

MINUTES
Community District Education Council 30
Virtual Calendar Meeting
May 12, 2020

The May Virtual Calendar Meeting of Community District Education Council 30 was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, via the Zoom platform.

Deborah Alexander, Co-President, called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:34PM.

Roll Call

Shannon Lee, Recording Secretary, conducted roll call for the Calendar Meeting.

Present:

Deborah Alexander
Roberto Cruz
Jonathan Greenberg
Ka-Trina Harris
Fatima Lakrafl
Shannon Lee
Amina Maiza
Nuala O'Doherty
Scott Sharinn

Absent and Excused

Gurjeet Kaur (Student Member) (Work)

Ms. Alexander explained the format of the meeting.

Dr. Philip A. Composto, Community Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent's report follows the minutes.

Ms. Alexander reminded everyone that the Superintendent works for the Department of Education but he doesn't have answers that the DOE doesn't have.

Ms. O'Doherty thanked Superintendent Dr. Composto for additional feeding sites.

Dr. Composto was asked about summer school and summer feeding sites but there is no information at this time.

Ms. O'Doherty requested data about the feeding sites and the number of staff members, students and parents lost because of Covid-19.

Ms. Alexander asked about T&I protocols for parents and recommended that schools begin thinking about outdoor learning.

Public Agenda and Speaking Time

Speakers were allowed 90 seconds for comments and or questions. Questions and comments included: reopening timeline, social distancing in schools, wearing facemasks all day is not feasible, a policy for live teaching is needed, socially emotional sensitive communication, summer school, rezoning Long Island City, District Diversity Grant, learning gap plan, admission policy, challenges of parents as

teachers, devices for remote learning, budget cuts, PTA supports for schools, auto-articulation of G&T students, teachers miss their students, air conditioning should be considered essential, length of school year, can parents enter building to pick up student belongings, PTA access to funds, and Halal food at feeding sites

Adjournment

There being no further business Roberto Cruz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deborah Alexander seconded. All in favor. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Lee.

Shannon Lee
Secretary

The recording of this meeting is available on the Council's website cec30.org

Superintendent's Report

Community District Education Council CDEC30 Meeting

In support of the Framework for Great Schools under Supportive Environment

Dr. Philip A. Composto

District 30 is committed to ensuring that its students, families, school staff and community are given all the proper remote tools needed for them to use from their homes during these difficult times. I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and appreciation to all of you. Thank you for your continued input, support and dedication.

- Remote Learning
There were 297 students that we were unable to contact. As of 4-22-2020; all children have been accounted for. District 30 devices requested: 10,626 - Devices on hold: 34
- Recreational Enrichment Center (REC)
Presently, we have Public School Q11 with 45 children attending daily.
At Q397 Early Childhood Center, there are 8 cribs, with 5 toddlers attending daily.
- Feeder Sites
Currently, there are 15 feeder sites at the following schools. Q092 was added on Wednesday May 6, 2020. Q152 is opening on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. There is also a D30 Halal site at 30Q069.
30Q01130Q234
30Q06930Q398
30Q08530Q445 (Bryant HS)
30Q09230Q610 (Queens Career and Technical High School)
30Q122

30Q126
30Q141
30Q148
30Q149
30Q150
30Q166

- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of students in District 30 are engaged in Remote Learning.
- **Remote Learning Support - Technical Support Ticket System for Families**
Parents can now Accept Agreements for remote devices, Cancel Device Requests or get Remote Technical Support Ticket from our D30 website. In addition, The DOE is launching a family-facing Remote Learning Technical Support ticket system. Families (or someone on their behalf) can submit requests for technical support for a broad range of issues, including application support, lost, stolen, or broken devices, and delivery status, through the Technical Support for Families page. Note that when families select a topic and issue in the ticket submission form, the form will automatically list common resolutions to technical support problems; if the suggested resolutions do not resolve the family's issue, they can continue to submit a tech support ticket by completing the form.
- **Parent Workshops**
Town Hall Conversation COVID-19 and NYC Schools with NYS Senate Committee
May 12th, 2020 6-8PM on Facebook
Sign up in advance to speak, first-come first serve.
- **Socio-Emotional Learning**
The Office of Student Youth and Development are continuing to present workshops and seminars for staff on social-emotional health and wellbeing. Information and resources are provided to principals and guidance staff to support teachers and students and their families.
- **Wellness Wednesday**
The DOE has begun a Wellness Wednesdays initiative in an effort to assist students, their families, and educators in developing skills to maintain their physical, mental, and emotional well-being during remote learning.

