

P.S. 108 - The Philip J. Abinanti School
UNITED IN EXCELLENCE

Charles Sperrazza
Principal

Lori Solano
Assistant Principal

PublicSchool108.net

Georgette Valente
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am pleased to be welcoming you back for the 2020-21 school year. I hope you had an enjoyable summer and are excited to return for the reopening of school. This year, will be very different from the past. Teachers and students will be required to wear face masks, follow social distancing protocols, and participate in random temperature screenings. Additionally, families will be required to complete a daily health and safety form in order for their child to enter the school building.

On August 24th, families were notified as to their child's cohort and schedule. In the event, should you require this information, please check your email or contact the parent coordinator, Mrs. Giorgina Rodriguez, Grodriguez23@schools.nyc.gov or phone (1) 332 216-5378.

Beginning Monday, September 14, teachers will be emailing students inviting them to orientation sessions which will take place on Wednesday, September 16th, Thursday, September 17, and Friday, September 18th. in Google Classroom.

- (Pre K- 2) student orientation will take place between 9am-10am.
- (Grades 3-5) student orientation will take place between 10:15am-11:15 am

Before students return, we ask that you support us by attending to the following "best practices" for adhering to social distancing protocols and personal protective equipment.

- Teach your child the proper way to wear a face mask
- Encourage your child to wear the mask for an extended period of time while at home as they will have to wear face masks in school for a majority of the day.
- Explain to your child how to manage the six feet social distancing protocol. Younger children can practice by walking six paces.
- Discuss the importance of proper and frequent hand washing and sanitizing.

In closing, I would thank you in advance for your support and cooperation in adhering to these health and safety protocols in order to keep our children and staff safe. Please see the following pages for important information regarding your child's school day and parent resources.

Sincerely,

Charles Sperrazza

Charles Sperrazza
Principal- P.S.108

Reopening Update for Families: September 2020

How Will My Child Learn at Home?

Whether learning remotely from home part of the week or every day, students will receive remote instruction in two different ways: live interaction (sometimes referred to as “synchronous instruction”) with teachers, and independent learning (sometimes referred to as “asynchronous instruction”), which includes assignments, projects, or recorded video lessons. Let us explain what that means:

Live interaction means that your student will interact with their teacher on video, phone, live chat, virtual app, or another digital mode in real time. The teacher may be interacting with the whole class, small groups, or individual students. It can be done over Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, or other DOE-approved video or phone conferencing or digital platforms. It includes:

- Class Lessons;
- Office Hours to connecting in real time with teachers to get individual or small group help with instruction or instructional activities;
- Social-emotional wellness activities such as sharing circles or mindfulness exercises; or
- Feedback discussions with students and families about their work and progress via video or phone.
- Other “live participation” activities, such as chat, offered by the digital platform used by educators during lessons.

At the beginning of the school year, here are the target amounts we are asking all schools to engage their students in live interaction and instruction each day:

- Students in 3-K and Pre-K programs: up to 30 minutes
- Students in kindergarten through grade 2: 65 to 95 minutes
- Students in grades 3–5: 90 to 110 minutes

- Middle school students in grades 6–8: 80 to 100 minutes
- High school students in grades 9–12: 100 to 120 minutes

The amount of time devoted to live instruction will increase each month for all grades as the school year progresses to allow students and teachers to gradually transition. Scheduled times will be posted so that students and staff alike can plan for engagement.

Independent learning means your student will work on their own with assignments, projects, and materials provided by their teachers. This might include:

- Video lessons or presentations recorded previously
- Activities, assignments or tasks that build on lessons from previous days
- Collaborative projects and assignments with classmates
- Discussion boards and conversation, feedback, or guidance from teachers over email

Who Will Be Teaching My Child?

Your child will have a high-quality educator leading their education, no matter where they're learning. Instruction may look a little bit different in every school, reflecting the specific needs of the school community, but here is what you can generally expect:

For Students in Blended Learning

Blended learning refers to a combination of on-site, in-person instruction at the school some days of the week, and remote instruction at home on remaining days.

Your child may have different teachers for on-site and remote learning. Those teachers will work closely together in pairs or teams to create meaningful and connected learning experiences. For example,

a student may begin a project in person and then continue to work on it while remote.

During the remote portion of blended learning, your child will regularly be with the same group of students with whom they attend in person.

For Students in Full-Time Remote Learning

Where possible, students engaging in full-time remote learning will be taught by teachers from their own school. Teachers will regularly meet with the same group of students on specific days.

How to Stay Informed on Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Your School Community

It's important that your school can reach you to share crucial information quickly, including alerts about confirmed COVID-19 cases in your child's school. Please sign up for a [NYC Schools Account](#) (NYCSA) so we can contact you via phone, email, or text message. With NYCSA, you can access your child's grades, test scores, schedules, transportation information, and more—from anywhere, and in all nine standard DOE language translations.

If you don't have an account, [sign up today](#) (Open external link) . It only takes five minutes!

Technical Support for Families

If you have ongoing issues with technology to support learning at home, even after visiting our support pages (such as [Getting Started with Your iPad](#), [TeachHub](#), [Getting Started with Google Classroom](#), [Getting Started with Teams](#)) please fill out the Technical Support for Families form. The form uses Google Translate in the top right corner.

- [Technical Support for Families](#) (Open external link)

You can use the form to let us know what issues you are having with NYCDOE iPads or other devices including:

- Status or delivery of iPad request
- Reporting a lost or stolen device
- Support for sign in and use of iPad or other DOE devices
- Help with applications (including Google Classroom)

If the form doesn't offer the answers you need, you will be asked to provide your contact information and we will get in touch with you and try to solve your problem. Staff can fill this form out on behalf of parents. Staff who need help with technology should log into the [Technology Page](#)(Open external link) on the InfoHub.