

## Superintendent Remarks

Name: Bel Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October

### Spelling Test

1. tree 6. dine

2. rate 7. hill

3. more 8. ill

4. young 9. should



# WELCOME BACK!



SCHOOL STARTS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 29TH

Getting Ready For  
the New School Year



## What We're Doing to Prepare Schools

**Hiring** - Visit [teachinphilly.org](https://teachinphilly.org) for teaching and counselor positions, and [workinphilly.org](https://workinphilly.org) for critical support staff roles such as school climate staff, food service worker, bus attendant and drivers, and more.

**Replenishing** - Supplies of hand sanitizer, masks and other health and safety items have been delivered to every school.

**Checking** - All hydration stations and air/surface purifiers will be checked to be sure they are working.

**Cleaning** - All school buildings will be cleaned and sanitized before the first day of school.

## What Parents Can Do To Prepare

**Visit a Back-to-School Bus Tour Stop** - For the second year, our Bus Tour will bring free backpacks, school supplies and important back-to-school information and services to Philadelphia neighborhoods. See the full schedule at [philasd.org/ringthebell](https://philasd.org/ringthebell).

**Want a COVID Vaccine or Booster?** You or your child can access free COVID-19 vaccine or boosters at clinics, pharmacies, and other locations throughout Philadelphia. Find a location near you at [www.phila.gov](https://www.phila.gov) or at [www.vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

**Check Your Child's Chromebook** - If it needs repair, beat the rush and take it to one of our Parent & Family Technology Support Centers. Find out more at [philasd.org/chromebooks](https://philasd.org/chromebooks).

**Experiencing COVID-like Symptoms?** Visit one of our free mobile testing sites. Find locations at [philasd.org/coronavirus](https://philasd.org/coronavirus).



Learn more. Scan the code  
with your phone's camera or visit  
[philasd.org/ringthebell](https://philasd.org/ringthebell)

Mëso më shumë | تعلم المزيد | 了解更多 | apprendre plus | ໃຊ້ສາຍນັບຮູ້ສູບ

Saiba mais | Aprende más | Узнайте больше | Để biết thêm

## Back-to-School Checklist

The first day of school is August 29th. Use this checklist to prepare for a successful school year.

- ✓ **Make sure your child is up to date on required immunizations**  
Not sure which ones your child needs to attend school?  
Visit [philasd.org/vax](https://philasd.org/vax).
- ✓ **Know your child's bell & bus schedule**  
Check the school's website or call the school office for details.
- ✓ **Readjust your child's sleep schedule**  
About 1-2 weeks before the first day of school, start gradually setting back your child's bedtime and waking them up earlier (if needed) to make the transition back to a structured school routine easier.
- ✓ **Shop ahead for school supplies**  
Check the school's website for a list of the school supplies, uniforms and other items your child will need for school.
- ✓ **Update your contact information**  
Moved? New phone number? Emergency contacts changed?  
Contact the school and let them know. Correct information on file at your child's school allows the school to share important updates and contact you in an emergency.
- ✓ **Support your child's daily attendance**  
Attending school all day and every day is vital for your child's success. Have challenges that could impact your child's attendance? Reach out to your child's principal or teachers. They can help.
- ✓ **Register for a parent and family portal account**  
You'll have direct access to information about your child's grades, test scores, attendance, immunization records, and much more. Visit [philasd.org/pfportal](https://philasd.org/pfportal).
- ✓ **Volunteer your time or expertise**  
Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their school do better academically and socially. Talk to your child's teachers or principal about joining the school advisory council or volunteering in other ways. Visit [philasd.org/face/volunteer](https://philasd.org/face/volunteer).
- ✓ **Check your child's Chromebook**  
Having issues? Our technology support centers are open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., except Wednesdays which have extended hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Find list of centers at [philasd.org/chromebooks](https://philasd.org/chromebooks).

## Operations Update

The Operations Division continues to focus on improving facilities at a rapid responsible rate to achieve the goal of all students being in safe and welcoming environments. Over the course of eight weeks, the following improvements have been made across our District:

- Installed over 500 air conditioning units in 43 schools
- Covered 1,200 radiators in advance of heating season.
- Completed 117 classroom improvements to include painting, new lighting and furniture
- Completed 4,100 work orders across multiple trades in plumbing, electrical, painting, and others.
- Installed over 41 hydration stations with a total of 1,487 completed.
- Completed 4 new roof projects and 3 new schools additions, adding over 25 classrooms
- Renovated 2 schools to support swing space initiatives for future projects



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# **SY 22-23 COVID-19 Protocol**



## SY 22-23 COVID Protocols

### Testing

- In-school testing available during outbreak and for symptomatic students. Parental consent needed on file.
- Over the Counter test kits will be available for students and staff.
- 5 mobile testing sites are available for students, staff, and family.

### Vaccination

- All students and staff should remain up to date on COVID vaccinations. COVID vaccinations are not required for students.
- Per Board Policy, all staff members are required to be vaccinated to begin working at the School District of Philadelphia.

### Ventilation

During Spring SY 2020-2021 air purifiers were put in all schools.

### Social Distancing

Recommend at least 3 feet physical distance when feasible.

