



Virtual Town Hall

Friday, September 11, 2020

ps165nyc.org

Welcome!

P.S. 165



Agenda



- General Info
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Programming
- Remote Learning
- Supply Lists
- Communication
- Meetings & Visitor Policy
- Afterschool Programming
- Essential Contacts
- PTA Information

General Information



- Currently 35-40% of students will be 100% remote
- PPE allocation has arrived for our school (masks/sanitizers/soaps)
- Sept 16th - 18th all students are remote
- Sept 21st
 - in-person learning starts for Cohort A
 - remote instruction continues for Cohort B
 - remote instruction continues for Cohort D
- School Hours for Students are 8:00AM - 1:30PM
- We are still a Uniform School - navy bottom & light blue top

Arrival & Dismissal



- **School day is 8:00 - 1:30 pm**
- **Student Health Screenings**
 - Show their health screening clearance on the phone (parent or student...)
 - Health form can be paper copy or shown on phone
 - Parents are encouraged to escort their child to school for this reason
 - Grades 3-5 parents must drop at the gate
- Link: [NYC DOE Health Screening](#)
- **Staggered arrival/dismissal - Early Childhood Yard**
 - **Arrival Times**
 - 8:00AM Grades 3-5
 - 8:05AM Grade 2
 - 8:10AM Grade 1
 - 8:20AM Kindergarten
 - 8:30AM Pre-K
 - **Dismissal Times**
 - 1:20PM Grades 3-5
 - 1:25PM Grade 1 & 2
 - 1:30PM Grade K & Pre-K
- **Pre-K & K Arrival Dismissal**
 - parents can drop off inside the playground gate but must keep moving and immediately leave the yard - to reduce number of people in that vicinity
- **Bussing for IEP students**

September 16th-18th



- **All students must participate (Cohorts A, B, and D)**
- **Live instruction will be for at least an hour each of these days**
- **Activities include:**
 - Virtual Meet the Teacher
 - Connecting with the Students
 - Google Classroom Navigation (meeting for students and their parents)
 - Student Activities
- **Teachers will email the schedule for these days and post in their google classroom**

Programming & Classes



- Students will be in Cohorts A, B or D (fully remote)
- Student Groups will be up to 12 students in A or B
- Bridge Classes
 - We currently do not have the staff to have 3 teachers per class; some classes are bridged. It is our way of maintaining the programs.
- PS 165 teachers will instruct all 3 programs
 - (in-person, blended remote, 100% remote)
 - This may be subject to change as per DOE guidance
 - Teacher shortage
- Monday, September 14th
 - Class assignments will be finalized
 - School Supply Lists will go out

Blended & Remote Learning



- COHORT A & B: Blended Learning
 - Blended In-Person
 - Students in Cohort A & B can only come on their assigned day
 - Cohort A starts in-person Mon Sep 21st
 - Blended Remote
 - When Cohort A or B is at home, they are expected to log on and participate in live instruction on Zoom and independent work on the google classroom
- COHORT D: Fully Remote Learning
 - Cohort D is made up of fully remote students across the whole grade
 - Will have small group instruction virtually
 - If you signed up for fully remote learning, you cannot come for in-person learning
- Virtual Platforms: Google Classroom and Zoom
 - Students will be invited to join through their RobertESimon email
 - Zoom account is a special one assigned through the DOE

Supply Lists

On Monday students will receive their supply lists through their robertesimon email address



Supply Lists

1) in person 2) blended remote 3) fully remote

Additional Supplies:

- Spare mask
- Insulated lunch bag (to keep the grab and go lunch cool)
- Water bottle- awaiting DOE guidance on water fountain usage; until then best to bring own water

Art class will include a list for at home learning

All items must be individually labeled with child's name (permanent marker or label)

Pro Tips:

Consider ordering headphones

If possible create a set place for student to do learning

Communication



Student Emails

- Each student at PS 165 will have a RoberteSimon.org gmail email account to utilize for communication and assignments
- New students will receive their Robertesimon google email on Monday, September 14th
- Students should continue to utilize the same email address as they had last year

Emergency Contact Forms will be Digital - Google Form

- Critical that all families complete so that we have accurate information and have updated parent emails for communication.

Questions?

