

August 17, 2020

Dear Yorkville Grade Families,

My name is Emily Lech; I'm honored to be the principal of YGS. Our school is the smallest & oldest in the district. We take great pride in that fact. We are known as, "**Small School, Big Love.**" These unexpected times come with challenges and many unknowns. However, our YGS community continues to model this mantra!

Our team is working diligently on procedures, setup, and training to ensure we're ready for opening day. As a parent of three young children, I understand the extraordinary trust you put into the school's hands. Your child's safety, social, emotional, and academic well-being are my utmost priorities.

[Please view my video HERE](#) that summarizes procedures, wellness protocols, and learning updates.

### Important Information:

- **School Hours:** The school day at YGS starts at 8:25 a.m. (doors open at 8:15) and ends at 3:25 p.m. Hybrid and Kinder (AM) dismisses at 11:25 a.m.
- **Communication:** My primary communication to families will be through a Friday email/e-newsletter. Please make sure your contact information is kept up-to-date with the school so that you receive these important messages. These communications will also be posted to our school website ([www.y115.org/ygs](http://www.y115.org/ygs)) for your reference. You can also follow us on Facebook (search 'Yorkville Grade School'). You can opt into our district text messages by texting the word Yes to 67587.
- **Lunch:** Students will be able to purchase lunch options daily and the use of water bottles or refillable water bottles is encouraged.
- **Procedures:** Anyone who wishes to enter the school building must complete a health questionnaire (results showing he/she is symptom free) and wear a face covering. You can view our other procedures in Mrs. Lech's welcome video below.
- **Buses:** School buses will be back on the roads traveling throughout the community. Please remember to obey bus stop arm laws. Drivers must stop at least 20 feet from any school bus that is stopped and is flashing its red warning lights. Violators can face a \$300 fine and a 3-month license suspension for the first offense, and \$1,000 fine and a 1-year license suspension for a second offense. This year our buses will be in the back of the school.
- **Attendance:** Students are expected to participate in their classes everyday school is in session (unless sick), and teachers will report class attendance. Please call our school at [\(630\) 553-4390](tel:6305534390) if your child will not be attending school classes that day.
- **Learning Platform/E-Learning Day:** The spring 2020 parent survey results overwhelmingly requested consistent and streamlined modes of

communication from school to home. Therefore, one learning platform was selected for each grade-level span. K-2 will use Seesaw and 3rd grade will use Google Classroom. The classroom teacher will send out specific information on how to access your child's platform in the weeks ahead. For this 'practice e-learning day' your child's teacher will share a schedule on Tuesday via email. This applies to 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 3rd grade. Kindergarten and hybrid students will come every day. If you need a device please contact [studentsupport@y115.org](mailto:studentsupport@y115.org).

- **E-Learning Update:** Thank you for selecting your child's e-learning special for this quarter. This special will occur once a week for 30 minutes. These lessons will include either live Zoom or pre-recorded videos that include a follow up activity. This instruction will begin on **September 1st**. This start date will ensure your child can smoothly transition into this model and become familiar with the academic schedule and routines (i.e. new learning platform, submitting assignments, logging into math/reading Zooms). The district special teacher will share more information soon. E-learning PE: Your child will use a choice board to track and log 25 minutes of physical activity at home 5 days a week. This will be logged on the designated platform and checked by the PE teacher. This will begin on September 1st.
- **Hybrid Update:** PE: Recess in the half day model will count as part of your child's daily PE physical activity requirement. Your child will use a choice board to track and log ONE additional 25 minute physical activity at home. This will be logged on the designated platform and checked by the PE teacher. This will begin on September 1st. Please note: you do not need to buy art, music, PE, or ILT related supplies at this time.

Please click and show your child a welcome video from his/her teachers below!! :)

**Principal:**

[Mrs. Lech](#)

**Kindergarten:**

[Mrs. Anderson](#)

[Mrs. Hekr](#)

**First Grade**

[Mrs. Rizio](#)

[Mrs. Meier](#) (hybrid)

**Second Grade**

[Mrs. Walter](#)

[Mrs. Mercurio](#)

[Ms. Ledesma](#) (hybrid)

[Miss Spino](#) (e-learning)

### **Third Grade**

[Mrs. Stemmet](#)

[Mrs. Hekr](#) (hybrid)

[Mrs. Kraft](#) (e-learning)

### **Specials Team**

[Mrs. McHugh](#) (Librarian)

[Mrs. Niner \(Music\) & Mrs. Becker \(Art\)](#)

### **Special Education Team**

[Mrs. Swanson](#) (LBS1)

[Mrs. Bove](#) (Speech)

[Mrs. Klebenow](#) (OT)

In closing, thank YOU! We couldn't do this without our parents/guardians. Please feel free to reach out with any questions!

~We look forward to a wonderful year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lech, YGS Principal