

From: **Boston Public Schools** communications@bostonpublicschools.org
Subject: Boston Public Schools Weekly Update
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To: akela.yofes@gmail.com

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BPS WEEKLY UPDATE

October 5, 2020

Read this newsletter online at
bostonpublicschools.org/weeklyupdate
and click the translate button on our website.



Welcome Group A High In-Person Priority Students Beginning Monday, October 5!

October 1 & 5	October 15 & 19	October 22 & 26	November 5 & 9	November 16 & 19
Students with highest needs begin hybrid classes	Grades K0, K1, K2 begin hybrid classes	Grades 1-3 begin hybrid classes	Grades 4-8 begin hybrid classes	Grades 9-12 begin hybrid classes

Stay Up-to-Date on Reopening!

Visit
bostonpublicschools.org/BPSReady

View the [BPS Student At Home Health Checklist](#),
available in the 10 BPS languages.

View [Remote Learning Ready](#) videos in English
and Spanish.

Results of all Boston Public Schools **Indoor Air
Quality** tests can be found [here](#).



Bus Safety Videos

Check out the Boston Public Schools
Bus Safety Video

[English](#) | [Español](#) | [عربي](#) | [Kabuverdianu](#) | [中文](#) | [Français](#) | [Kreyòl](#) | [Português](#) | [Afsoomaali](#) | [tiếng Việt](#)

Learn more at
bostonpublicschools.org/transportation



October Is College Month

College Month is an annual campaign each October to create awareness about college affordability, college admissions, and the types of degrees and careers that go along with a college education.

College Month is to showcase all of the city's varied and helpful resources designed to get students prepared for, enrolled in, and through college.

Learn more on the [Success Boston site](#).



Staples \$50 Store Cards for Every BPS Student

Staples is partnering with BPS to help families purchase school supplies for the new school year.

BPS schools are coordinating distribution of \$50 store cards that be used at Boston-area Staples retail stores until November 30.

Full details:
bostonpublicschools.org/staples



Story of the Week

BPS started welcoming back students for in-person learning on Thursday, October 1, beginning with our students with the highest needs.



Mayor Walsh, Superintendent Cassellius, and Boston Teachers Union President Jessica Tang greeted students at Ellis Elementary in Roxbury.

Watch the video [here](#).

60-A-Day Campaign: Physical Activity Series

Get active this Fall! Six weeks of fitness, sports skills, yoga, and dance sessions. All sessions and events are virtual, free, and open to the entire Boston Public Schools community.

Join the activities at bostonpublicschools.org/bpsmoves

2020 Census Deadline Extended to October 31

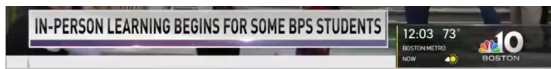
Please complete your Census form online 2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020.

The city depends on you to respond so that our communities get their fair share of federal funding and representation for the resources we need, including our public schools. For every person **not counted**, nearly \$2,400 per year for the next ten years is lost in federal funding.

Responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court. The Census Bureau can't share your personal information with DHS, law enforcement, or your landlord until 72 years have passed. It won't affect any public benefits you receive.

COVID-19 Mobile Testing at Grove Hall

The City of Boston's COVID-19 mobile testing site is now located at Grove Hall.



FREE COVID-19 TESTING

- 1 TESTING EVERYONE, ASYMPTOMATIC & SYMPTOMATIC
- 2 NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED BUT PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
- 3 PLEASE CALL 617-568-4500 OR



Testing is available through Saturday, October 10 at **40 Geneva Avenue in Dorchester**, across from the Grove Hall Branch of the Boston Public Library.

Testing is **free** for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. No appointment is needed but **registration is required**.

To pre-register, call 617-568-4500 (or 617-569-5800 for further assistance).

