

**REOPENING
YONKERS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



GORTON HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

School Reopening Plan 2020-2021

**Mr. W. Shaggura
Principal**

**Grade 9: Mr. J. Morales
Grade 10: Mrs. A. Falcone
Grade 11: Mr. R. Ramirez
Grade 12: Mr. S. Grandoit
Assistant Principals**

Contact Information

Principal	Mr. William Shaggura	Wshaggura@Yonkerspublicschools.org
Assistant Principal	Ms. Antonia Falcone	AFalcone@Yonkerspublicschools.org
Assistant Principal	Mr. Sony Grandoit	SGrandoit@Yonkerspublicschools.org
Assistant Principal	Mr. Jamie Morales	JMorales@yonkerspublicschools.org
Assistant Principal	Mr. Romulo Ramirez	RRamirez@yonkerspublicschools.org
Nurse	Ms. Eileen Kilduff	EKilduff@yonkerspublicschools.org
Principal's Clerk	Ms. Laisha Lynk	LLynk@yonkerspublicschools.org
PowerSchool Clerk	Ms. Vanessa Muniz	VMuniz@yonkerspublicschools.org
Guidance Clerk	Ms. Beverly Clark	BClark@yonkerspublicschools.org
School Phone Number	914 376-8350	School Website https://yonkerspublicschools.org/Gorton



Health and Safety

The Health and Safety of the entire Gorton High School learning community begins at home. Assess your wellness and/or your child's wellness. If you or your child are experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms (including a temperature of 100° or greater) please remain home.

- Begin screening at home. Parents are responsible for checking their child's daily temperature and completing the health screening questionnaire. Schools will determine additional screening, as needed.
- Parents/guardians to complete Daily Attestation Form (health survey) for each child. Parents/Guardians must inform the school in the event of health status changes. The Daily Attestation Form may be completed via App (when available), online and emailed to ekilduff@yonkerspublicschools.org or brought in to your child's teacher. All Daily Attestation Forms will be maintained on file in the school office. Any responses of "yes" on the Daily Attestation Form will be referred to the School Health Office.
- Daily temperature screening will occur upon entry to Gorton HS. Appropriate Face Coverings must be worn at all times.
- School Nurses will be the school COVID-19 Coordinators and will monitor community and school spread of virus. The health offices will have an Isolation Space in the event a student or staff member needs to be isolated. There is a health office on the first floor.
- School entry times will be in compliance with Social Distancing Guidelines, to facilitate temperature screenings and collect Daily Attestation Forms brought to school. Students only (Parents/Visitors not allowed to enter) will enter through the designated entrance of the building for a temperature screening as follows:



Health and Safety

- Face Coverings must be worn for the entire school day.
- Health and hygiene protocols will be followed as applicable to student individual needs.
- Student/Staff safety protocols will be followed in accordance with the YPS Reopening Plan.
- Classrooms will be arranged to maintain social distancing between students and staff.
- Visual aids/signage illustrates appropriate spacing and traffic flow throughout school building (e.g., designating hallways or entrances as one-way), the signage will be age/grade appropriate.
- For safety reasons, visitors to the building will be restricted to only necessary/emergent situations.
- In-person student drop-off or pick-up is restricted to one parent or caregiver. Parents/Care-givers should refrain from early sign-outs. Pick-up should be during designated dismissal times only. Please schedule all appointments/activities for hours outside of your child's school schedule.
- In the unlikely event of a situation requiring an early student sign-out:
 - Parent/caregiver will be met at the front door.
 - ID must be shown and presented to the front desk
 - Front desk will communicate with the main office to confirm.



*Student sign-outs will not be permitted after 1:30 p.m.



Morning Arrival

Bus Arrival times are dependent upon Public Bus Schedules.

School doors enter at 7:20 a.m.

Grades 9-12 enter through Cafeteria Doors for temperature screenings and submission of Attestation forms



Afternoon Dismissal

Students will exit through staircase 3

Students with van transportation will exit through staircase 4.

Students will not be permitted to remain in the building once classes have concluded

◀ **EXIT** ▶



Facilities

- Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the building. Frequent hand washing is encouraged.
- Visual aids/Signage illustrates appropriate spacing and traffic flow throughout school building (e.g., designating hallways or entrances as one-way), the signage will be age/grade appropriate.
- Classrooms will be arranged to maintain social distancing between students and staff. Student/Teacher desks will face one direction.
- Hold physical education classes outside whenever possible. Floor spots for inside physical education classes adhering to the extended social distancing guidelines. The gymnasium floor will have specific markings that follow social distancing guidelines.
- Activities that do not allow for social distancing, including assemblies and not limited to in-person field trips and large group use of equipment simultaneously will be suspended. Outdoor spaces will be utilized whenever possible.



Facilities

- ▶ Social distancing to be practiced in all student restrooms. Handwashing signage in restrooms will serve as a reminder of appropriate handwashing procedures.
- ▶ All drinking fountains will be turned off. Students are encouraged to bring in their own bottled water. Filtered bottle filling units are to be installed in every YPS building. (we will notify families when this occurs at Gorton HS)
- ▶ All emergency drills (including but not limited to fire drills, lock down procedures, evacuations, etc.) will be practiced in the safest way possible.
- ▶ As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department:
 - Classrooms w/ windows-Windows will be functioning and open for proper circulation and air flow
 - Classrooms w/o windows will have appropriate ventilation for appropriate air circulation
 - Classrooms w/o appropriate ventilation will not be used for instructional space



