



Robert H. Goddard Middle School 202

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William M. Fitzgerald, Principal

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Dear JHS 202 School Community -

Hope you are well!

Yesterday, principals across the city attended a virtual meeting hosted by Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza. This was followed by a citywide press conference and announcement that NYCDOE schools will be open this fall. Based on yesterday's meeting and other information shared last week, I will do my best to provide you with the latest. Many of your questions are similar to other stakeholders across the city, and right now, are difficult to answer. It's frustrating for everyone. I firmly believe the DOE is doing their best to work through all the complex issues surfacing from school communities across the city. It's a difficult process and will take time to work out the logistics and particulars. As you have been throughout this process, please continue to be patient. I know this is easier said than done.

Below are key points for families. Please remember this is a fluid situation. What we decide today, can change tomorrow.

1. As of today, schools will be open in September for students following a "Blended Learning Model". This means; students will rotate in-school and home based learning on a specific schedule. For our school, students will be assigned group A, B or C, (before September) based on our initial capacity estimates. We are a large school for only 3 grades (6, 7 & 8). Group D (as shown in chart) will be programmed for full time remote learning.
2. Students will be inside the building for the full day (8:05 am - 2:25 pm) on their scheduled day. An example of our potential schedule is found in this document.
3. According to the Chancellor, beginning July 15th, parents will be able to request remote learning (home based) full time for their child. Medical documentation is not needed for this request. This information will be important for September planning purposes. If $\frac{1}{3}$ (approximately 350 students) of our families request to keep their child home, this will adjust our in-school capacity numbers, and could allow for an A & B rotation. No C group, if a large number of families opt to keep children home. When the survey is open, I will inform families and encourage everyone to complete ASAP.
4. Schedules for students will be randomly selected from each class. Here is a brief example; Students programmed for class 601 will have three separate groups for each class, 601a, 601b & 601c. Your child will be given a letter and will be expected

to follow the schedule assigned to the letter. In this document, an example of a 3 week schedule has been provided. We are all aware this will be an additional challenge to families who are working and have other responsibilities.

5. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) will be made available for those students who need it. Strict cleaning protocols will be followed daily by the custodial staff. Policy pertaining to students wearing any PPE, will be made clear as we approach September.
6. Over the course of the summer, we will work closely with our campus High School to develop staggered arrival and dismissal times to limit students' interaction between both schools.
7. We will also work with our campus High School to utilize shared space (cafe, auditorium, school yard, gym etc.) to benefit both schools in a safe and effective manner.
8. For students who are working remotely (home based), we anticipate information forthcoming for those students/families.

As of today, we are programming for a three-group rotation for every student. Below is an example of what this schedule will look like.

Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
	Group D (Remote)				
1	Group A	Group B	Group A	Group B	Group C
2	Group B	Group C	Group A	Group B	Group C
3	Group C	Group A	Group A	Group B	Group C

Your child would be designated a group A, B or C schedule. Your child will be expected to follow the schedule assigned to them. Altering class sizes in a class or grade will affect the social distancing requirements with other students' programs. We have to make every attempt to stick to the programs/schedules assigned to each student.

I understand the many challenges we face today. I also understand your frustration with the lack of clarity or questions so many of you have. As new details emerge, we will do our best to keep you informed. I am confident we are moving in the right direction to get everyone's life back to normal, while doing this transition safely. I ask you to please utilize our school's website www.ms202q.org and directory to send us any questions you may have. We will do our best to answer what we can.

Respectfully,

William M. Fitzgerald
Principal JHS 202