



W. Arthur Cunningham Intermediate School 234

A Proud Past • A Bright Future
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October 26, 2020

Dear Cunningham families,

I can't believe that we are in the final week of October already. Strangely, this feels oddly familiar and yet there is still a sense of newness to all that is happening. As you already know, we are still deemed a 'Red-Zone' school and subsequently, we have not even had an opportunity to welcome our 8th grade hybrid students into the building.

Yesterday we received information from the Chancellor regarding the Academic Grading Policy for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Guttenplan has sent an email with this information earlier today and it has also been posted to our school website and sent via 'Virtual Backpack'. Please note that all families will be asked by the end of the year to determine how you would like your child(ren) grades to be recorded. In other words, if you do not want your child(ren) actual GPA (number grade) put on a final report card, then you must notify the school that you wish for the FINAL report card to indicate 'P' for Pass instead of a numeric grade.

Yesterday, we received the following notification from the Chancellor's office:

To best meet these objectives, the process outlined below will be the only opt-in window for families this school year, through the last day of the 2020-2021 school year. We believe that this best meets the needs of students, families, teachers, and school leaders as we establish strong routines and structures for learning. As such, the process for blended learning opt-in is as follows:

Monday, November 2 – Sunday, November 15: Blended Learning Opt-In Window for Families

- ***Families requesting to change from 100% remote to blended learning should complete and submit the [Learning Preference survey](#) during this window.***
- ***Schools will be able to review individual students' updated learning preference on a rolling basis during this window.***
- ***During this time, Superintendents, Executive Superintendents and Central DOE will begin supporting schools to ensure as many students as possible are accommodated for blended learning.***
- ***Weeks of November 30 & December 7: Students Begin In-Person Learning (If changed)***

Please fill out the following forms to ensure that we have the most accurate and updated information:

[EMERGENCY \(BLUE\) CONTACT CARD](#)

[PDF photo consent form.pdf](#)

[PDF student-covid-19-testing-consent-form---septemb...](#)

When we matriculate back into the school building, the city will start random COVID testing for staff and students; please make sure that you have filled out the 'Student COVID testing form' if your child(ren) are hybrid learners.

This Friday, October 30, 2020 is our school spirit 'Harry Potter Day'. Staff, students and families are welcome to dress up in their favorite 'Harry Potter' character and share in our school spirit. Ms. Camillieri will send an email to their IS234 Gmail accounts on Friday morning. Please know that if the 'Photo consent form' is not filled out, your child(ren) will not be able to post their school spirit pictures to our website.

Next Tuesday, November 3, 2020 is Election Day; all students will have remote instruction on that day. This is not a professional development day for staff as it has been in years past. All students will be remote learners regardless of whether we are cleared to return to the school building before then.

As the information sometimes comes rapid fire to us; I try to get it out to you as quickly as possible. If you are not receiving Mrs. Guttenplan's emails and phone calls, please reach out to her as soon as possible. We post everything to our website, www.IS234.com, please make sure to check there on a daily basis.

Your partner in Education,

Mrs. Flynn

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