Wellness Wednesdays uses a skills-based, whole-child approach that promotes accessible and actionable resources, as well as student-facing activities, which can help young people become healthy, focused, and ready to learn now, but also when they return to their school communities. The core question grounding this initiative—how do we take care of ourselves and take care of others during difficult times—is explored each week through a specific theme that includes a complementary student/family activity, along with supporting resources and an in-home-fitness video.

Please visit the Wellness Wednesday family-facing webpage each week, and join in sharing these mental health and wellness activities. Schools were asked to share this information with their staff and families.

- **Pre-K Admissions Update**

The Office of Student Enrollment will be releasing pre-K offer letters tomorrow Wednesday, May 13. All families who submitted an application by the March 29 deadline will be sent an offer. Wednesday morning, schools will be notified via email when their offer list and waitlists are available. In the early afternoon, families will be notified in the following ways:

Families with MySchools accounts: We will be sending emails to families when offers are available in MySchools. We expect it will take 2-3 hours for all emails to land.

Families with no email addresses: A robocall will be sent in multiple languages informing families that they will be sent their offer letters, and can contact our office via email or phone to learn more about their offer.

General Communications: The DOE will be updating its website and other public communication channels to make sure families and the public are aware when offers are available and how to access them.

- **RECOGNITION SCHOOLS FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR.**

NYC GEOG DIST # 30 - QUEENS

PS 2 ALFRED ZIMBERG

PS 69 JACKSON HEIGHTS

PS/IS 78

PS 122 MAMIE FAY

IS 145 JOSEPH PULITZER

PS 150

PS 151 MARY D CARTER

PS 152 GWENDOLYN N ALLEYNE

PS 166 HENRY GRADSTEIN

IS 230

PS 234

PS 280

30TH AVENUE SCHOOL (THE)

IS 227 LOUIS ARMSTRONG

DIST#30 High Schools – Queens

ACAD FOR CAREERS IN TELEVISION-FILM

FRANK SINATRA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS HS

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN STUDIES

Parent Teacher Conferences During Remote Learning – Parents Guide

During the COVID-19 pandemic, home is school for most of our students, and families are playing the role of administrators, educators, facilitators, and coaches for student learning. The upcoming Parent Teacher Conference (PTC) is an important opportunity for teachers to hear from you about how your student is doing and how remote learning supports are working for them. These past weeks have been an unprecedented time in all of our lives. During this uncertain time, it is critical that we hear from you about how your child is doing and how the school's supports are working.

The PTC is also an opportunity for educators to provide you with feedback about your child's academic

progress, and what you can do to support your child. If your child is having trouble, you and your child's teacher can figure out an action plan. The guidance below is designed to help you understand what to expect from PTC during remote learning.

Translation and Interpretation Services

We want all families to participate in PTC! Interpreters are available, so please let your teacher or parent coordinator know if you need interpretation services.

Scheduling

Teachers will work with families to schedule conferences during a time that is mutually convenient for both to attend.

If a teacher is unable to schedule a phone or virtual PTC meeting on an afternoon or evening during the week of their regularly scheduled PTC, the teacher will work with you to schedule another time to connect by May 22, 2020. Teachers will schedule time to interact with you by using an online scheduling form or by email.

Conferences will be held by phone or through videoconference.

Preparing for the PTC

The PTC is an opportunity for you to speak with your child about their experience with remote learning, and share their questions and concerns with their teacher. Below are ways to engage your child in preparation for the PTC:

- Ask your child how they feel about school, and jointly prepare a short list of questions or concerns that you can raise with the teacher.
- Ask your child what their strongest and weakest subjects are, and which ones they like most and least.
- Review your child's academic progress, test scores, and attendance on your NYC Schools Account ([Open external link](#)).
- Make a list of questions you have, and topics that you want to discuss with the teacher. Include things that might help them understand your child's challenges, strengths, and interests. Describe what you see as your child's strengths and explain where you think your child needs more help.

