

March 26, 2021

Dear YES Prep Families,

We hope you all had a fun, safe and restful Spring Break last week. A reminder that we are almost at the end of Quarter 3 and students will start their last quarter of the school year (Quarter 4) on April 6!

There are still many milestones and events taking place in this last quarter including, but not limited to, STAAR testing, graduation and other senior activities. We will be providing updates regarding these in our future communications throughout April and May.

We again want to stress our continued commitment to health and safety at YES Prep and reiterate that **all of our YES Prep COVID-19 prevention measures, including the use of masks, and social-distancing protocols will remain in place at all of our schools.**

Thank you for reading this Family Update in its entirety for information, updates and reminders about re-enrollment for current students, Quarter 4 learning program selection, student lottery seat acceptance deadline for new students, STAAR testing, new Family Workshops, and more.

### Important Dates Reminder

- **Fri. March 26** – Deadline to complete re-enrollment form for current students
- **Fri. March 26** – Deadline to complete Learning Program Selection Survey
- **Wed. March 31** – Deadline for families to accept lottery seats
- **Fri. April 2** – Spring Holiday for students and staff; No school

### Complete Re-enrollment Form for Current Students – Deadline TODAY March 26

Please complete the YES Prep Re-enrollment Form by Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>! This will secure your student's 2021-2022 enrollment, and student schedules will be created based on your response.

We are truly grateful that you have entrusted us with the education of your child(ren). As we look ahead to the '21-'22 school year, we hope that you will once again choose YES Prep Public Schools. We would kindly ask that you complete a [brief re-enrollment form](#) for each of your children to share your intent to return next school year so we can effectively plan to serve the students, families and communities of YES Prep. You can access the form by [logging in to your Skyward Family Access center account](#) and clicking the Re-enrollment form tile. **Please submit the form by TODAY, March 26.** [Click HERE for Skyward Family Access Center link](#)

### Quarter 4 Program Selection Survey – Deadline TODAY March 26

We look forward to hearing from you on your selection of online or in-person learning for next quarter. Reminder, if you wish to have your student in the same learning program for Q4, you do not need to complete the survey again. We recognize this year has been incredibly difficult for many families, and there are many factors to consider when deciding between in-person and online learning. We have a full-scale effort to welcome students for in person learning with health and safety measures to do everything we can to help keep the virus out of our schools, including:

- Required use of facial coverings over mouth and nose
- Social distancing whenever possible
- Health and temperature checks for students and staff before getting onto campus each day
- Regular hand washing while on campus
- Safety protocols on school buses



- In addition to the standard daily cleaning protocols, schools undergo intense disinfecting
- Strict adherence to CDC and state guidelines for isolating at home after a student or staffer is infected or exposed to someone infected
- Rapid testing for any staff member or any student, as approved by families, who may experience a known COVID symptom
- Anyone showing symptoms is immediately separated, and areas used by that person are cleaned and disinfected
- No non-essential visitors allowed on any campus

For students who remain online, attendance and active engagement in every class, every day will directly impact their academic success, especially as we approach STAAR testing and other critical milestones this school year. You can track your child's progress online by monitoring grades and attendance in Skyward and viewing daily assignments and activities on Teams.

Online or in person, we remain firmly committed to the rigorous education and success of your children on their path to college and beyond. Many families have reported—since their students returned in person—that they were better able to concentrate, with fewer distractions and opportunities to leave the class or miss assignments. We are here to help in any way we can. If you have a question, concern or an urgent need for your family, we want to know. Please inform your campus leadership, who are eager to help. [Click HERE for Skyward Family Access Center link](#)

### **Deadline: Reminder to Accept your Child's Seat for Next School Year**

Lottery notifications for the 2021-2022 school year were sent out last Friday, March 5. If you applied for siblings of your current YES Prep student(s), you can also check their status and accept or decline their offers by logging in to your SchoolMint account at [yesprep.schoolmint.net](https://yesprep.schoolmint.net). Act fast and accept your seat by **March 31** as space is limited!

Haven't applied yet or want to refer a family? YES Prep is still accepting applications, visit [yesprep.org/enroll](https://yesprep.org/enroll) to apply for the 2021-21 school year. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [lottery@yesprep.org](mailto:lottery@yesprep.org).

### **STAAR Update**

STAAR is an important data point for our students, campuses, and district. Successful performance on STAAR EOCs is also required by law for high school graduation. To provide students the greatest opportunity for success and to protect student and staff health, a plan has been developed to create an effective, compliant, and safe testing environment for all students, outlined [on this site](#).

Parents of students in all grade levels should review the information [on this site](#). Even on days where your student may not have a STAAR test, a STAAR test in another grade level may impact your student's schedule

### **Family Workshop Series: The Teen Brain – A Guide for Families**

You are invited to join us for our virtual Family Workshop Series titled “The Teen Brain: A Neurodevelopmental Guide for Parents and Families” on Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. This past Tuesday, we hosted the second session in this informative series entitled, “The Brain & Substance Abuse”. Presenter, Dr. Crystal Collier, shared the effects of substance abuse and other addictive behaviors on the developing brain. **The next session, “The Brain and Technology” and will take place on Tuesday, March 30, via Microsoft Teams.** To learn more about this topic, view recordings of the previous sessions, and register, please [click here](#).

**RAFFLE:** *For those who attend any of the four sessions, Dr. Collier will use the session attendance lists to raffle off a copy of her new book, the Neurowhereabouts Guide, a neurodevelopmental guide for parents and families who want to prevent youth high risk behavior. The book is available in English and Spanish.*

## Did You Know?

Charters add to the public-school system; they don't take from it! In a study of 21 states (Texas included), traditional ISD spending per student on instruction was steady or *increased* as charter enrollment grew! [Learn more about the financial impact of charters on ISDs here.](#)

As always, thank you to our families for trusting us with the responsibility of educating your children. Thank you 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 **Thursday, April 1.**

Thank you