THE BOLT

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Key Dates

• September 8th Back to School Night

We welcome all of our families for a fun and interactive evening to kick off the 2020-2021 school year! You will hear from our growing team and meet your Bridge Builder's teachers.

Because this event will be virtual, we are planning to schedule small group tours for our new families to come and visit the building before in-person instruction begins.

September 9th 1st Virtual Day of School

All students will log on from 8:15am - 12:45pm for live virtual instruction Monday - Friday.

• September 22nd (tentatively) In-Person Instruction Begins

We are planning to begin blended learning on Tuesday, September 22, 2020. Bridge Builders assigned to the **BOLD** schedule will attend school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Bridge Builders assigned to the **BRIGHT** schedule will attend school on Thursdays and Fridays.

A Bold, Bright, and Unique Back to School Plan

Our 2020-2021 Academic Year will commence virtually for <u>all</u> students on **Thursday, September 9, 2020**. There are many factors that go into our thinking and decision making around a start-date for in-person instruction, namely:

- Delivery of an equitable academic experience for everyone.
- Accounting for critical factors outside of our control such as: transportation, special education services, and construction.
- Assurance that the building's HVAC and air filtration systems are cleared for occupancy according to mandated guidelines.
- Allowing time for the essential procedures and systems to be in place on our campus before bringing students into the building. Giving time for the larger system to get up and running before we operate on campus will keep us safer.
- Providing time for students and families to adapt to our virtual platforms, providing focused support for families and students related to technology, and troubleshooting any remaining technology access issues.

Based on the most recent information provided by the NYC DOE, we anticipate being able to have students in our building for in-person instruction **no earlier than September 22, 2020.** Please note that in-person instructional programming start dates are subject to potential modifications as a result of the various factors noted above. We will continue to keep families updated.



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Remind App

Our school has adopted the Remind App as our official method of communication! Remind allows you to quickly communicate with your Bridge Builder's teacher and the larger school community. You will receive urgent real-time updates, announcements, and newsletters. Download the app to stay connected through texts, calls, emails, and/or push notifications. For more information, visit remind.com/families.

School Website

Visit the "Back to School" tab on our website to view our full Back to School Framework and find the most up-to-date information and resources. On Monday, we will be uploading an important FAQ document that addresses many of the questions we have received from families.

Orton-Gillingham Assessments

As we gear up for the start of the school year, our teachers have begun scheduling virtual Orton-Gillingham assessments for all students. The data our teachers collect will shape how they plan for Orton-Gillingham instruction in September. If you have not received a phone call, please let us know.

Technology Distribution

We will begin handing out technology to families on **Monday, August 31st**. Distribution will take place outside on the school campus, and all families will be scheduled to a specific pick up time in order to promote social distancing. Face coverings are required. Please be on the lookout next week for more information on how to sign up for a pick up time.

FREE Childcare Program for all Students

As school resumes in-person this fall, Bridge Prep like most schools, will operate on a blended learning model where each week students will have two school days in person and 3 school days remotely. New York City is offering a new program called **Learning Bridges** which will provide **free child care options** for **all** children from 3-K through 8th grade **on days when they are scheduled for remote learning**.

All Bridge Prep students qualify for this program, and you can complete the survey now to express your interest! This survey is not a formal application and more information will be shared by the Department of Youth & Community Development about a potential placement in the coming weeks. Programs will become available on a rolling basis beginning at the start of school and Bridge Prep will provide any additional information we have about this program to families. We strongly urge families to complete this survey. You can call 311 for support in completing the survey.

Related Services Delivery Preference Survey

The DOE has emailed the link to a Related Service Delivery Preference Survey to families of students with one or more counseling, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy mandates on their current IEP. The survey collects information from families about their **preferred** mode of related service delivery – in person, hybrid, or remote – for each service. Please complete the survey by **Monday**, 8/24. Any questions about this survey, or about Special Education services in general should be sent to Ms. Quattrocchi at: alayna@bridgeprepcharter.org.



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