Think about what you can tell teachers that will help them understand your child better, such as your child's favorite subjects, special interests or hobbies, medical conditions, family situation, or any problem that might affect learning, attendance, or behavior.

Conversation Guide for Parents

This is uncharted territory for everyone, and there are no right or wrong answers. We understand that whatever you are doing right now to support your child is the right thing for you and your family. Below are some suggested questions for you to use in conversation/reflection:

How is my child doing? Is there anything you would like to share with me about what you have observed regarding my child's adjustment to all of the recent changes?

What is my child expected to learn, know, and do by the end of this grade, and is my child on target?

How will my child's final grade be calculated?

Does my child have any outstanding assignments, and if so, can you please provide me a list of those assignments and a timeline of when they need to be submitted?

What does my child do well, and what does my child struggle with? Can you give me examples?

How do you know when my child is making progress and when they need additional help?

What can I do to support my child?

Are there online programs or services that could also help my child?

Let's Learn NYC!

The DOE, in partnership with the WNET Group, is launching a new public television program called Let's Learn NYC!, which features lessons for children in 3-K through second grade that will supplement the current remote learning environment. Starting **May 4**, episodes of *Let's Learn NYC!* will begin airing weekdays at 11:00 a.m. on PBS station THIRTEEN, and will continue through the end of the school year. The program episodes will also be available to livestream at thirteen.org/live. School officials are encouraged to share this new resource with their families.

Alternative Process for Issuing Working Papers During COVID-19 School Closures

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has provided an alternative process for issuing working papers for students between the ages of 14–17, during the COVID-19-related school closures. Parents/guardians and minors can still complete the AT-17 Application for Employment Certificate form and email the completed form to the school or district issuing official. A PDF version of the AT-17 Application for Employment Certificate form, which can be completed and signed electronically, is available on NYSED's Employment of Minors website.

After the form is submitted, the issuing school-level official will schedule a video conference (Microsoft Teams or Google Meet) with the minor, and if required, the parent or guardian; required documentation will be shared during the video conference. Information on working papers is available on the DOE webpage for families.

Principals or designated school officials issuing the employment certificate can then complete the working card, sign it, and mail it to the minor. The minor should sign the card upon receipt. The requirement that the minor sign the card in the presence of the issuing official is temporarily waived for the duration of New York's COVID-19-related school closures. Issuing officials must continue to use approved employment certificate cards. The NYSED Employment Certifying Officers Manual includes guidance on the revocation of employment certificates for appropriate cause (e.g., interference with school attendance).

Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Updates

In response to the unique challenges brought on by COVID-19, the DOE is extending coverage of AP exam fees for spring 2020 (including the late-testing window in June) to include all students. In prior years, the DOE has only covered the cost of AP exams for economically disadvantaged students. This year, the DOE will cover all base AP exam fees, which is the basic cost of the exam, and late order fees, while the College Board will waive all other fees, including canceled, unused, and late-testing fees. The College Board will not assess any fees for exams not taken in spring 2020.

In order to have students' AP exam fees covered for exams administered in spring 2020, beginning **May 11**, the schools AP coordinator must complete required steps. Student eligibility must be made by May 26; extended from April 30.

- If a school knows, or suspects, that a student or family is currently experiencing financial hardship, the student's AP Exam Fee Status should be marked as "Reduced" in APRO. As family situations may be changing, it is understandable that schools may not be able to access the same level of student/family details in ATS that they normally would, and/or the data available in ATS may not reflect the student/family's current situation.

If a school has already collected AP exam fees from students or families, they should plan to return these

fees to students and families, as soon as it is safe and practical to do so. More guidance on this process will be forthcoming.

