [here](#).

**YES Prep In-Person Reopening Timeline and Program Selection Dates**

YES Prep In-Person Phase	Student Groups Eligible for YES Prep In-Person	In-Person Return Date	Quarter 1 Survey Open Date	Quarter 1 Survey Close Date
<i>Final Selections for the First Grading Cycle Due</i>				
Phase One	Elementary Students (K-2)	Monday, September 28, 2020	Friday, September 11, 2020	Tuesday, September 15, 2020
Phase Two	Students in Grades 6, 9, and 12	Monday, October 5, 2020	Friday, September 11, 2020	Monday, September 21, 2020
Phase Three	Students in Grades 7, 8, 10, and 11	Tuesday, October 20, 2020	Friday, September 11, 2020	Monday, October 5, 2020



## Partnership Campus Program Selection

**YES Prep Hoffman** and **YES Prep Eisenhower** will complete the **YES Prep Program Survey** timeline as indicated above. However, these campuses will not follow the same student groups in phase 1-3. For more information about the specific student groupings that fall into the phases, please refer to communication from your child's campus.

**YES Prep Northbrook High School** and **YES Prep Northbrook Middle School** will follow **Spring Branch guidelines**. Parents should visit the SBISD website and complete the Spring Branch program selection survey. **The next Spring Branch program selection survey for families will open on Sunday, September 20, 2020 and will close September 27, 2020.** Families will have the ability to change the learning program for their student during that window. However, these changes will not take effect until the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grading cycle for SBISD, which is October 20, 2020. In addition, our Spring Branch partnership campuses (NMS and NHS) will not follow the same student groups in phase 1-3. For more information about the specific student groupings that fall into the phases, please refer to communication from your child's campus.

## Academics: Online at Home vs. In Person at School

We know you are making a careful decision to select between in person at school or online at home instruction for your child. The following information highlights what students can expect between the online at home program and the in person at school program including what school supplies to bring to be ready for the first day.

### Elementary Program

Both the elementary in person and online programs follow the same daily 7:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. school day hours. K-2 teachers in both programs also use the same rigorous elementary academic programming components for English or Spanish Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Imagine Learning, and core enrichment that you may have observed during recent remote instruction.

In terms of differences, the elementary in-person program provides increased time for synchronous live instruction with your child's teacher following CDC safety protocols along with the use of some technology during the school day. As part of the online at home learning program, your child benefits from daily synchronous live instruction with a small group of students during a scheduled time for reading and math along with a daily and weekly asynchronous instructional schedule that will continue to include content videos and paper-based activities.

K-2 students and families beginning in-person instruction starting Monday, September 28 will receive communication from their elementary campus to attend an orientation session this upcoming week as well as what materials students should bring with them for the first day of in-person instruction.

Regardless of your decision for in-person or remote instruction, YES Prep is committed to providing your child a college-ready education starting in grades K-2.

### Secondary Program

The In Person at School academic program we will be using is called Blended Learning.

- Blended Learning is a model in which students participate both in person and using online platforms for the students in the room.
- Blended Learning requires all students to bring a functioning device to school each day.

Learning time within each class period will be structured similarly to our Online at Home program.

- The overall schedule (class period time) will be the same.
- Students will usually engage with the teacher and their classmates synchronously (live) in the beginning of the period.
- Students will usually engage in independent or small group learning at the end of the period.
- Students will frequently participate and complete assignments online.
- Unit plans will continue to reflect the synchronous / asynchronous designation to support planning and facilitation in both online at home and in-person at school settings.

Students will still be using Teams as the “digital space” for accessing course information, resources (handouts and digital resources), assignments, assessments, and videos.

- Students must follow the same course expectations in person or online.
- Teachers and students will build on and continue to leverage knowledge and skills gained during online learning with the continued use of the online platforms.
- Students will not be participating in activities that will require students to share materials. For example, labs will be modeled by the teacher or performed by students via online simulation.
- Students will be using limited paper materials to complete coursework, except personal student notebooks for individual use (only).

Secondary students (6-12) should bring the following supplies to school every day:

- 1:1 Device (Laptop, Chromebook, Tablet)
- Charger for Device
- Headphones
- Pens, pencils (mechanical or with handheld sharpener), erasers
- One spiral notebook or composition book for each class (4-5 total)
- A folder to hold any loose-leaf resources
- Ti-Nspire graphing calculator (Grades 8+)
- Reading materials designated by course (assigned novel for English class, assigned textbook for AP class, etc.)
- 2 Masks
- Backpack
- Student ID
- Water bottle

## YES Prep In Person Student and Family Orientations

For families who have selected **YES Prep In Person at School**, all schools will be providing opportunities to participate in orientation sessions to learn about the Health & Safety expectations on campus, what you should do at home in order to keep your student safe, and what to expect in an academic day. Please refer to your schools' website and social media accounts for more details coming soon.

## Legacy Community Health

All students and families are encouraged to take advantage of our partnership with Legacy Community Health. Legacy offers school-based health care right from your home: well-child visits, sick visits, counseling for anxiety, depression, behavioral problems and more. In order to access Legacy clinics and therapy services on campus throughout the year, families must register their students with Legacy. Once registered, families and students may access services at any time!

If you are interested in registering, call (281) 628 2050.



## School Reopening Guide & Video

While YES Prep prioritizes ensuring that ALL students engage in rigorous, aligned and active learning every day, whether online or in person, we know there are a lot of factors families are considering when deciding the best learning program option for their child. To help, we have created a comprehensive School Reopening Guide and Safety Video that outlines information on the protocols we have put in place for the 2020-2021 school year and gives families a glimpse of what students can expect if they return to school for in-person instruction.

[\[Reopening Guide pdf\]](#)



[\[Reopening Video\]](#)



We appreciate the patience and flexibility of students and family members as we navigate these conditions together. While we know the return to school in person will seem a little different this year, we remain firmly committed to reopening schools in a way that prioritizes health and safety as well as the rigorous education and success of our students on their path to college and beyond. We've missed our students and look forward to a successful year whether learning in person at school or online at home.

We will share additional information as soon as we can and will continue to update our website, [yesprep.org/reignited](https://www.yesprep.org/reignited), with the latest developments and resources to community services.

Thank you