



BELL Academy

Bayside Enrichment & Long-Distance Learning Academy – MS 294

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David Abbott
Principal

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Assistant Principal

March 2, 2021

Dear BELL Families,

As we welcome the month of March, I would like to share some information regarding upcoming dates and events. Firstly, I would like to thank all in-person families for helping us to have a safe and smooth reopening. It is great to see your children each day. Please remember that your child should complete the health screening each morning, prior to arriving to school. This will ensure an efficient arrival, and your child can quickly proceed past the morning check-point.

On March 11th, we will hold our next Parent Teacher Conferences. You will receive information today from a representative from each grade with instructions for registering for an appointment.

Reminder for Parent Teacher Conferences

Our afternoon and evening Parent Teacher Conferences will both be held on Thursday, March 11th. **All students will be dismissed at 10:50 a.m.** All conferences will be held remotely between 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. You will receive surveys from your child's teachers to request appointment times, as well as to indicate your meeting preference (email, phone call, video conference). Please remember that you can always request additional meetings with your child's teacher(s) during teacher official office hours, which are Monday – Friday from 1:50 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. Translation services will be available. Please contact Ms. Lori at LBelcastro@thebellacademy.com for translation arrangements. For questions regarding the PTC survey, you can reach out to the following staff members:

6th Grade Parents: CChu@thebellacademy.com

7th Grade Parents: AMccusker@thebellacademy.com

8th Grade Parents: JKornblau@thebellacademy.com

Schools will be closed the week of March 29th – April 2nd. While I know many families have been welcoming the opportunity to travel, I would like to remind everyone that we continue to follow strict guidelines to maximize the safety of everyone in the BELL Academy family. Therefore, if you plan to travel, please remember that you must successfully complete the current Health Survey prior to returning to in-person learning in the building. The current travel guidelines, as indicated on the Health Survey, are as follows:

4. In the past 10 days, have you returned from a country with a [CDC level 2 or higher health alert](#) or a [US state or territory](#) other than New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Vermont?
 - No. The employee/guest may enter the building.
 - Yes, I was out of state for less than 24 hours, and I took or will take a COVID-19 test on the 4th day after my arrival in New York. The employee/guest may enter the building.
 - Yes, I was out of state for more than 24 hours, and I took a COVID-19 test within 72 hours PRIOR to my arrival in New York, quarantined for at least three days upon my arrival in New York, and took a second COVID-19 test on the 4th day AFTER my arrival, and got negative results on both tests. The employee/guest may enter the building.
 - Yes, and I am not in the two categories above. The employee/guest may not enter the building.

Based on the majority of conversations we've had with families who recently traveled, most cases fall within the section where I placed a red arrow. In order to return to school, you must first be tested within 72 hours PRIOR to returning to New York, then you must take a second test on the 4th day after you arrive back to New York. Both results must be negative. For any questions, please contact the school. I know we are all eager to return to our traditional way of living, which includes traveling, but we must do so safely and within the current health guidelines.

As always, the BELL Family is here to support you throughout this journey. We know that this continues to be a challenging time for all, and we would like to assure you that we are fully prepared to support you and your children. We continue to navigate through this together. **Together, we are BELL Strong!**

Sincerely,

David Abbott,
Principal