New and Updated Resources you can find on the District 30 website:

- District 30 Highlights
- Remote Learning Family Resources
- Multilingual Resources for Students and Families – google classroom
- Remote Learning Successes
- Messages to Families
- Free Daily Meals for all NYC children
- Remote Learning Device Request
- iPad distribution
- NYC Schools Account
- Student Account Self-Service
- Getting Started in Google Classroom
- Parents Guides to Google Classroom
- Multilingual Learners and English Language Learners
- Family Welcome Center

District 30 Family Support

- Schools post letters and updated information on websites, phone blasts, send e-mail blasts and Class DoJo messages.
- Family Support Coordinator and Family Support Liaison check and respond to 311 calls, e-mails and phone messages left on district telephones several times each day. Weekly meetings with FACE representatives, parent coordinators and presidents' council for constant updates on guidance to families and schools.
- Schools have assigned parent coordinators, school aides, family workers and guidance counselors to provide outreach to locate students that are not "actively engaged".
- Developed a district worksheet for principals to indicate students they have been unable to contact -- district staff obtain letters from schools and send letters via US Mail.
- Principals and Guidance Counselors are reaching out to families experiencing loss and/or family illness related to COVID-19
- Constant updates of the District 30 website with links to all family resources (i.e. meal locations, remote learning device request, NYC Schools Account, Student Account Self-Service, Tutorial on Google Classroom, Parent Guide to Google Classrooms, Family Welcome Centers, Resources to Support MLLs/ENLs, etc).
- Schools have designated a person(s) to support students and families having difficulty in navigating Google Classrooms.
- Schools have been holding remote meetings (Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google meets or phone conferences) with SLT and Executive PTA.
- Many teachers have established "office hours" where students and/or families can call-in for support. Teachers have been calling families to check in when students are not completing assignments and offer additional supports, i.e Counselor for Family Crisis (illness/deaths) or offer other supports or provide modifications to work.
- Many schools use on-line grading and communication via Pupil Path (Skedula) or Jupiter. Use Twitter as another vehicle to provide information and celebrate school highlights.
- Work with Donna Brailsford, Director of School & Youth Development to facilitate a meeting with Guidance Counselors to discuss Crisis Supports in a Remote Learning environment and address

questions and provide an opportunity for other Counselors to share their success strategies for handling similar issues.

- Established a district google doc for schools to share questions and highlights to share challenges and successes with remote learning.
- Remote meetings with Principals and APs to discuss teacher and parent support in remote learning--- created focus groups to address challenges and create flexible forward thinking plans on issues not yet addressed or policy decisions yet made by DOE.

Remote Learning FAQs for Multilingual/English Language Learners (MLLs/ELLs)

The DOE has developed a MLLs/ELLs Remote Learning Policy FAQ for school leaders to provide guidance on Commissioner's Regulation (CR) Part 154 and Title III.

The FAQ is a living document, which will incorporate guidance from NYSED as it becomes available; school leaders can visit the FAQ page regularly for updates. You can also view the D30 website.

Remote Learning Survey- Preliminary Results and Extension for the Remote Learning Survey

To ensure that as many voices are heard as possible and for schools to gather the most representative feedback, the Remote Learning Survey will remain open for families and students who have not yet participated. Preliminary results will be available on Friday, May 8 so that principals can begin using survey feedback in their planning for the remainder of the school year. The DOE also suggests that parent coordinators and other members of the school leadership reach out to families to reinforce that the survey is open through any scheduled outreach or communication. The DOE communications team will also use its platforms to promote the survey among families. Today there are approximately 79,683 student responses.

Cancellation of Regents Exams due to COVID-19

The NYS HS Regents exams have been cancelled in response to COVID-19 related school and district closures. Frequently asked questions can be viewed at the regularly updated information site on the NYSEDs COVID-19 and @ NYSED.gov.

On April 30, the Board of Regents and New York State Education Department (NYSED) announced the cancellation of the August 2020 administration of the Regents. On April 7, NYSED announced the cancellation of the June 2020 Regents exams.

Graduation Ceremonies:

As announced by Mayor de Blasio on April 28, there will be a citywide virtual graduation ceremony to celebrate NYC high school seniors. In addition, schools may hold virtual graduations and moving-up ceremonies to celebrate their students. Schools will receive guidance on virtual platforms for these events .