### Cleaning & Disinfection

COVID enhanced cleaning and disinfection focused on high-touch areas.

### Practice Hand Hygiene

Students and staff are encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene, washing hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer is made available for students and staff.

## Masking Guidance for SY 22-23

Masking will be *optional* for students and staff **except**:

- **For the first 10 days of the new school year – August 29 through September 9.**
- **When the COVID-19 Community Level is high** according to the [CDC COVID-19 Community Level Indicators](#). In this instance, the District will notify families and staff that indoor universal masking will be required in schools, school buses and offices until the Community Level returns to medium. **At a Community Level of medium, masking is strongly recommended.**
- **Specific instances** where universal masking may be required, regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level, include:
  - **Classroom- or school-wide outbreak,**
  - **Or upon return from extended breaks and holidays** when increased social gatherings may heighten the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Masks are provided for students without proper masks. We contact parents of students refusing to mask and socially distanced the student. **Students with medical conditions preventing masking are otherwise individually accommodated.**

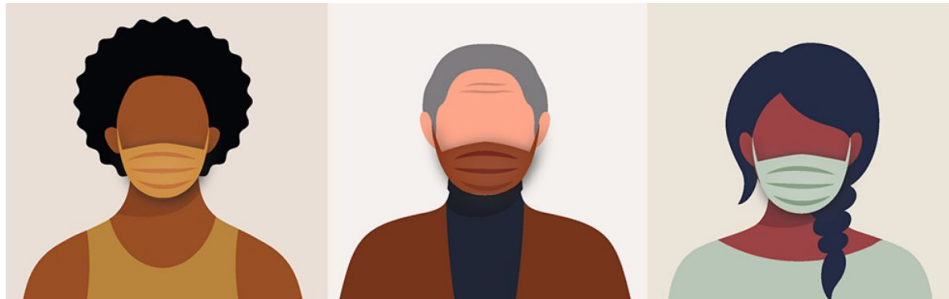
**Students and staff at PreK Head Start programs are still required to wear masks at all times, regardless of the Community Level. [Required by Health and Human Services.](#)**



## Mask to Stay

**Mask to Stay is an in-school alternative to quarantine after COVID exposure. Decreasing staff and student absenteeism.**

- Students and staff who have been exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, are no longer required to quarantine at home unless COVID-like symptoms are present. Instead, they may return to school but are required to wear a mask for 10 days.
- Accommodations are available for students with medical condition or disability that cannot wear a mask.



## Isolation

### **Students and staff may isolate at home for at least 5 days if COVID positive**

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate at home for at least 5 days and participate in virtual learning, if able.
- Parents/guardians must also notify their school nurse or call the COVID Response Team.
- If symptom-free after 5 days of isolation, students and staff may return to school/work but must wear a high-quality (N95 or KN95) mask for an additional 5 days and must eat in a designated area.
- Students who do not want to eat in a designated area will have the option of isolating at home for 10 days.



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# Staffing Update

## A Foundation for Success: Staffing Progress



Despite shortages in teacher market, we are over 97% staffed for the school year and off to a strong start!



For non-instructional roles, we are still actively recruiting and hiring for roles and show larger needs for certain school-based non-instructional roles.

# Foundation for Success: Staffing for Next School Year

Title	% Staffed for Next Year	Change from Last Month
Principal	99.0%	↑ 1.3%
Assistant Principal	96.6%	↑ 3.1%
Climate Manager	98.7%	↑ 1.4%
Teacher	97.4%	↑ 0.9%
Counselor	94.1%	↓ 1.2%
Nurse	91.3%	↑ 4.3%
Building Engineers	69.8%	↓ 1.2%
General Cleaner	89.3%	↑ 1.1%
Food Service Worker	79.8%	↓ 1.4%
Special Educ Asst	76.8%	↓ 11.2%
Student Climate Staff	71.6%	↓ 0.9%
School Secretaries	96.0%	↓ 1.5%
Bus Driver	70.9%	-

## Detailed Look: Teacher Staffing

97.0%

### Highlights

- Approximately 700 new hires (inclusive of preK-12 teachers and counselors) attended a five day new hire orientation August 8-12
- On August 15th and 18th, new hires had the opportunity to pick up classroom supplies in person as another welcome event
- Largest staffing areas that remain include special education, middle grades math & science, and certain speciality subjects such as art and music

### Upcoming:

- Continuing to cultivate and hire candidates: 100 candidates added to our eligibility list last week alone.
- In addition to the **3.25% raise** that will go into effect on September 1st, teachers will receive a **\$1000 retention and re-engagement bonus** at the end of September
- Communicating to teachers about the new reimbursement efforts announced in June regarding **reimbursement of up to \$2500 for certification** for teachers, counselors, and nurses

Join SDP

Interested in a Career at SDP? [Apply now!](#)

[www.TEACHinPHILLY.com](http://www.TEACHinPHILLY.com)



[www.WORKinPHILLY.com](http://www.WORKinPHILLY.com)



Join our upcoming event!

**IN PERSON EVENT**  
**Non-Instructional School-Based Roles:**  
August 24th – 10am  
at Solis Cohen



Thank You!

Name: Bel Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October

### Spelling Test

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