

Virtual PTA General Meeting
Thursday April 2, 2020 @ 5:30pm

Alicia spoke about a few key issues that might be on parent's mind and the answered questions.

Attendance- Tracked by if the student is "seen" via handing in their work and/or attending Zoom session. Teachers are keeping track of this and will reach out to family if there is no engagement. Teachers want students to be there for instruction although attendance is not mandatory.

Report Cards- Baruch will no longer have quarters. There will only be a report card in June. As of now the DOE will not let schools go to Pass/Fail.

Student' can turn in work at any time, there is no penalty. It will always be accepted. If student can't make a Zoom session, have them let teacher know. "Attendance" is considered any kind of contact with school and is not part of grading policy.

State Exams- As of today there will still be Regents. If anything changes, school will let you know. AP exams will be given online (45 minutes) and based only on content until March. There will be 2 dates to take the tests. Dates have not been announced yet. AP exams are optional, and students do not have to take. Still waiting to hear about getting a refund if you decide not to take exam.

There will be no Spring Break. April 8th and 9th, school will be closed. The following week school will resume. Waiting for additional guidance from the DOE about what type of instruction is required. Baruch is hoping to have a "light touch" week- which would just concentrate on community and connection, not content. Looking at ways to have students stay connected – pep rally, contests etc

Questions from parents:

9th grade classes have online classes twice a week for each class. Posted in google classrooms for students. Ask teachers to put their Zooms in google calendar so everyone can know what is happening.

Rising Seniors and College application process- We still having one on one college meetings. Goal to meet with every student and family. Ms Grebstein is leaving as of the 18th. Ms. Ross volunteered to assist. Baruch has offered position to a new counselor but waiting for answer.

What about summer school? We are not holding all students back and/or having them attend summer school!

April 20th still the date for back to school, but it is unlikely and just waiting for a new date. Alicia is committed to having students walk in graduation even if they do it in July.

Is there a way for parents to access google classrooms? There seems to be a way to give parents access and Alicia will look into it. You can also ask child for password.

9th grade – phased in zooms, after first just giving assignments. 1 or 2 times a week. Teachers can record themselves and students can view

9th and 10th grades not daily zoom sessions.

12th grade daily zooms a bit much, so we are reevaluating.

Can team rethink 8pm deadline for homework? We have stated no more than 1 hour per subject- for ex: 30 minute zoom and then 30 minute homework. Should not have assignments due on weekend.

Spanish, Art and PE should not have daily homework. Teams agreed this is fair.

Can teachers provide one on one help? Teachers have office hours. Also, they have been telling students to email and reach out with questions.

What kind of clubs being created? And how can child participate? Reached out to student Govt and they are working on some things and will get back to us.

Has College office been updated for summer internships or have they been postponed? Teachers are still writing recommendations but don't know which one have been cxi or still on.

Again, there should be not homework due on Sat or Sunday. Any work assigned is due by 8pm and teachers need to post. 9th grade – due following day, 10th grade same day. No penalty for late assignments. Let school know if child is getting homework over the weekend.

10th grade seems to be heavy in history homework? Will follow up with teacher but because 10th grade has Regents exams it seems they might be trying to catch up with the work to be prepared for the exam.

If your child's is not engaging, we will reach out to you. It is not up to you monitor especially if you are working and/or working from home.

How can parents help teachers/staff? Let us know highlights, things that are working well or not well please let us know. Teachers are working long hours.

Nothing is set in stone and we are adjusting as we go. We are sending survey to students to get their input. 9th grade met with their advisors. Trying to get input and adjust.

Prom and Graduation. Prom Committee and Ms. Hanna have been brainstorming ideas. Events are supposed to be end of May and June. If we have to hold graduation in July, they will do that.

For 12th grade: can they be graded pass/fail? NYC cannot change grading policy. I think it's a great idea, but we cannot change at this time. Things are evolving and it is a possibility.

Graduation is a priority. Seniors already have their electives credits and just need core subjects. We still have AP comparative Govt and have Art for Seniors that need it for graduation.

We will write a weekly update which will be shared in our Eblast. Audio of this meeting will also be posted online.

