



Important Update Regarding the 2020-21 School Year
Wednesday, July 29, 2020

This update can be found on our Class Dojo School Story (K-8), as well as on our website at www.pfpcs.org/news.

Dear Families,

We hope this message finds you and your families healthy and well.

PFPCS will start the 2020-21 school year with a full-virtual schedule. We will follow the School District's latest plan – announced yesterday – as they are guided by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

We are launching the school year virtually after extensive preparations, investing in what is best for your child. Our core priorities include:

- **New Laptops for All Students:** We have acquired brand-new HP Chromebooks for all students. Each student will have his/her own Chromebook and will not need to share with siblings. Any student who needs to exchange a Chromebook or who received an older laptop this past spring will receive a new Chromebook.
- **Internet Access:** We will ensure that all families have reliable internet access at home.
- **Core Subjects:** Students will participate in daily virtual lessons in all core subjects. They will receive their daily schedule of classes by the end of August. They will be expected to participate in all of their classes every day in order to be marked 'present' and to earn credit. The first day of virtual classes is scheduled for Monday, August 31st.
- **Canvas Learning System:** PFPCS has purchased an online learning management system. All students will have access to Canvas, a learning management system through which they will be able to access and submit assignments that their teachers post. Parents will also have access to this platform and will be able to monitor their child's grades and assignments real-time.
- **Enrichment Activities:** Students will participate in fun and engaging virtual activities. Students will attend virtual morning meetings and closing circles, virtual field trips, and virtual celebrations and award ceremonies.



- **Essential Supports:** Special education services including speech and occupational therapy will be delivered virtually, as will counseling and telehealth through our School Based Health Center.
- **Daily Meals:** Students will have access to to-go breakfast and lunch meals. Families will receive meals either through the City of Philadelphia, or through PFPCS. These meals will be served “to-go” and will be available for families to pick up at designated times each week.

During the weeks of August 17th and August 24th, we will distribute school supplies and Chromebooks to families. We will send you the distribution schedule during the week of August 10th.

Please know that we have made extensive preparations in our building in anticipation of a hybrid model that includes in-person instruction. When it is time to transition to this hybrid learning option, there will be a comprehensive plan to return in place, as well as opportunities to orient students and families to what safe in-person learning would look like.

We know that this school year will look and feel very different. As always, we are incredibly grateful for the support and partnership of our families. We know that we are asking more of you than ever before. But I am confident that, together, we will help our children learn and thrive.

Sincerely,

Corey Dwyer

Principal

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