



September 24, 2020

Dear PRES Families,

The cooler Fall days are here, and yet we would like to hold onto the sunny weather for as long as possible. Teachers are taking full advantage of our outdoor spaces for mask breaks, snack time, and working sessions. As we conclude our second full week of school, we are so proud of the resilience and flexibility of our students. They are truly remarkable! Teachers and teacher aides have done an incredible job of setting up predictable routines for students, engaging them in community building and meaningful learning, while navigating technology glitches, plans for remote and in-person students, as well as managing students in multiple classrooms. Please continue to be patient with us as we “live” this new way of doing school and tweak our systems and structures. Here are a few updates to keep you informed:

CHANGE IN INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS: Before school started, we asked you to make a commitment for your child(ren) for your preferred instructional model for the month of September. As we head into October, we invite any parent who would like to make a change to their child’s instructional model to please communicate that preference with us at this time. As mentioned in [Dr. Adelberg’s September 18th letter](#), parents should notify the school by sending an email to me, the principal (afishkin4396@bcSDny.org), by **September 29th** indicating your request for a change to your child’s instructional model. Please also let us know if your child will need bus transportation. We will confirm your request once we adjust spacing, staffing, and scheduling in the building. This change will become effective starting on **October 13, 2020**.

PLAYDATES: As mentioned in my Sept. 18th memo... If you are arranging a playdate for your child, you must arrange this as a pick-up at dismissal. **Playdates are not allowed to ride the bus.** Bus routes must maintain the same students so there is no "cross contamination" of different students riding different buses. I know this is not ideal, but these are steps we must take to keep our school community healthy.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT: Our Back to School Night for ALL grades (K-5) will take place on **Tuesday evening, September 29, 2020**. The structure of Back to School Night will be different this year. Normally, we would have invited you into school to see your child’s classroom and learn about the school year ahead. In light of COVID-19, the guidelines require that we not allow parents into the building at this time. Instead, our teachers will provide you with a link to a Google Meet and will host a 20-minute virtual “meet and greet” in order to launch the home-school connection. Teachers will introduce themselves, give you a sense of the daily schedule, and let you know how best to communicate with them during the year. We look forward to the day when we can welcome parents back in our classrooms again. For now, the schedule for Tuesday will be as follows:

Back to School Night (BTSN):
Tuesday, September 29, 2020
6:00 pm - 7:45 pm

- **Principal Remarks 6:00 PM**
- **Kindergarten 6:15 PM**
- **First Grade 6:15 PM**
- **Second Grade 6:45 PM**
- **Third Grade 6:45 PM**
- **Fourth Grade 7:15 PM**



• **Fifth Grade 7:15 PM**

ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS: First of all, thank you for your diligence of keeping your child home if he/she is sick. Please continue to take daily temperatures and complete the **health screening prior to 8:00 AM**. Even if it's just the sniffles, we appreciate that you err on the side of caution, and keep your child home if they display any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed in our health screener. Please see our [BCSD Attendance Protocols](#) for more information. Some have asked if your child can participate remotely when they are home on a "sick" day. Here is how this will work:

- **K-2 child home sick or awaiting test results:** If your child is home for less than one week awaiting test results or feeling under the weather, we will not be able to accommodate remote instruction. For these children, we ask that you allow them to rest, play, read, write stories, and engage in restful activities or games at home. We will catch them up when they return to school.
- **K-2 child home for a 7-14-day quarantine due to possible exposure:** If your child is required to quarantine for an extended length of time, and is well enough to attend to instruction, we will move your child into the K-2 remote class temporarily with Mrs. Schreier during that quarantine period.
- **Grades 3-5 child home sick, awaiting test results, or in quarantine:** A child in grades 3-5 can access school remotely on any given day, since these grades are on a hybrid schedule. Please always contact your child's teacher and Susan Reiner in the main office to report your child's absence.

ATTENDANCE FOR STAFF: Our faculty and staff will make every effort to be present as much as possible during the school year. However, teachers will be taking the same precautions as families and will stay home if there is a chance they are sick or have a sick child at home. **For grades 3-5, there will be NO live streaming when there is a substitute teacher.** A teacher will leave plans for both the remote and in-person students. A substitute teacher will support the in-person students, while the remote students complete independent work at home that day.

HYBRID FIRST SEMESTER CALENDAR: If you are a parent of a student in grades 3-5, **please print and hang on the fridge** this [Hybrid First Semester Calendar 2020-2021](#) that lets you know on which days cohort 1 and cohort 2 are in school. Here is the schedule for next week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Sept. 28</i>	<i>Sept. 29</i>	<i>Sept. 30</i>	<i>Oct. 1</i>	<i>Oct. 2</i>
NO SCHOOL Yom Kippur	COHORT 1	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 2

Thank you again for your partnership and support.

Sincerely,
 Amy Fishkin