Procuring Items in support of Virtual Graduation/Moving Up Ceremonies:

In order to support schools in preparing for virtual graduation/moving up ceremonies, schools can move forward, as customary, with procuring the following approved virtual graduation/moving-up items: Certificates, awards, plaques;

Mailing of report cards, awards, etc. (including, increases for Pitney Bowes mail accounts):
Note that report cards and other academic records can also be emailed to parents and guardians following the Guidance for Sharing Student Records with Families During Remote Learning; Note that diploma orders for June graduates are being held for distribution after in-person instruction resumes. Further guidance is forthcoming regarding how schools should securely document student graduation remotely in lieu of the physical preparation and distribution of diplomas.

Caps and gowns;

School rings;

Yearbooks; and

Graduation paraphernalia (t-shirts, hoodies, senior gifts, e-gift cards).

Toolkit to Support and Celebrate “Decision Day” for Graduating Seniors

Beginning May 1, the traditional college and postsecondary enrollment deadline, the Decision Day Campaign Toolkit for 2020 will be available for high schools to support and celebrate graduating seniors with resources for making postsecondary decisions. In response to COVID-19, many colleges and universities have extended their acceptance deadlines beyond May 1.

As a result of these changes in the postsecondary-planning landscape, and the Mayor and Chancellor's shared commitment to support seniors in their college and career aspirations before graduation, the **Decision Day Campaign is extended from May 1 through June 26** to encourage each senior to finalize their postsecondary plan. The toolkit will be available in the College and Career Planning folder on TeachHub, and will be updated through June. Schools are invited to highlight their students' postsecondary decisions on their school's website and social media by using the following hashtags: #FutureReadyNYC, #HereforStudents, #IDecided.

Guidance on Conducting School Leadership Team (SLT) Meetings During Remote Learning Period

Schools must continue to hold School Leadership Team (SLT) meetings during the remote-learning period. These meetings ensure collaborative decision-making for school-level policy. School Leadership Teams and District Leadership Teams are essential elements of our educational governance structure and ensure collaborative decision-making in school-level and district-level policy. Schools must continue the practice of holding these meetings in accordance with state law and Chancellor's Regulation A-655, and the guidance below explains how these meetings can be conducted virtually.

I. Remote SLT Best Practices

School Leadership Teams (SLTs) play a significant role in creating a structure for school-based decision making and shaping the path to a collaborative school culture. New York State Education Law Section 2590-h requires every New York City Public School to have an SLT, and Chancellor's Regulation A-655 provides a detailed blueprint of how SLTs accomplish the state's mandate for school-based management and shared decision-making through the development and monitoring of the Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP). SLT meetings are subject to the Open Meetings Law. The Governor's recent COVID-19-related Executive Orders (202.1 and 202.14) relax the in-person meeting requirements for meetings subject to the Open Meetings Law (“OML”) and allows for SLT meetings to be held virtually via tele- or video-conferencing, provided that the public has the ability to

view or listen to the meetings and the meetings are recorded and later transcribed.

Best Practices SLT

The SLT's chairperson should continue to chair the SLT. The SLT secretary should continue to provide notice of these meetings, consistent with the OML. These two officers should work with the school's principal to identify a DOE-approved virtual platform (guidance for NYCDOE Videoconferencing can be found here) that will allow all of the members to meet and that will also provide an opportunity for the school's community and the public to attend the meeting. Every effort should be taken to follow the SLT's by-laws regarding the time and date of the meeting. In general, SLTs should seek to ensure that all members of the SLT are able to attend the meeting and that notice of the date and time of any SLT meeting has been made public 10 days before the meeting.

Facilitation:

- Agenda should be emailed to all SLT members and posted on the school's public website before the meeting.
- Virtual platform must have the ability to allow SLT members to speak or provide written comment through a moderated chat. While a public comment period is not required, SLT meetings are an opportunity to hear from members of the school community.
- The chair, or designated meeting facilitator, should announce the meeting norms at the beginning of the meeting and periodically throughout. (For example, speaking order will be established).
- The chair, or designated meeting facilitator, should endeavor to ensure that all members have the opportunity to speak and be heard during the meeting.
- Minutes of the meeting should be recorded by the secretary or the videoconferencing application and shared with the membership as soon as possible.

Additional Requirements:

SLT must continue to make decisions through consensus.

All members must be provisioned to view their school's CEP through iPlan.

