

P.596X PC File

April is National Autism Awareness Month. It is an opportunity to promote autism awareness, acceptance, inclusion, self-determination for all, and assurance that each person with Autism Spectrum Disorder is provided the opportunity to achieve the highest possible quality of life. As families you live this 365 days a year and 24 hours a day. There is no 11 month vacation. Please take a little time for yourselves.

As we spring forward, we look back at a school year unlike any other. A global pandemic that has affected all our lives in ways that are still unfolding. Students who need structure and routine buffeted by the winds of uncertainty with school opening and closing and the unique challenges of remote learning.

As a school community we have done our best to meet the moment with optimism. We held town halls to update our families and answer questions and concerns. Parent Workshops held in collaboration with P10X and 811X and our P596X specific workshops included: Mindfulness, OPWDD Services - The role of Care Managers during the pandemic, Bronx Developmental Disability Council, Behavior Management - Increasing positive behaviors in the home and responding to inappropriate behaviors, Helping our students ease their anxieties when the school building closes, Let's Talk about Puberty part 1, STARS Report - Understanding your child's report card and the school's grading policy. Our families have had the opportunity to attend District 75 parent workshops as well as workshops given by other District 75 schools as the wider D75 community and the DOE through the Parent University rallies to support our families. Our virtual assemblies included the holiday show, Winter Jubilee, Respect for all week, Vashti Dancer, Black History Month, Women's History Month and several read a louds. Family Bingo night, Wellness night, Parent Recognition, Pause for a Break and the Father's Club rounded out our activities. We go forward in hopefulness.

Here are some resources that you might find useful:

Autism Speaks, Autism Response Team (ART) is an information line for the autism community. Team members are specially trained to provide personalized information and resources to people with autism and their families. Toll free number available Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. in all time zones. Live chat is also available between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET.

1-888-AUTISM2 (1-888-288-4762)

En Español: 1-888-772-9050

help@autismspeaks.org send an email

Evection Moratorium. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has extended its nationwide moratorium on evictions through June 30, 2021. To be protected under this law, you must sign a "Hardship Declaration" and deliver it to your landlord. The Hardship Declaration form is available in English and Spanish here: <http://nycourts.gov/covid-eefpa.shtml>

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number

Applications begin on April 12, 2021

844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time

Please be patient don't give up, there is no deadline to apply.

Tax Day for individuals extended to May 17: Treasury, IRS extend filing and payment deadline. Free filing resources . <https://www.tax.ny.gov/fsa/>

February 26, 2021, the FCC released a Report and Order that established the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, a \$3.2 billion federal initiative to help lower the cost of high-speed internet for eligible households during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The program will provide two benefits: a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband services for eligible households (and up to \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands), and a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider if the household contributes \$10-\$50 toward the purchase price. The FCC expects that purchased devices will “be accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.”

<https://www.fcc.gov/fcc-releases-report-and-order-emergency-broadband-benefit-program>

The New York Immigration Coalition advocates for immigrant rights in New York State.

<https://www.nycic.org/>

NYC Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/immigrants/index.page>

Parent University is a course registration and management system where NYC families can find free trainings on a wide range of topics. Parent University serves all families, from early childhood through adulthood, and seeks to educate and empower them as partners and advocates through free courses, resources, events, and activities.

<https://parentu.schools.nyc/>

NYC Schools Account

NYC Schools Account (NYCSA) is a web-based application that lets you to see your child's academic and biographic information on any computer, phone, or tablet. The application is translated into nine languages other than English.

In the account, you can see a child's:

- Assessments (Test Scores)**
- Attendance**
- Enrollment History**
- Grades**
- Graduation Tracker**
- Guardians**
- Health Information (Fitnessgram)**
- Individualized Education Program (IEP) Information**

- **Promotion Tracker**
- **Reading Level**
- **Schedule**
- **Student Documents (Report Card, Transcript, Summer School Letter)**
- **Transportation**

E-mail Parent Coordinator Dawn Harney, with your name and child's name to receive your NYSchools Account creation code and instructions.

dkharney@schools.nyc.gov