

# School 13

GRADES PK-8 SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN 2021-2022

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Please note that all instruction starting September 3, 2021, will be following a 100% IN PERSON Learning as our school-wide instructional model. As recommended by the Westchester County Health Department, we will be prepared to provide remote instruction as mandated by the DOH.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC (Centers for Disease Control) guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

The Health and Safety of the entire School 13 Learning Community begins at home. Everyday parents/guardians are asked to assess your own wellness and your child's wellness. If you or your child are experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms (including a temperature of 100°F or greater) please remain at home.

Begin screening at home. Parents are responsible for checking their child's daily temperature prior to sending them to school. Schools will determine additional screening, as needed.

Parents/Guardians must inform the school in the event of a health status change.

Daily temperature screening will occur upon entry to School 13. Additionally, appropriate face coverings must be worn upon entry.

Our School Nurse will be School 13's COVID-19 Coordinator and will monitor the health and well-being of our school community and monitor any potential spread of the COVID-19 virus. The health office will have an Isolation Space in the event a student or staff member needs to be isolated due to COVID-19 related symptoms.

### **School Day Arrival Procedures**

Students only (Parents/Visitors not allowed to enter) will enter through the main entrance of the building for a temperature screening as follows:

- Buses will arrive at campus at 8:15am and students will get off the buses at 8:25am and students will be brought to their teachers for Prek-2 and others directly to their classes.
- All 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will begin entering the school at 8:30am through the main doors; teachers will greet them at their assigned classrooms.
- At 8:35am, all Pre-Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teachers will be outside to welcome their students and assemble in their classes marked spots (standing on the Social Distancing Marks on the blacktop). Teachers will be monitoring their class during arrival by welcoming them to their assigned student spots. At 8:35am, all PreK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes will enter the school for temperature scanning.
- All students will obtain the grab and go breakfast after getting their temperature scanned.

### **School Day Dismissal Procedures**

It is critical to everyone's health and safety that parents/guardians arrive at the school at 3:00pm. Lateness compromises the safe dismissal of our community. Parents will wait outside of the gate until 3:00pm and pick up their children from their teachers. Face coverings must be worn by all who are

coming to campus to pick up our students. Parents/Guardians are asked to respect social distancing guidelines.

- School dismissal will be following Social Distancing Guidelines. PreK through 4th Grade will be in the courtyard waiting for a 3:05pm dismissal. All students (Parents/Visitors not allowed to enter the school) will dismiss through the front of the school as follows:
- Buses will arrive at campus at 3:00pm for student dismissal. Large buses will be on Pelton Street and all School Vans will be on Rollins Street.
- PreK-4th Grade will dismiss to the school courtyard using the same arrival/dismissal spots 3:00pm. PreK-4<sup>th</sup> grade bus students will gather by the playground/parking lot towards Pelton. Students will be escorted to Pelton Street for boarding. Parents are welcomed into the courtyard to sign-out their children from their homeroom teachers.
- 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will come down to the courtyard at 3:10pm and be dismissed directly to their parents from their child's homeroom teacher; the designated spots for homerooms will remain consistent. Bus students will gather by the playground/parking lot towards Pelton. Students will be escorted to Pelton Street for boarding.
- Buses will remain on campus until 3:15pm or as indicated by staff.

#### **SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASS DISMISSAL**

- All classes will be dismissed from the Outdoor Garden Classroom located on Rollins Street.
- Dr. Caputo and Ms. Schilling's classes will be dismissed at 2:50pm. Parents will pick up students there and bus students will board the buses.
- Ms. Mielle, Ms. Maron and Cooney's classes will be dismissed at 3:00pm. Parents will pick up students there and bus students will board the buses.
- Buses will remain on campus until dismissed by staff.

#### **HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR THE SCHOOL DAY**

- Face coverings/masks **MUST** be worn for the entire school day.
- Facemask breaks areas/times will be provided by the teacher and during breakfast and lunch.
- Health and hygiene protocols will be followed as applicable to student individual needs.
- Classrooms will maintain social distancing will be 3 feet apart or the use of Cohorting.
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- For safety reasons, visitors to the building will be restricted to only necessary/emergent situations. Parents are asked to keep school visits to a minimum.
- In-person student drop-off or pick-up is restricted to one parent or caregiver in the school at any given time.
- Parents/Caregivers should refrain from early sign-outs.
- Pick-ups 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:

- Only one parent/caregiver will be allowed to enter the building through the School 13 Main Entrance.
- Parent/Caregiver must participate in a temperature screening, fill out a COVID-19 Questionnaire and show a government issued picture identification card.
- Please be mindful that offices must also adhere to social distancing guidelines, so you may have to wait outside.
- Student sign-outs will not be permitted after 2:30 p.m.

