

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

# BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAMILY CHECKLIST



## ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR?

School starts on Wednesday, September 2nd, with all PreK-12 students engaging in digital learning five days per week and receiving instruction from teachers in their enrolled school.

Here's a checklist to help you and your child prepare for a successful school year:

- NEW TO THE DISTRICT? REGISTER YOUR CHILD**  
Register online by visiting [bit.ly/phillyk12reg](https://bit.ly/phillyk12reg), by phone by calling your child's school and speaking with a school secretary or in person by appointment only at the Education Center (440 N. Broad St.) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Email [OSEP@philasd.org](mailto:OSEP@philasd.org) to make an appointment.
- REGISTER FOR A PARENT AND FAMILY PORTAL ACCOUNT**  
A Parent & Family Portal account gives you direct access to valuable information about your child's grades, test scores, attendance and immunization records, and much more, including the latest District updates. To learn more and register, visit [signup.philasd.org](https://signup.philasd.org).
- UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION**  
The contact information on file at your child's school is used to ensure you receive important school and District updates, and can be contacted immediately in case of an emergency. Be sure to contact the school if you've moved, have a new phone number or your list of emergency contacts has changed.
- KNOW YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL SCHEDULE**  
Even though school will be 100% digital through the first marking period, students are expected to participate in a full day of learning five days a week. Start and end times for your child's school can be found on the school's website, or you can call the school office for more information.
- SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S DAILY PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL**  
Participating in school every day is vital for your child's continued academic growth and success. Your child's teachers will be taking attendance for each period and coursework will be graded. Ensure your child logs into the system on time every day and reach out to the principal or your child's teacher if you need assistance. Also, please contact your child's teacher or any school-based staff member for support if there are any barriers to your child's daily school attendance.
- ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS ACCESS TO A DIGITAL DEVICE FOR LEARNING**  
Our Family Tech Support Centers are open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (excluding holidays). You can pick up a loaner Chromebook for your child or have your current one repaired or replaced at the Education Center (440 N. Broad St., 1st floor lobby) and Fitzpatrick Annex Building (rear of Fitzpatrick Elementary at 4101 Chalfont Dr.) locations. The center at MLK High School (6100 Stenton Ave.) is for Chromebook pickup only. You can also call the hotline at 215-400-4444, email [FamilyTechSupport@philasd.org](mailto:FamilyTechSupport@philasd.org) or visit [philasd.org/chromebooks](https://philasd.org/chromebooks) for guides, tips and other resources. *\*Note: the student must be enrolled in a District-led school to receive a device.*

## **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS**

A list of free or low-cost Internet and WiFi access options can be found at [philasd.org/technologyservices/getting-connected](https://philasd.org/technologyservices/getting-connected). The City of Philadelphia, in partnership with local service providers and civic leaders, has also launched PHLConnectED, a program to provide free internet service to students who have little to no access to reliable internet service for digital learning. Call 211 or visit [phila.gov/phlconnected](https://phila.gov/phlconnected) for more information.

## **REVIEW A FAMILY GUIDE TO SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

Your child's teachers will be focusing on social-emotional learning this year, through daily Community Meetings in the classroom and as part of academic instruction. You can learn more about why social-emotional learning matters and how you can support it at home by visiting the Family Academy Virtual Course catalogue at [philasd.org/-/face/fact](https://philasd.org/-/face/fact) to review the course schedule for upcoming SEL classes that will be offered.

## **RECEIVE SUPPORT IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS REGARDING YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL WELL-BEING**

The separation that families and children have experienced by being distanced from supportive family members, teachers and friends during this pandemic may have caused feelings of sadness and anxiety. If you believe your child is currently experiencing these feelings, you can: call or text The Philly HopeLine at **1-833-PHL-HOPE (1-833-745-4673)** Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. to receive counseling services; share your concerns with a mental health provider with whom you have a pre-existing relationship; or, when school opens, contact your child's school counselor who will assist in developing a plan to support your child.

## **PICK UP TEXTBOOKS**

All schools will be contacting their families with dates and times when you can stop by to pick up textbooks and other materials to support a successful digital learning experience for your child.

## **KNOW WHERE YOU CAN PICK UP STUDENT MEALS FOR THE FIRST TERM**

Every Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon, you can pick up a box of 5 breakfast meals, 5 lunch meals and ½ gallon of milk for each student in your household. For the latest list of school-based meal distribution sites, visit: [philasd.org/grab-go-meals](https://philasd.org/grab-go-meals).

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE AUGUST 28TH BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE-THRU BACKPACK EVENT AT LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD, 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

The District will be providing free backpacks and supplies to assist students attending school online. Due to COVID-19, this year's event will be a drive-thru event, and the first 500 cars will be able to receive a free pair of Converse sneakers. Parents without a car may pick up backpacks for their child in person. Pre-registration is required. For more information about this event and how you can schedule a walk-up appointment, please visit [philasd.org/face/backpacks](https://philasd.org/face/backpacks) or call 215-400-5300.

## **MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS UP TO DATE ON VACCINES BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS**

It is important to your child's health to be up to date on immunizations, including for the flu vaccine. This is especially important this year because we do not yet know if being sick with COVID-19 at the same time as the flu will result in more severe illness. If you are unsure which vaccines your child needs for school, visit [philasd.org/studenthealth/immunizations](https://philasd.org/studenthealth/immunizations).

## **FIND HELPFUL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS IN SCHOOL**

We are dedicated to keeping families connected with the latest resources and information needed to support their children during digital learning. Visit the Office of Family and Community Engagement's website, [philasd.org/face](https://philasd.org/face) and save it as a bookmark to reference throughout the year for virtual parent education classes schedule/ descriptions/time; tools for families to use at home; and valuable online resources to engage your child during this time.

**Be sure to visit your school's website often for more information about school opening, Meet and Greets, Back-to-School Nights and more.**

Also, please visit [philasd.org](https://philasd.org) for up-to-date information about how we are Advancing Education Safely for the 2020-2021 School Year.