

January 22, 2021

Dear YES Prep Families,

We hope this message finds you safe and well. It was a memorable week as we welcomed our newest President. We wish our 46th President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. a successful term and reflect on the historical significance of Kamala Harris serving as Vice President. "Representation matters, and it has the power to change everything. May the thousands of young women that we have the privilege to educate, see themselves in Vice President Harris. [Let's] take time to remind them that [we] see this unlimited potential in each of them." – Mark DiBella, YES Prep CEO.

Thank you for reading this Family Update in its entirety for information, updates and reminders about new Family Workshops available in Q3, the launch of the Family Portal, home meal deliveries for all students in the Online at Home learning program, and upcoming virtual charter school advocacy rallies.

#### Meal Deliveries for Remote Learners

Starting the week of February 1, all YES Prep remote student learners (students in the Online at Home learning program) will receive 7 breakfast and lunch meals weekly, by delivery, directly to their homes! Unless you opt out, through this OPT Out Link, meals WILL be delivered to your home! The purpose of the Child Nutrition department is to ensure that ALL students are ready to learn by having access to school meals.

# **YES Prep Family Portal**

The YES Prep Family Portal is now live! The portal will allow you to access your child's key data (grades, attendance, assignments, behavior, etc.) in one place and communicate with your child's teachers and campus leaders in your preferred language (simultaneous translation in 60 languages). There is also a mobile app (Apple and Android) to make it even easier to use the Family Portal to support your child's learning.

You must use your email address on file in Skyward to access the Family Portal. This ensures that your student's data remains safe and secure. Please visit <u>Family Portal Help</u> on the Family Dashboard page of the district website for login guidance and detailed instructions.

Please note that the Family Portal is not available for YES Prep Northbrook families, as these partnership campuses operate through the Spring Branch ISD student information system. In addition, the Family Portal will not be used at the elementary campuses until the 21-22 school year. If you experience any issues or would like to provide feedback, email the Family Portal Team at <a href="TechStrategy@yesprep.org">TechStrategy@yesprep.org</a>. Please do not contact the campus.

# Virtual Family Workshop Jan. 28: Step Up (High School Girls)

Step Up is a mentorship non-profit supporting and inspiring girls of color on their way to confidence and career. On Thursday January 28 from 5 - 6 p.m. we will be hosting a virtual information session for high school girls and their parents to learn more about <a href="Step Up">Step Up</a> and the incredible free programming they have to offer. Some of the upcoming session topics include "Prioritizing Yourself – Finding Balance" and a power lunch conversation during Women's History Month. If you think this might be a good fit for your high school daughter, please reach out to your campus Student Support Counselor (SSC) to receive the Microsoft Teams meeting invitation link.



### Save the Date: Charter Advocacy Rallies

The Legislative Session has started in Austin, and that means lawmakers will make decisions that impact our charter schools. We need to speak out! Join the Texas Public Charter Schools Association at virtual advocacy rallies to learn what the charter community is fighting for, hear from fellow advocates, and learn how easy it is to make a difference for our students.

Parent Advocacy Rally: Wednesday, February 10 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.: Click here to register.

# Did you know?

Charter schools like YES Prep are among the very best public schools in the state! In fact, two-thirds of the top-rated districts in the state are charter districts, even though they only enroll 7% of all public school students in Texas. Learn more about the results of public charters here.

As always, thank you families for trusting us with the responsibility of educating your children and for your support and partnership as we continue our commitment to prioritize safety while also working tirelessly to provide the highest quality instruction, online and in-person. Our next Family Update will be until Friday, January 29.

Thank you