- Direct inquiries to Ms.Yadira Brenes PS 165 Parent Coordinator
- Parent Coordinator: parentcoordinator@robertesimon.org

Meetings & Visitor Policy



DOE Policy & Health Protocols

- Limit visitors (including parents) who come inside the building to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Every person entering the building must complete the health screening
- Temperatures checks

Meetings with Teachers & Other 165 Staff

- All meetings will be virtual on either Google Meet, Zoom, or Microsoft Teams
- Meetings can also be by phone

After School Programming



- **YMCA**

- Director: Byron Flores
 - bflores@ymcanyc.org
- YMCA after school will be offered to K-5 students
- Cohort A and B can only attend on the days they are in school. Unable to cross or change cohorts to maintain testing/tracing protocols.
 - As soon as YMCA has their protocols and schedules in place, they will be reaching out to families.
 - Pick up and arrival will be changed - likely to be outdoor pick up and arrival.

- **Young Audiences of New York (YANY)**

- Will be virtual program, information to come on signing-up
- Director: Cesar Pagan cpagan@yany.org

Essential Contacts



- **Parent Coordinator:** Yadira Brenes
parentcoordinator@robertesimon.org
- **School Psychologist:** Ryan Melhus-Barreno
rmelhusbarreno@robertesimon.org
- **IEP Coordinator:** Nicole Siegel nsiegel@robertesimon.org
- **School office number:** 212 678 2873 press 0
- **DOE Messages for Families**
<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/news/chancellor-s-message-for-families>

PTA Information



To join the PTA mailing list, please email pta@ps165nyc.org

Join our [Facebook group](#)

Fundraising: In June the PTA voted to set aside \$5,000 to help the school with COVID19 related expenses. In August we purchased face shields for teachers/staff

The PTA is also looking to provide:

1. Desk barriers
2. Amazon gift cards for the teachers to purchase classroom supplies as they lost their DOE reimbursement due to city budget cuts
3. We are researching ways to help increase the sound quality for live instruction and may purchase amplifiers for each teacher
4. We expect to help fund other costs as the term continues

*Would you consider donating to help our PTA cover these costs?

Click here to see the ways you can donate: <https://www.ps165nyc.org/donate>

Q&A



Q: When students are remote learning; will they be expected to participate in class at home from 8:00 - 1:30 pm?

A: Yes. They must be in the live instruction in order to get credit for attendance. This is a DOE policy. Teachers will send the schedule for when live instruction is. It will not be the entire day to allow students time to work on assignments. Families must honor the school day and ensure that their children are engaged even when they are home.

Q: What does 'blended classes' mean?

A: if you selected for your child to learn in person, that is blended (cohort A or B) in person on the scheduled days. On days your child is not scheduled to be in school, they are expected to participate in live instruction and completing assignments in the google classroom. Feedback will be given to children on instructional expectations.

Q: will the live streaming also be recorded so parents can review later in order to help their children?

A: at this time the live instruction some of it may be recorded... expectation from DOE you are in the stream when it is happening (like regular school). Still working with the teachers to determine what might be recorded and what might not be... conversation with the UFT



Q: Is 100% remote cohort D only one class per grade?

A: At this time, each grade or bridge of two grades has their own fully remote class with one PS 165 teacher.

Q: will students be required to bring ipads to school with them?

A: we are looking at our inventory of our ipads in building to determine if we have enough for reading on iPads without sharing devices. Will update families shortly.

Q: What does 'Bridge' class mean?

A: It is two classes combined based on the numbers that are in each group (across two grades). We are ensuring there are 12 children max in a cohort class. For example; There may have been 1 class in 5th grade with only 2 kids in A and 3 in B and the same program in 4th grade has same / similar numbers so they would combine to be a 4th and 5th grade bridge class. This enables us to maintain some of the programming for Dual Lang and G&T. Will be working with Dual Lang team to determine when Spanish instruction makes sense given cohorts in person and at home blended. During this time, the program won't follow our traditional model.



Q: Will orientation next week be recorded so if parents miss it , they can review later?

A: We are still in the process of creating the schedule. The expectation for school this year is that students are actively participating in the live instruction, so we are not yet sure if it will be recorded.