617-569-5800 TO PRE-REGISTER

40 GENEVA AVENUE
DORCHESTER, MA 02121
(ACROSS FROM GROVE HALL PUBLIC LIBRARY)

Tuesday, September 22nd -
Friday, September 25th
1:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Saturday, September 26th
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Tuesday, September 29th -
Friday, October 2nd
1:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Saturday, October 3rd
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Testing is also available at
Harvard Street
Neighborhood Health
Center, 632 Blue Hill
Avenue, 02121. Call their
COVID-19 testing line at
617-245-8206 for more
information.

Questions?
Please call the Mayor's Health
Line at 617-534-5050

City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

50 Years

[English](#) | [Español](#) | [عربي](#) | [Kabuverdianu](#) |
[Kreyòl](#) | [Português](#)

Flu Vaccine Clinic

The Getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever this year. The flu vaccine helps to protect you and your family and also reduces the burden on hospitals and healthcare systems.

The City of Boston and Boston Public Health Commission are hosting a flu vaccine clinic **Tuesday, October 6, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm** in the 1010 Mass. Ave. parking lot.

If you have insurance, bring your card with you. If you are not insured, you can still receive a shot with no out-of-pocket cost.

Visit bphc.org/flu for more information about the flu.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FLU VACCINE

If you have insurance, please bring your insurance card with you. If you are not insured, you can still receive a flu shot with no out-of-pocket cost.

FLU VACCINE CLINIC
Tuesday, October 6 | 9AM-12PM
1010 Mass Ave, Parking Lot
Note: Drive through option available
<https://mhealthsystem.com/1010MassAve>

Visit bphc.org/flu for more information about the flu.

KNOCK OUT THE FLU
STAY HEALTHY
GET THE SHOT

Autism Waiver Program

The Department of Developmental Services Autism Waiver Program serves children from birth through the age of 8 and can include intensive services for children deemed eligible. Participants are selected by lottery and families of students with ASD in this age range are encouraged to apply.

Click [here](#) for more information in various languages.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
THE AUTISM DIVISION
500 Harrison Avenue | Boston, MA 02118

MESSAGE TO FAMILIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

An Important Message to Massachusetts Families
With Children Under Age 9
Diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder
Open Request Application Period: October 16, 2020 to October 31, 2020

The Autism Division of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) runs an Autism Waiver Program that provides one-on-one interventions to help children with autism who exhibit severe behavior, social and communication problems through a service called Expanded Habilitation, Education (Intensive in-home services and supports). This service occurs in the child's home or other natural settings under the supervision of trained clinical staff and is available for a total of three years. The program also provides related support services such as community integration activities and respite. At the conclusion of the three years of intensive services, a child may access supplemental services that meet the child's needs and help with the transition out of the Intensive Autism Waiver Program until the child's 9th birthday.

Eligibility: the following requirements are necessary for participation in this waiver program:

1. The child must have a **confirmed diagnosis** of an Autism Spectrum Disorder, subject to verification by the Department of Developmental Services.
2. The child has not yet reached their 9th birthday. Children born through age 8 may participate.
3. The child is a resident of Massachusetts.
4. The child meets the level of care required for services in an Intermediate Care Facility for persons with an Intellectual Disability (ICF/IID) as assessed by DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES.
5. The family chooses to have the child receive services in the home and community.
6. The child must be able to be safely served in the community.
7. The child must have a legally responsible representative able to direct the services and supports of the Waiver.
8. The child must be found by the Massachusetts agency to be eligible for Massachusetts standard coverage, based on family income. For families who have not yet applied for Massachusetts, this must be done at the time of the filing of the Waiver Program Request form. (Instructions on how to apply for Massachusetts are on the next page).

The Autism Waiver Program maintains reserved capacity (30 immediate slots) for children who are age 3 and transitioning out of Early Intervention. Children who meet the eligibility criteria for the program can be served until their 9th birthday. All waiver services require that the child continues to meet the financial and clinical eligibility requirements for the Waiver Program throughout their enrollment.

While the Autism Waiver Program is near capacity currently, there are always children who leave the program because they turn 9 or for other reasons. Therefore, we want a current applicant pool to draw from when these spots become available for the program. The Autism Division is offering an opportunity to apply for the current applicant pool through an open request application period. The Autism Division held its last open request in October 2019.

