



September 2020

Dear BCPS Parents (and prospective parents),

It's September and the days until school begins are ticking away all too fast! We want to remind everyone of a few things as we know that over the past few months there have been many updates:

- **TO MASK OR NOT** - While masks ARE NOT required for children ages 2-5 during class time, they should be worn traveling to and from school (as per New York State mandate). We would like to encourage children who may be able to tolerate the wearing of a mask, especially the Pre-Ks, to wear one during class, as it is best practice for everyone. But the teachers will not force the issue and if a child keeps removing it or keeps touching his/her face, then she will put it in their cubby until pick up time.

Masks ARE mandatory for all adults, staff and parents alike while in our school building and when six feet distance cannot be maintained.

- **COVID TESTING** - All staff will be tested for Covid-19 prior to the start of the school year and monthly thereafter. While we are not requiring it for children as there is no strong consensus that they should be tested, you may want to speak to your pediatrician to get their thoughts. The test is free for parents and children at approved NYC sites throughout the city. Just call in advance to make sure the site tests young children <https://www.nychealthandhospitals.org/covid-19-testing-sites/>
- **NYC-DOH&MH DOCUMENT** – Also on this website page is a document we received from NYC DOH that we thought you may also find helpful in knowing what expectations are for our school and school family.
- And a reminder that we have adjusted our refund policy for the 2020-2021 school year to address Covid-19 related closings as follows:

Should school have a later start date due to government restrictions (after October 5, 2020) we will credit families with the fair amount based on time lost up until the day the school reopens. If already in session and the school is mandated to close by NYS or NYCDOH for a period of time longer than two consecutive weeks and it is still early in the school year (fall 2020/winter 2021), parents may opt to participate in virtual sessions or will be refunded the amount of tuition from the day of closure until the day the school reopens. If closing is mandated in Spring 2021, all students will be taught virtually, and no refund will be given for the remaining two months of the school year. If a parent/guardian makes an individual decision to withdraw their child at any time before or during the school year but the school remains open and operational, our standard non-refundable policy will be in effect and no refund will be given.

And now, our countdown begins!

Cindy & Jackie

Co-Directors