SLT members are eligible for annual remuneration of \$300, if they complete 30 hours of service, including remote service, on the SLT and attend a mandatory training session relating to CEPs and budget issues each year. SLT members who attend training but serve less than 30 hours may request remuneration on a pro-rata basis.

II. Remote DLT Best Practices

District Leadership Teams play a significant role in creating a structure for District-based decision making and shaping the path to collaboration between superintendents, principals, parents, teachers, other school staff, and community partners.

Section 100.11 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education requires every superintendent to develop a district plan, known as the District Comprehensive Educational Plan (DCEP), with a committee, known as a District Leadership Team. Chancellor's Regulation A-655, provides a detailed blueprint of how DLTs accomplish the state's mandate for District-based planning and shared decision-making through the development and monitoring of the DCEP. If DLT meetings are scheduled during this time, they should be held virtually via tele- or video-conferencing.

Best Practices DLT

The DLT's chairperson should continue to chair the DLT. The DLT secretary should continue to provide

notice of scheduled meetings. These two officers should work with the District's superintendent to identify a DOE-approved virtual platform (guidance for NYCDOE Videoconferencing can be found here) that will allow all of the members to meet and that will also provide an opportunity for the District's community and the public to attend the meeting. Every effort should be taken to follow the DLT's by-laws regarding the time and date of the meeting. In general, DLTs should ensure that their members are able to attend scheduled meetings and that notice of the date and time of any DLT meeting is shared with the members in advance.

Facilitation:

- Agenda should be emailed to all DLT members before the meeting.
- Virtual platform should have the ability to allow DLT members to speak or provide written comment through a moderated chat.
- The chair, or designated meeting facilitator, should announce the meeting norms at the beginning of the meeting and periodically throughout. (For example, speaking order will be established).
- The chair, or designated meeting facilitator, should endeavor to ensure that all members have the opportunity to speak and be heard during the meeting. Minutes of the meeting should be recorded by the secretary or the videoconferencing application, and shared with the membership as soon as possible.
- Superintendents are encouraged to welcome parents to observe DLT meetings so that they are aware of the priorities of the district and how decisions are made. Superintendents can promote these meetings on the district website, through parent leadership bodies, and via emails to parents.

Voting:

DLT must continue to make decisions through consensus.

Guidance on Supporting Students Observing Ramadan

Ramadan begins April 23 and ends with the celebration of Eid al-Fitr on May 24. During this religious period, some Muslim students may choose to observe Ramadan by fasting from sunrise to sunset and will go without eating or drinking throughout the school day.

It is important for Regional Enrichment Centers (RECs) to provide a supportive environment for Ramadan-observing students during this period.

SAT Weekend and SAT School Day Updates

As announced on April 15, the College Board will not administer the SAT and SAT subject tests as planned on June 6.

When it's safe from a public health standpoint, planned to begin in August, the College Board will provide weekend SAT administrations every month through the end of the calendar year. This includes a new administration in September, and the previously scheduled administrations on August 29, October 3, November 7, and December 5. Due to the SAT test cancellations this spring, the College Board expects that there will be high demand for the SAT administrations later this year; they are requesting that schools open their doors and provide additional test-center capacity so that every student who wants to can take the SAT.

Child Abuse and Maltreatment Prevention and Intervention During Remote Learning and at the Regional Enrichment

While conducting remote learning and working at the Regional Enrichment Centers with students, all pedagogical and non-pedagogical school personnel are still mandated reporters when working in their professional capacity and must continue to follow the requirements of Chancellor's Regulation A-750, Child Abuse and Maltreatment.

Guidance on NYCDOE Video Conferencing

The New York City Department of Education (DOE) understands the urgency around providing safe and secure virtual-meeting solutions to protect our students while delivering the best possible remote learning experience.

