

October 30, 2020

Dear YES Prep Families,

It's hard to believe we are wrapping up Quarter 1 of this school year! These first 9 weeks of school have looked unlike any others we've seen before with four first days of school, two schooling experiences—online at home and in person at school—and additional safety measures for all. We'd like to acknowledge the incredible and collective work and support of our families, students, and staff. Everyone's participation is important to help keep our schools safe and keep our students learning. We look forward to a successful Quarter 2 which starts next week!

Please make sure to read the following letter in its entirety for information and reminders about the family feedback survey, report cards, SAT and STAAR tests, new advisory lessons, and the launch of the student lottery for the 2021-2022 school year.

### Important Dates Reminder

- Oct. 30 – Last chance to complete Family Pulse Check survey
- Nov. 2 – Student Lottery Application Opens
- Nov. 2 – Student Asynchronous Learning at Home / Staff Professional Development Day
- Nov. 3 – No School / Election Day
- Nov. 4 - Jan.14 – Quarter 2

### Last Chance to Provide us Feedback! Reignited Family Pulse Check Closes TONIGHT

In our effort to measure how well we are serving our students and families, whether in-person or online, we are asking for families to complete the "Reignited Pulse Check", a *brief* survey to receive feedback on how well YES Prep is addressing Health and Safety, Student Engagement, Communication, and Community Connection so far this school year. Last chance to complete the Reignited Pulse Check for Quarter 1 is TONIGHT **October 30** via this [online form](#). Thank you for taking the time to complete the Family Pulse Check to share your experience and feedback with us.

### Quarter 1 Report Cards

Student grades will be finalized for Q1 next week and Report Cards will be available on Nov. 11. More information on how to access and sign Report Cards in Skyward will be shared next week.

### SAT & STAAR Preview for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

In December, all 11th grade students will be taking two important assessments, the SAT (on December 5) and the STAAR US History End Of Course\* (on December 16). Please read this [STAAR and SAT document](#) for a summary of important information. We will be sharing updates on a regular basis as we approach both testing dates.



\*11th graders at YES Prep Northbrook HS will be taking the STAAR EOC in May. However, if students need to retest previous EOC tests, these retests will occur in December.

## YES Prep Student Lottery Launches Nov. 2

We are excited to kick off the YES Prep Enrollment Season for school year 2021-22, starting with our Application Launch next week, Monday, November 2, 2020! We are thrilled to welcome our very first **Pre-Kindergarten** students, and our first students at our Southside and North Forest Elementary campuses next year serving grades Pre-K through 2nd. Our Southeast and North Central elementary campuses will serve grades Pre-K through 3rd next year.

Over the last 20 years, YES Prep has used the lottery process to provide equitable access to quality education to all families. With over 14,000 students enrolled, this year we are focused on what YES Prep Means to you, your students, and our communities. To apply for the 2021-22 school year on November 2nd, please visit [yesprep.schoolmint.net](https://www.yesprep.schoolmint.net) or visit [yesprep.org/enroll](https://www.yesprep.org/enroll) for more information about our lottery process.

*Please note- the application for YES Prep Northbrook MS and YES Prep Northbrook HS opens November 9, 2020. Please visit this site to apply: <https://www.springbranchisd.com/studentsfamilies/choice-program/apply-here>*

## Mental Health & Wellness Advisory Lessons

Although Halloween is here, talking about mental health and wellness does not have to be scary! Additional advisory lessons for secondary students exploring topics related to mental health and wellness have been added to the Family Resource Center under the Social and Emotional Learning ([SEL](#)) section. The new advisory lessons cover Teen Stress & Healthy Coping, Anxiety & Depression, and Emotional Regulation.

## Did you know?

Did you know that charter schools are public schools? Charter schools like YES Prep are public schools open to all students. Unlike a traditional one-size-fits-all approach to education, charters schools have greater flexibility in order to best serve students' individual needs. You should be proud to be a part of the Texas public charter community! Currently, there are 330,000 families statewide who enroll their children in a charter school. [You can learn more about public charters here.](#)

Election Day is on Tuesday, November 3! YES Prep encourages all families to vote if they haven't already. Our very own Family Fellow, Claudia Perez, from YES Prep Northbrook High School, shares her experience about voting in the Texas Monthly. Great job and thank you, Mrs. Perez!  
<https://www.texasmonthly.com/politics/dont-call-texas-latino-voters-sleeping-giant/>

As always, thank you families for your support and partnership as we continue our commitment to prioritize safety while also working tirelessly to provide the highest quality instruction, online and in-person.

We wish you a fun and safe Halloween weekend.

Thank you