



5515 South Loop East · Suite B
Houston, Texas · 77033

713.967.9000 · tel
713.589.2502 · fax

yesprep.org

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Dear YES Prep Families & Community,

We hope this message finds you all well and that you have enjoyed Spring Break with your families despite the ongoing situation with the COVID-19 coronavirus. We know this unprecedented event has impacted all of our lives in many ways. Please know, however, that YES Prep remains committed to our students, families, and communities during this challenging and quickly evolving time.

The following are the most current updates and plans that we have for post-Spring Break. Thank you for taking the time to read through all the important details of this message. We will continue to work diligently to provide you consistent, relevant updates as the situation evolves.

Relationships, Connection and Community

Please know, **in the coming week, the physical and mental health of the YES Prep community will be our top priority.** We will focus on connecting with families to check on their health, personal situation, and to uncover any challenges they are currently facing as a result of this crisis. This will allow us to allocate resources accordingly and provide consistent structures for our families to have their basic needs met by providing meals (see details below), addressing any technology gaps, etc.

Student Meals

YES Prep is committed to providing students and any persons 18 years or younger with access to meals during the system-wide closure. Starting Monday, March 23, YES Prep will be providing meals at all 15 of our non-partnership schools. Families can access the school's parking lot from 10 – 11 a.m. to pick up meals either curbside/walk-up or drive thru. For more details, please visit: yesprep.org/covid19.

Keep YES Prep Learning

YES Prep was on Spring Break this past week and we will use the coming week (March 23-27) to continue planning for long-term distance learning. Our teams are working hard to provide a long-term distance learning program the week of March 30. More information to come.

In the meantime, this week, we will share a guidance on how students can spend about 2 hours per day to stay mentally active and ready to resume learning in their grade level. Links to these resources will be shared on Tuesday, March 24.

We are working on plans to address technology gaps that some families are facing. This includes loaning out WIFI hot spots and devices to students who lack access to internet or a computer at home. All students took a survey on this before we left for Spring Break. We will share more details and guidance regarding this in the next few days.



STAAR Test

Governor Greg Abbott [has waived the STAAR testing requirements](#) for the 2019-2020 school year. Regardless of the STAAR test administration or not, YES Prep students will continue to learn important content to be college ready. We will continue to keep you informed regarding critical updates from the state and TEA as we receive them during this period.

SAT Test Canceled, but Preparation Continues

The SAT School Day planned for April 14th, 2020, is cancelled. The May 2, 2020, SAT and SAT Subject Tests have been cancelled. **Class of 2021 (Juniors) should utilize their [Khan Academy accounts](#) to continue preparing for the SAT daily.** More information is available at the SAT [website](#).

ACT Test Rescheduled

The April 4 national ACT test date has been rescheduled to June 13 nationwide. All students registered for the April 4 test date will receive an email from ACT in the next few days with information and instructions for free rescheduling to June 13 or a future national test date. More information is available at the ACT [website](#).

Resources

We know many of our families are facing different challenges and we want to connect you with an array of resources that can help support your various needs. We are putting together a special section on our COVID-19 webpage with more resources for you. Here are a few links you can access now for additional support:

- [Health care services related to COVID-19](#)
- Mental Health Hotlines
 - Harris County Public Health: 1-800-985-5990 free 24/7 counseling
 - [Crisis Text Line](#)
- Talking with your child about COVID-19
 - CDC: [Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)
 - Ntl. Assoc. of School Psychologists: [English](#) / [Spanish](#)
- [Unemployment](#)
- [Affordable Internet for Eligible Households](#)

District Communications

We will continue to keep you updated and also encourage you to look for the latest information on our social media and on our website at [yesprep.org/covid19](https://www.yesprep.org/covid19).

As of now, we are still closed through April 10, and will be reassessing the situation during the week of April 6, to determine if it is necessary to keep schools closed beyond that date.

We thank you again for your cooperation as we continue to navigate this unprecedented situation with the health and well-being of our students and staff as our highest priority.