

September 10, 2020

Dear P.S. 39 Families,

It was such a beautiful sight on the teachers' first day back to see you and your children outside the school! We appreciated the impromptu symphony of children and parents cheering teachers on, and welcoming them back for this school year. It was energizing for the staff, and set a really lovely tone. Our staff want to see kids as much as you want them to see us.

Parent Julia Baron shared this delightful artwork that her daughter Hannah and her friend Elektra created after coming to make some joyful noise for teachers. It brought me joy, and I hope it brings you a smile.



Following up on my screencast and Q&A last week, this is the focus for teachers' work time and professional learning this week:

- Reviewing health and safety procedures and protocols for staff and for students
- Setting up virtual classrooms in iLearn, and continuing their iLearn how-to modules professional learning
- Setting up in-person classrooms in a safe way following CDC and DOE guidelines
- Professional development in planning for blended and remote learning by adapting existing reading, writing and math units for blended and/or remote context, in a process that works whether teaching remote or in-school cohorts
- Designing grade-level schedules to accommodate in-person hybrid cohorts and remote students based on new guidance realized around Labor Day.
- Including training in Social-Emotional learning in the [RULER Approach](#) and its complement to [The 4Rs Program](#) from Morningside Center.
- Collaboratively setting up community building routines, social-emotional well-being, and [culturally responsive practices](#) within a blended learning model

We know that parents are anxiously awaiting all of the details about school reopening. Teachers need to use this time to explore the best way to use our small, supportive, caring staff to deliver quality instruction to all students whether hybrid and remote. **This work will determine the information that you need about orientation plans, school supply lists, and class**

schedules. There is much to manage and plan, and your patience and understanding is so greatly appreciated.

You can find our ventilation report and draft reopening plan here: [PS 039 Henry Bristow](#) (Scroll down to find our specific report).

To help parents prepare for when information will be shared:

- Teacher assignments will be provided on Monday, September 14
- Orientation schedules will be shared via email on Monday, September 14
- Teachers will share a grade-level welcome letter with their classes on Tuesday, September 15
- Information about arrival, dismissal, lunch, recess, school supply lists will be shared during the orientation days on September 16, 17 and 18.

Families should take the time to review the [NYC Department of Education 2020-2021 School Year Calendar](#) that was just released last week. Be sure to note school holiday and non-attendance days.

We need your help now!

Families can help us by completing the following forms by Sunday, September 13. If you are unsure if you have completed these forms, please resubmit.

- [Emergency Contact Form](#)
Just a reminder that all families are required to submit a new emergency contact form every school year, even if your child is on remote-only learning]
- [Back to School/ Tech survey](#)
This survey will help us ensure that all students have a device to use and can access their NYC Student Account that will be needed for orientation next week.
- [Family Income Inquiry Form](#)
You do not need to apply for your child to receive school meals. However, we do ask families to complete Family Income Inquiry Form which helps schools receive money for their programs
- [Class Parent Interest Form](#)
Please consider serving as a class parent this year. It is a fantastic way to support the kids *and* teachers by helping to manage class specific information, plan events, and make connections.