Q: What is the attendance policy? (Applies to all students Pre-K through 5th grade)

A: Ms Hidalgo is working on the attendance policy to share with families. The current DOE expectation is that a child must log in and attend live sessions in order to be recorded as present. If you will be absent for any day (in-person, blended-remote, or fully remote) please contact Ms. Hidalgo in the main office (212-678-2873) and also let your classroom teacher know.

Q: What does it mean to have the Health Screening on the phone?

A: Our understanding is that you go through the link, there will be several Q's (name, name of child, grade, etc.) to answer and then once it is completed, it uploads. Once the screening is complete, you will get a green clearance icon. You can show this on your phone to staff/personal at the building. It is a large symbol, so it can be seen from a distance. This is not a PS 165 specific policy. This is DOE policy. There will be more information provided from us at the school level, but this is what has been shared with us from the DOE so far.

Q: if a child is in cohort A or B, can parents still move them to fully remote cohort D?

A: Yes. You can opt into fully remote learning (cohort D) at any time. Right now that locks families into fully remote learning until at least November. <https://www.nycenet.edu/surveys/learningpreference>



Q: Will class or teacher assignments change?

Normally, students have a consistent class and teacher for the whole school year. Please be aware that due to COVID school changes and staffing issues with the DOE, our in-person class size is 12 students. The DOE has said that they will give fully remote students a chance to change into blended learning (in-person and remote) in November, which may result in shifts in the classes. Staff members are also able to apply for a medical accomodation at any time which affects our teacher assignments. Right now, the good news is, that we are ready for in-person learning starting the 21st!

Q: If a child is out due to suspected COVID symptoms or as a precaution, can they join the remote learning group on that day so that they do not miss instruction?

A: As of right now, we do not have guidance from the DOE about this and can't say yes or no. It is important to know that if your child is sick, you should get medical clearance from a doctor before returning. If your child has COVID symptoms, we encourage you to get them tested before returning.

Q: will attendance be taken 16th-18th or begin on 21st?

A: Yes. Students are expected to attend virtually each day.

Q: What will student lunch look like?

A: Children will grab breakfast and lunch at beginning of day... it is good for 4 hrs; which is why we request families send an insulated lunch box to help maintain the food. Per the Aug 6 letter from Chancellor - lunch is to be held in classroom and instructional lunch , teachers engaging in myriad of activities while they are having their lunch this was instituted to avoid transitions within building and keep cohorts and pods intact and avoid cross contamination

Q How will specials classes (gym, art, music, computer science) take place this year?

A: Students will still have their cluster teachers. Art and Computer Science will be pushing into the classroom because we cannot use computer lab or art room because of cross-contamination. Gym and music will be our outdoor learning classes. Gym will be in the large yard, and music class in the Early Childhood Yard per DOE guidelines. When there is inclement weather - gym will be held in the 1st floor gym and music will push into the classroom. This period of time is the teacher's duty free lunchtime.



Q: Are there any options for early drop off?

A: There are no options for early drop off.

Q: Is there a school nurse on site?

A: Yes. We have a school nurse on site at the PS 165 building.

Q: Who can we direct questions about pre-k SEITs to?

A: Please contact your child's teacher for further information.

Q: Is there an after school program for Pre-k students?

A: We do not currently offer after school for pre-k. DYCD cannot service pre-k students.

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Q: What are the ventilation and sanitation measures taking place to ensure a safe environment?

A: Any classroom that is being used for instruction has been cleared for use by the DOE. Our school custodian is following DOE school facilities guidance as outlined by Chancellor Carranza.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/health-and-safety>

Q: What is the school uniform and where can it be purchased?

A: Our school uniform is navy blue bottom and light blue top (any type of clothes - pants, shirt, dress, jumper, etc). They can be purchased anywhere. Uniforms do not have to be worn while students are remote.

Q: Will students with IEPs be receiving their related services?

A: Yes. Service providers will be reaching out to families.





A Message from Ms. Castellano-Folkes, PS 165 Principal:

We appreciate the trust you have in us and my team. We have a true love and passion for what we do and we love our children as if they were our own. We have high expectations of our children, and will deliver a high level of instruction even under these circumstances. DOE guidance for schools had been constantly changing over the last weeks and days. Thank you for your flexibility, patience and support as we embark on this learning journey together.