Use of Zoom conferencing again - May 6, 2020

The DOE is pleased to announce that now, following several weeks of collaboration with the company, they are now able to offer Zoom as a safe, secure platform for use across the DOE. All schools and students will have free access to a central, secure DOE account for learning and collaboration. The DOE's work with Zoom included reaching an agreement about data encryption and storage, creating settings for our platform to make sure only DOE participants and specifically invited guests can enter classrooms or meetings and giving meeting hosts more control over their classrooms and meetings. This means that:

- All staff and students must use the new DOE central account to access Zoom
- All DOE students and staff will be able to sign onto nycdoe.zoom.us with their DOE email and password, and will be able to use the full complement of features Zoom offers
- The central DOE account has been pre-arranged to ensure safety and security of all participants, which protects all members of our communities
- There is no cost for schools, teachers or service providers (for use of Zoom, as well as previously approved platforms like Microsoft and Google)

Zoom will be added to all DOE-issued iPads. Visit the Getting Started with Zoom page (<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-Please-support/getting-started-with-zoom>) to learn more about accessing Zoom, including:

- How to access DOE Zoom
- New security settings and instructions for use
- Contacts for technical support for families

Reminder of Donations and Fundraising Rules During the COVID-19 Outbreak

This notice is to remind employees about the rules for receiving donations and soliciting donations. During these unprecedented times, many companies are generously offering to donate goods and/or services to the DOE. In appropriate circumstances, DOE can accept donations as gifts to the City. However, all the City's Conflicts of Interest Laws and Rules remain in effect, as do all DOE rules and regulations (unless otherwise authorized by the Chancellor). Additionally, all applicable federal, state and local laws apply as well, including student privacy laws.

Parent Letters and Information on Remote Learning

The Frequently Asked Questions on remote learning and other parent letters are available in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Urdu. Schools were asked to share this critical information on remote learning to families in their preferred language, by sharing with their families via their school's digital pathways, as soon as possible.

Grading Policy Guidance for Remote Learning

During remote learning, schools must continue to provide families with meaningful feedback about student progress, while adapting their grading policies and practices to reflect the wide range of experiences and challenges we are facing as a school community. Please review the Grading Policy Guidance for Remote Learning for new information about the DOE's expectations for grading for the 2019-20 school year through June.

UPDATE for Families – GRADING POLICY – 4/28/2020

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The grading policy outlined below is in effect for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year only. Teachers will base students' final grades on a holistic review of their progress before and after we started remote learning. Attendance will not be a factor in students' grades. No student will receive a failing final grade.

GRADE(S) Grading Policy Summary

3K & Pre-K No change – students in 3K and Pre-K do not receive report cards or grades.

K - 5th Students receive final grades of either “Meets Standards” (MT) or “Needs Improvement” (N).

6th - 8th Students receive final grades of “Meets Standards” (MT), “Needs Improvement” (N), or “Course in Progress” (NX), if additional time is needed to complete the course.

9th - 12th The school's existing grading scale applies, but no failing grades will be issued. A “Course in Progress” (NX) will be issued instead, providing students with additional time to complete the requirements for the course.

After final grades have been issued, students and families have the option to convert any or all passing Spring Semester 2020 final grades to 'CR' which indicates the course was passed and credit was earned but does not have a value in the student's GPA. The DOE is continuing to develop plans for programming and supports over the summer months. More information about summer school will be made available by your school and shared in the upcoming weeks.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

For elementary and middle schools, principals will generally serve as primary points to answer questions regarding the grading policy for families. For high schools, school counselors and college counselors will generally serve as primary points to answer questions regarding the grading policy for students and families, along with principals. If you need help identifying the school counselor or college counselor, please contact your principal (principal contact information can be found on your school's website

at <https://www.nycenet.edu/schoolsearch>). Please also see our Frequently Asked Questions document for additional information at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/information-on-remote-learning>.

We are committed not only to supporting students in their continued learning through June and beyond, but to supporting you as our primary partner in your child's education.

Food Resources shared by FACE

Find food assistance, help paying bills, and other free or reduced cost programs, including new programs for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plentiful – A website and app that lists many of the pantries in NYC and lets people make appointments for food pick-ups with those pantries that participate.

Food Hub NYC – Food resources for children

NYC DOE – Food resources for students

Access NYC – Get Emergency Food Now

LemonTree – Website to help match volunteers to food organizations

Food Bank NYC.org – Here is an updated list of pantries.

Links for parents for informational purposes

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnyc/get-help/individuals.page>

https://youtu.be/2pOl0UswTIY?list=PLz5aMT8ziHx_ZkKKEbHQqep689xj1SYag

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Links for parents for informational purposes- Continued

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