NUTRITION

- The YPS Food Services will provide daily breakfast and lunch to all students who want to participate. Students may receive at least one hot meal per session
- Students bringing their own lunch must do so in a disposable bag. No reusable lunch bags or boxes.
- Social distancing protocols will be adhered to in cafeterias, therefore student desks will replace tables. Students are not to congregate in the cafeteria and must maintain social distancing.
- As students enter the building via the cafeteria, Grab and Go Breakfast will be available
- Breakfast service will be in the cafeteria between 7:20-7:35am



Transportation



- ▶ Parents/Care-givers are required to insure their children are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and complete the Daily Attestation Form before boarding the YPS school bus. Sick students should not come to school
- ▶ Busses will be cleaned and disinfected using CDC and DOH recommended products
- ▶ Face coverings must be worn while boarding, riding and disembarking school busses
- ▶ Social distancing protocols must be followed at bus stops, while on the bus and when arriving and departing the school
- ▶ Siblings and students residing in the same household that are eligible for district transportation may sit together
- ▶ Parents/Care-givers may consider walking or transporting their children to school to reduce density on buses.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- Pupil Support Team Members (School Social Worker, School Psychologist, Guidance Counselors and Nurses) will be available to address students' needs and prepare socially responsive support systems.
- Secondary ReThink Ed Social-Emotional Learning Program protocols will be followed.
- Student and Parent Virtual Orientations and Presentations will be held prior to school opening and throughout the school year.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Digital instructional platforms will be used for remote learning. Grades 9 -12 will utilize Microsoft Teams. These instructional platforms will be used during in-person, hybrid and 100% remote models.
- Social distancing markers will be used for classroom seating. Lockers will not be available to students
- As per NYSED guidelines, Next Generation Learning Standards and appropriate curriculum will be utilized.
- All instructional experiences will be inclusive, culturally responsive and consider the academic and social emotional needs of all students.
- Students will receive instruction and support services as per grade level requirements, IEP indicators and multi-language learner needs.
- Co-curricular programs (art, music, physical education, technology, etc.) will be scheduled and administered following social-distancing and safety protocol guidelines in accordance with NYSED regulations.
- In a hybrid model, Flexible Wednesdays will be used for professional development, lesson planning, and student supports, teachers will provide office hours and wellness checks as well.



100% Remote Instruction

- Microsoft Teams will be used as the platform for grades 9 through 12. Students receive instruction remotely 5x per week (excluding holidays).
- Student must access the Teams platform for daily interaction and instruction
- Students will follow their instructional daily schedule
- Related services are provided remotely.
- Social emotional learning and supports are integrated into the instructional program and are delivered remotely.
- Wednesday's are for teacher follow-up with students and families and Professional development.



Hybrid Instruction

- Students receive instruction in school at least 2x per week (excluding holidays).
 - Remote learning takes place on the day's students are not in a school.
 - Related services may be provided in-person or remotely.
 - Social emotional learning and supports are integrated into the instructional program and may be delivered in-person or remotely.
 - Students will be divided into 4 letter cohort groups A through D (Siblings will be placed in the same cohort).
- Track A** will attend school Monday and Tuesdays (excluding holidays)
 - Track B** will attend school Thursdays and Fridays
 - Track C** will attend school Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
 - Track D** have opted for 100% remote instruction



Technology and Connectivity

Access to Internet

Many families have access to the Internet however, there are families in the community that do not have access to Internet or technology. The district has been working with service providers to find low cost solutions for families that do not have Internet. This includes finding the means and funding to provide “portable hot spots” to families. Wi-Fi access is also accessible immediately outside of school buildings, including many school parking lots and the public libraries provided they are open.

Technology Access Survey

YPS surveyed families on their access to technology, the Internet and digital learning experiences during the Spring and Summer of 2020. In addition, website and the IT program dashboard analytics provided the district with information on the number and percentage of students who were able to access digital resources and information and the methods that were being used by families to access it (phones or computers and types of browsers). This information has been used to inform the district on how digital content should be displayed so that it can be read by phones as well as computers. In addition, it has been used to illuminate the needs of our school community.



Technology and Connectivity

Technology Support

The district provides support for technical issues through several means. The district Technology Department Help Desk is accessible during business hours through email helpdesk@yonkerspublicschools.org and by phone (914) 376-8637. The District Instructional Technology office is also available by phone to assist families and teachers (914) 376-8280. Other supports include:

- ▶ Assistance with log on and password issues • Assistance with devices and instructional technology
- ▶ Videos posted for families, students and teachers on the Distance Learning website and individual school websites providing instruction on accessing district programs, including Microsoft Teams and Clever, the district's instructional technology single-sign on system
- ▶ Technicians are assigned to school buildings to provide support
- ▶ Library Media Specialists and technology liaisons are available to support students and teachers in the schools
- ▶ District technology staff loaning laptops to families in the Main Lobby of the Yonkers Public Library and District building are easily accessible to the public.



ATTENDANCE

Per NYSED guidance district policies and procedures must focus on the academic consequences of lost instructional time and address absences before students fall behind in school. It is critical for schools to use a variety of creative methods to reach out to students and their families who have not engaged in distance learning.

Attendance Tracking and Reporting

- Teachers must track attendance in PowerSchool, whether students are attending at schools or engaging from home
- Grades 9-12 teachers will take attendance for each instructional class period
- For students engaging from home, the District recommends teachers give a daily attendance assignment or exit ticket in Microsoft Teams, then mark students that complete the assignment as engaged in PowerSchool

Chronic Absenteeism

- Reports are readily available in PowerSchool to assist schools in identifying students at-risk of chronic absenteeism, so as to develop interventions, problem solve with families, and improve attendance
- All conversations, meetings, and other forms of communication must be documented on “Log Entries” on the student's page in PowerSchool