## FACILITIES PROCEDURES

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

### **GENERAL HYGIENE**

- Face Coverings **MUST** be always worn.
- Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the school building.
- Frequent hand washing will be encouraged.
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### **CLASSROOMS**

- Classrooms will be arranged to maintain social-distancing between students and staff.
- Students will remain in their assigned classroom.
- Students will put all their items in their desks and jackets on the back of their chairs to eliminate the use of cubbies and/or lockers.
- Personal student school supplies need to be kept in a plastic container and cannot be shared with classmates.
- Special area classes (Art/Music/Electives) will take place in the student's classroom whenever possible.
- Outdoor spaces will be utilized whenever possible.
- Classrooms with windows will be used for proper circulation and air flow.
- Classrooms without windows/ appropriate ventilation will not be used.
- Classrooms will be cleaned during the day as needed with disinfectant provided.
- After school hours every classroom will be cleaned and disinfected.
- Bathrooms will be monitored for cleanliness and disinfected several times daily.
- Commonly touched items (doorknobs, faucets, handrails) will be cleaned throughout the day.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

- We will hold physical education classes outside whenever possible.
- Floor spots for inside physical education classes will adhere to the extended social distancing guidelines. The gymnasium floor will have specific markings that follow social distancing guidelines.

### **GROUP GATHERINGS**

- Activities that do not allow for social distancing are cancelled.

### **BATHROOMS AND HALLWAYS**

- Social distancing is to be practiced in all student restrooms. Signs are posted to assist in social distancing.
- Handwashing signs in restrooms will serve as a reminder of appropriate handwashing procedures.
- Students are encouraged to bring in their own water bottle from home. Filtered bottle filling units will be utilized.

### **EMERGENCY Preparedness**

- All emergency drills (including but not limited to fire drills, lock down procedures, evacuations, etc.) will be practiced in the safest way possible.

## **NUTRITION**

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

- The YPS (Yonkers Public Schools) Food Services Department will provide daily breakfast and lunch to all students who wish to participate.
- The breakfast program will be a “grab and go” bagged breakfast. This will be available to all students after their temperature screening.
- Lunch will be scheduled either in classrooms or in the cafeteria.
- Students bringing their own lunch must do so in a disposable bag to aid in reducing possible contaminated items being brought home.
- Social distancing protocols will be adhered to in our cafeteria.
- There will be no sharing of food in the cafeteria or classroom.
- The cafeteria will be disinfected between each lunch period.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

- Parents/Caregivers 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.
- YPS will provide transportation services to all eligible students.
- Face coverings must be worn while boarding, riding, and disembarking YPS school buses.

- 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 on the bus.
- Parents/Caregivers may consider walking or transporting their children to school to reduce density on buses.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

- Pupil Support Team Members (School Social Worker, School Psychologist, and Nurses) will be available to address students' needs and prepare socially/culturally responsive support systems.
- Elementary grades will use PATHS Social-Emotional Learning Program protocols to help students process and understand their feelings. We as a school will continue to support our students' needs through Restorative Practices.
- Andrus School-based Counseling Clinic will continue to support our school community using in-person and remote therapy. Parents are encouraged to communicate with our school or Andrus directly if they desire counseling for their children.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

As per Yonkers Public Schools reopening plan, CDC guidelines, NYS Health Department, School 13 will abide with the following procedures to help ensure health and safety:

At School 13, we teach our students to value community, rigorous learning, and civic preparedness, both locally and globally. We believe in equity, equality and social justice for our students, their families, and their communities.

- Digital instructional platforms will be used for remote learning:
  - PK-2<sup>nd</sup> will use SeeSaw.
  - Grades 1-8 will utilize Microsoft Teams and NearPod
  - The students will continue the use of CLEVER to aid them in password free access to our digital programs (BrainPop, Discovery Education, SumDog, Benchmark Advance, iReady, Mystery Science, Castle Learning, Book Flix)
- **These instructional platforms will be used during instruction.**
- As per NYSED (New York State Education Department) guidelines, Next Generation Learning Standards and appropriate curriculum will be utilized:
  - PreK students will learn through Big Day curriculum.
  - Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grades will use Benchmark Advance ELA, Eureka Math, Mystery Science and the BOCES Blended Social Studies curriculum.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade will use Benchmark Advance ELA, eMath curriculum, Science and the BOCES Blended Social Studies curriculum.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades will use NYS ELA Modules, Living Environment Science, and **SS CURRICULUM.**

- 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 (Individualized Educational Plan) indicators and multi-language learner needs.
- Special Area programs (Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology, etc.) will be scheduled and administered following social distancing and safety protocol guidelines in accordance with NYSED regulations.

## 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 SUPPORTS

The district provides support for technical issues through several means: The district’s Technology Department Help Desk is accessible during business hours through email [helpdesk@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto: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.

## 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
- The primary classroom teacher of grades PK-6 will take attendance daily.
- For Grades 7-12, each teacher will take attendance for each class period.
- Reports are readily available in PowerSchool to assist schools in identifying students at-risk of chronic absenteeism. School 13 will continue to follow our attendance interventions and problem solve with families to improve attendance.
- At School 13, all conversations, meetings, and other forms of communication will be documented in PowerSchool on the student's record.