

BARUCH PTA MEETING APRIL 14, 2021 5:30PM

PTA is looking for Executive Board members and 1 SLT member. It is a great way to get involved! Both groups meet monthly. Please email the PTA if you are interested.

Midterm progress reports will be available on Friday.

New Policy regarding CR grade- you can now change any grade to CR at any time from last year when Covid began until you graduate.

Discussion for Tonight: What worked well and what did not work well for students and parents this school year

Alicia opened discussion and wanted parents to know their thoughts on the current school year.

9th grade parent - socialization was a miss- other schools more successful to help 9th graders get together and have planned activities. Other Schools could go out for lunch and kids were able to socialize then. Alicia spoke to our superintendent and was told students cannot go out for lunch

Another 9th grade parent- child does not know anyone and remote school has not been great. Mental health has declined. Alicia said, now that students are in school, they are looking for ways to connect 9th and 10th graders. Looking forward to next year- trying to figure it all out. Guidance is constantly changing.

We need to get kids outside and not sitting at desks inside all day. Trying to get accurate count of number of students coming into the building. We will reassess and figure out ideas for teachers and kids to get outside and do other things. Ping pong table in gym has helped but kids still need to stay in their pods for safety guidance so cannot interact with other pods

Could you have parent volunteers to take kids out to Madison Square park? Alicia said that would be ok.

What about clubs? There are many clubs that meet. There is a book club and film club.

Can Sr Mentors come into school when 9th graders are at school? No because they cannot mix pods.

Alicia is very open to ideas to help school and students function better

Baruch held two 9th and 10th grader mingles- kids really liked.

Today there was an anti-Asian biased forum.

9th grade teachers also echoing same thoughts and concerns about students and their mental health.

Always space to try to build connections.

Advisory has been working and high point for one parent's child.

Suggestion to increase group projects that would encourage students work together. Break out rooms work well for students who already knew each other.

Can you discuss amount of downtime students have during the day? How can we manage everything while still keeping kids 6 ft apart, which is still the guidance in NYC High Schools.

There are few 9th grade teachers in that are in-person. We have 3 subs in the building to help manage students.

9th graders spoke to seniors about their college experiences- most 9th graders enjoyed that.

Not a lot more students opted in during the new opt in period. Might be able to add kids to existing classrooms and then maybe open another classroom.

There are 31 Seniors coming into school and they can all be in cafeteria to be together.

Starting to plan for the Fall. Will try to get a sense if parents are open to breaks from learning to help with socialization and mental health.

Mental health- #1 priority Should have wellness days and give a break from academics.

Please email Baruch with any other suggestions or comments. Feedback from parents is important.