The Guide to BPS for Students and Families

This year the Guide to BPS for Students and Families is online only at bostonpublicschools.org/familyguide. The Student Information Update Forms are below. Please download and print them out, request the form from your student's school, **or fill out the form online:** bostonpublicschools.org/contact. Forms (below) are due **October 30**.

[English](#) | [Español](#) | [عربي](#) | [Kabuverdianu](#) | [中文](#) | [Français](#) | [Kreyòl](#) | [Português](#) | [Afsoomaali](#) | [tiếng Việt](#)

Free Meal Super Sites

Receive 5-day meal packs with 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** at any of our **Super Sites**!

When hybrid learning begins, meals will be available to students attending school in-person on the days that they are in school. Students will also receive 3-day meal packs on the last day of the week they attend school in-person (Tuesdays for Group A and Fridays for Group B).

bostonpublicschools.org/freemeals

ExtraHelp on BNN

ExtraHelp is a weekly, live, homework television series developed to help Boston students. Students of all grades can watch the show, call or email the teachers to receive help with their homework. There's also assistance preparing for MCAS and SATs.

Learn more [here](#).

Homework Assistance Program at BPL



Homework Assistance Program (HAP) at
the Boston Public Library

September 21, 2020 – May 14, 2021



The Boston Public Library's Homework Assistance Program (HAP) offers free online homework help, mentorship, and social time provided by trained high-achieving high school students.

For: Students in grades K-8
Days: Monday - Thursday
Hours: 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Ends: May 14, 2021

Students are welcome to join on a drop-in basis. No registration required.

[Learn More](#)



Starting Monday, September 21, The Boston Public Library will offer free online homework help and mentorship provided by trained high-achieving high school students.

Who: Students grades K-8 are welcome on a drop-in basis, no registration required.

When: Monday – Thursday 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. for the 2020-2021 school year starting September 21, 2020 and ending May 14, 2021

Where: HAP meetings can be accessed through Zoom links on www.bpl.org/homework. 4 Zoom links representing Library branches will be available – please join the call that includes the branch you would regularly attend based on your school or home.

HAP mentor trainings are provided by Harvard University's Public School Partnerships team, the developers of SmartTALK, a program that uses research-based tools, strategies, and resources to support students during homework time.



For questions about HAP, email Lina Raciukaitis at lraciukaitis@bpl.org.



www.bpl.org/homework

Getting Schools #BPSReady

Click the photos for a better view.



Classroom configuration



Front desk with vinyl partition



Fogger for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting



Outdoor sign



Wash your hands signs



Stairway signs



Floors well cleaned and sanitized



Windows replaced



Window fans for ventilation

Adult Education at Boston Public Schools



Public Schools

Opportunities for Adults looking for one of the following:

- Learning English as a Second Language (ESL).
- Pursuing a career in Culinary Arts.
- Earning a high school diploma.

Learn more [here](#). Enroll [here](#).



Boston Saves

All K2 and 1st-grade students get \$50 for college or career training in an account from Boston Saves.

K2 families: [Sign up for Family Updates](#) and we will reach out to you once your account is available.

Rising 1st grade families: [Log into the Savings Center](#) to see the money in your child's account and start earning even more.



BPS Is Hiring!

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply online.

Special Ed Cab Monitors
Use the search keyword: **CAB**

Food Services Employees
Use the search keyword: **Food**



Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline

Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline offers free food assistance to all Mass. residents. Call **800-645-8333**, 8 am - 7 pm, Monday-Friday; 10 am - 2 pm, Saturday.
TTY 800-377-1292

www.projectbread.org/gethelp



Resources for Immigrants

Free Immigration Consultation Clinics at Boston City Hall via telephone. Call (617) 635-1062 or [email](#) for

Free Immigration Consultation Clinics at Boston City Hall via telephone. Call (617) 635-1502 or [email](#) for instructions on how to receive consultations with volunteer attorneys. Click [here](#) for more resources.



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Roxbury, MA 02119

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