

February 12, 2021

Dear YES Prep Families,

### Important Dates Reminder

- **Today Feb. 12** – Student Lottery Deadline
- **Mon. Feb. 15** – Presidents' Day \*Holiday for staff and students
- **Tue. Feb. 16** – Inclement Weather Day: All students participate in asynchronous virtual learning

We hope this message finds you well. We first want to remind you that next Monday, February 15 is a school holiday for students and staff in observance of Presidents' Day.

Also, due to the impending inclement weather heading into our area next week, all YES Prep campus facilities and district offices will be closed on Tuesday, February 16. All students will participate in asynchronous virtual learning and staff will work from home on Tuesday. We know that families and staff may lose power. Teachers will be flexible and understanding regarding assignments for Tuesday. The district will make a determination about Wednesday as we continue to monitor the weather throughout the weekend and early part of next week. Please continue to monitor the YES Prep website, social media channels and look for emails and callouts from us as this weather event unfolds. Stay warm and stay safe!

In case you missed it, one of [our students](#) captured hearts across the nation this week. Alondra Carmona, a senior at YES Prep East End, gave up all her college savings in order to help her mother (whom has been out of work for a few months) pay rent. Alondra created a GoFundMe to help her rebuild her college savings in hopes of reaching her dream of attending Barnard. Once her story got out, people from everywhere stepped up to help Alondra and she's now raised more than \$165k.

As the pandemic impacts a record number of families, we're grateful for the tremendous support provided by our caring community to resilient students like Alondra navigating these uncertain times together. While we work to ensure that our students and alumni remain on track to attend college, we have pulled together in extraordinary ways to support our students and families.

### Student Assistance Form

We know that you may have some needs that arise as a parent, guardian, or student. You can receive direct help by submitting a "Student Assistance Form" or, a SAF. Use the SAF link below to communicate any support needs you may have. A campus Student Support Counselor will follow-up with you within 2-3 business days to determine the best way to get your need met. SAFs can be submitted for:

- Family or student supplies or resources needed for school (i.e. uniforms, calculator, books, food)
- Student social and emotional concerns
- Student home or family concerns
- and more

[Click here to submit a SAF for your student](#)

### Celebrating Black History Month through The Atlas

As we continue celebrating Black History Month, the English Team is proud to spotlight three critical texts that are centered on the experiences of Black women and families. Visit [this link](#) to learn more about these texts and why you should read them. Please continue to stay tuned to our social media as we share amazing stories



from YES Prep's Black/African American staff members, historical events, the origins of Black History Month, scholarship opportunities for our Black and African American students, and more.

### **Student Lottery Deadline TODAY**

The YES Prep student lottery application closes TODAY, February 12! We invite all families with siblings of current students in grades PK-3rd and 6th -9th to apply for our YES Prep lottery. As a result of the trust you have in YES Prep, all siblings are granted a priority status within our lottery process. While this does not guarantee a seat, it gives your child(ren) the best chance to join one of our YES Prep campuses. Don't miss out on your opportunity to apply! To apply please visit [yesprep.org/enroll](https://yesprep.org/enroll).

### **Special Education Survey for Stakeholders**

YES Prep is currently participating in the Special Education Differentiated Monitoring and Support Process with the Texas Education Agency. The monitoring process is intended to help YES Prep continuously improve our services to students and to help us reach our vision for students in Special Education. As a stakeholder involved in Special Education, your feedback is critical to our improvement.

You can read [this letter from TEA](#) describing more about the process. The survey linked takes 10-20 minutes and is available in a variety of languages, including Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Filipino, Simplified Chinese, Burmese, and Urdu.

The first question on the survey asks for our ESC Region Number and the name of our district. You can find that information here:

- ESC Region Number: 4
- Name of LEA: YES Prep Public Schools

Thank you in advance for your time & attention!

### **Did you know?**

At Texas public charters, nearly 60% of students with disabilities take rigorous Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses when offered -- compared to 4% at the average traditional district. Public charter schools like YES Prep work hard to make sure every student has the opportunity to succeed. [Learn more about the results of public charters here.](#)

As always, thank you families for trusting us with the responsibility of educating your children and 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. Our next Family Update will be until Friday, February 19.

Thank you