

October 9, 2020

Dear YES Prep Families,

We hope this message finds you safe and well. This week we were excited to welcome our second group of students -grades 6, 9 and 12- back to in-person learning. As we prepare for our third and final cohort on October 20, we will continue to rigorously enforce safety protocols and ask students and families to help us keep our schools safe by adhering to the daily safety procedures put in place.

Please make sure to read the following letter as it will include new information on the opening of the next Program Selection Survey, question regarding program transfer mid-quarter, the upcoming Common Assessments, and holiday reminder.

### **In-Person Learning at School Begins October 20 for Cohort Three**

As a reminder, in-person learning at school for **Cohort Three (students in grades 7, 8, 10 & 11) who selected and confirmed the In-Person at School program option via the YES Prep Program Survey, begins on Tuesday, October 20.** Please be sure you have reviewed details about the [Daily Health Check](#) and are familiar with the [In-Person Readiness Checklist](#) to ensure a smooth and successful transition onto campuses on October 20. For this and other information, please visit our [In Person at School Learning webpage](#).

\*For all our students at our partnership schools, please refer to the phase-in plan that your campuses have shared with you. Also, Spring Branch families should refer to the survey deadlines shared by Spring Branch. For Northbrook campuses, the survey has closed for changing your learning plan that is effective at the start of Quarter Two (October 20, 2020).

\*For all our families with elementary students continuing online learning at home, please remember students should log in to Imagine Learning every day and complete a minimum of 40 minutes of math and 60 minutes of literacy per week within the platform.

\*Families of secondary students continuing with online learning at home, please check with your student(s) about their assignments and have them follow up on any missing schoolwork.

### **Quarter Two Program Selection Survey Preview**

Quarter Two begins for all students (except Northbrook MS/HS) on Monday, November 2. The Quarter 2 Program Selection survey will launch on Tuesday, October 20 and will close on Sunday, October 25. The survey is not required for all families, **only for families desiring a program change for Quarter 2.** The next opportunity for Program Selection will be December 11, 2020.

### **Program Transfer Mid-Quarter**

As a reminder, once a family has selected YES Prep Online at Home for their Program Selection at each quarter, students may not transition to YES Prep In-Person until the next quarter's Program Selection survey. However, if a family currently in YES Prep In-Person has a health or family



concern and desires a change to YES Prep Online at Home mid-quarter, they should reach out to their campus front office to receive guidance on the Virtual Transfer Process.

## Assessments

Our first round of Common Assessments will be administered in grades 6-12 from October 28-October 30. Common Assessments will test students on the content that has been covered in their classes at the end of the quarter. Students will take the assessments on their computers in both the Online at Home and the In Person at School models. Common Assessments will count as 10% of a student's semester grade. More information on how to prepare will come in the weeks ahead through this communication and will be posted on our [Student Assessment site](#).

## No Visitor Policy Reminder

We are currently closed for all visitors and this includes families entering the front office, unless you have a scheduled appointment. If you are picking up your student during the school day for any reason outside of arrival and dismissal, you will need to call the school's front office to sign your student out over the phone. Your student will be escorted out of the building to you or your vehicle. Signs will be posted on entry doors to remind everyone of this process and will also include your school's phone number to call. Thank you for your cooperation and participation in this safety measure.

## Important Dates Reminder

- 10/12 - Northbrook MS and HS Fall Holiday (no school for Northbrook students)
- 10/16 - Fall Holiday for YES Prep (*exception: YES Northbrook MS/HS DO have school*)
- 10/19 - \*Staff Development Day/Student Holiday for all students

\*October 19 is listed on the Academic Calendar as a "Staff Professional Development/Option for Student Asynchronous Learning" day. This day will NOT be used for student asynchronous learning and will be a full student holiday. November 2 is listed as an option for Student Asynchronous Learning as well, and we will share an update about this day in future communications.

## Advisory Lessons for Hispanic Heritage Month

Additional advisory lessons for secondary students on Hispanic Heritage Month have been added to the Family Resource Center under [Social and Emotional Learning \(SEL\) section](#). The [new advisory lessons](#) cover "LatinX Community & Race" and "How to be an effective LatinX ally," as well as activities and articles you can do at home.

With National School Lunch Week (October 12-16) just around the corner, we would like to thank our Child Nutrition team and all supporting staff for their hard work and dedication, especially during these trying times. Your commitment to make sure our students and families have access to meals, whether they are physically in our buildings or learning virtually from home, has been commendable. Thank you for all you do!

Thank you