



The Superintendent's Spotlight

Sheila S.-Gorski-DISTRICT 32-November, 2020



Welcome to our ninth Virtual CEC Meeting and for taking the time from your very busy schedules to join us this evening!

NOVEMBER- A TIME TO BE THANKFUL



During the month of November, we enter the season of Thanksgiving when we reflect on what and who we are grateful for in our lives. We especially think about these unparalleled times unlike ever in our experiences. We think of what we have endured and realize that this will soon be a thing of the past. Despite difficulties or setbacks we are stronger, we are resilient and we will persevere. We will enter into a new season of what we are calling 2021, a Year of Hope and Excellence! For those reasons we at District 32, continue to reaffirm our belief, that all children are capable of SUCCESS, no EXCEPTIONS!

Full Remote Learning

Yesterday Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza made the very difficult decision to temporarily close all school buildings as of today, Thursday, November 19 and require that all students transition into Remote Learning. This decision was not a simple one, given that the Positivity Rate for COVID-19 across our City schools is extremely low. However, the Mayor and the Chancellor have committed to ensuring that if the percent of positive tests in New York City is equal to or greater than 3% using a 7-day rolling average, and if we would cross this threshold, school buildings would temporarily close, and all students would transition to full-time remote learning. This commitment has been the standard set and given that NYCDOE has sustained fidelity to the plans in place and our families have collaborated so well with us, this decision was made out of the abundance of caution for the health and safety of our students, staff, school leaders, families and community at large. The health and safety of all of our students continues to be our first priority in the wake of the evolving situation around the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in New York City.

So what are our next steps? As soon as such decisions are made we know that instructional plans are already in place because our Info-Hub is rich in resources that families and students are able to access and use while learning at home. Principals will also work with families to ensure students receive what they need to learn remotely. We also know that plans to reopen are well on their way. We recognize that there may have to be a stringent safety standard and testing will be crucial to our reopening of schools. We will continue to need your support in filling out the testing forms signed for testing consent. It is free, painless and results are available within 48 hours. They are also confidential; only you will see your child's results. We must follow this guidance to battle against this and together we will succeed.



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Health and Safety



No matter where we go, in school buildings, or elsewhere we should remain at least 6 feet apart. We will continue to work with our schools to create conditions that make physical distancing possible.



It is important that we continue to practice general prevention measures including: washing our hands with soap and water often. Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands. Avoid shaking hands. Instead, wave or elbow bump. Monitor your health more closely than usual for cold or flu symptoms.



Face coverings are required inside school buildings. Exceptions will be developmentally-and age-appropriate, consistent with guidance of health agencies, and paired with increased Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff. NYCDOE is procuring and distributing appropriate PPE for students and staff to use when inside school buildings.



If You Feel Sick:

Stay home and call your doctor if you have symptoms like coughing, shortness of breath, fever, sore throat. If you do not feel better in 24-48 hours, contact your doctor. Do not go to school or to work until you have been fever-free for at least 72 hours. If you need help getting medical care, call 311.

Learning Bridges

Learning Bridges is a new program that provides free child care options for children from 3-K through 8th grade on days when they are scheduled for remote learning. Learning Bridges will remain open. While schools transition to fully remote instruction, Learning Bridges programs will remain open to serve families who are enrolled in blended learning. Priority will continue to be given to children enrolled in blended learning and who are:

- ✦ Children of essential workers including DOE staff, health and human service workers, and others

- ✦ Students in temporary housing or residing in NYCHA developments

If you are interested in the Learning Bridges program, please complete [this application](#). If you need help completing the online application call 311 for assistance

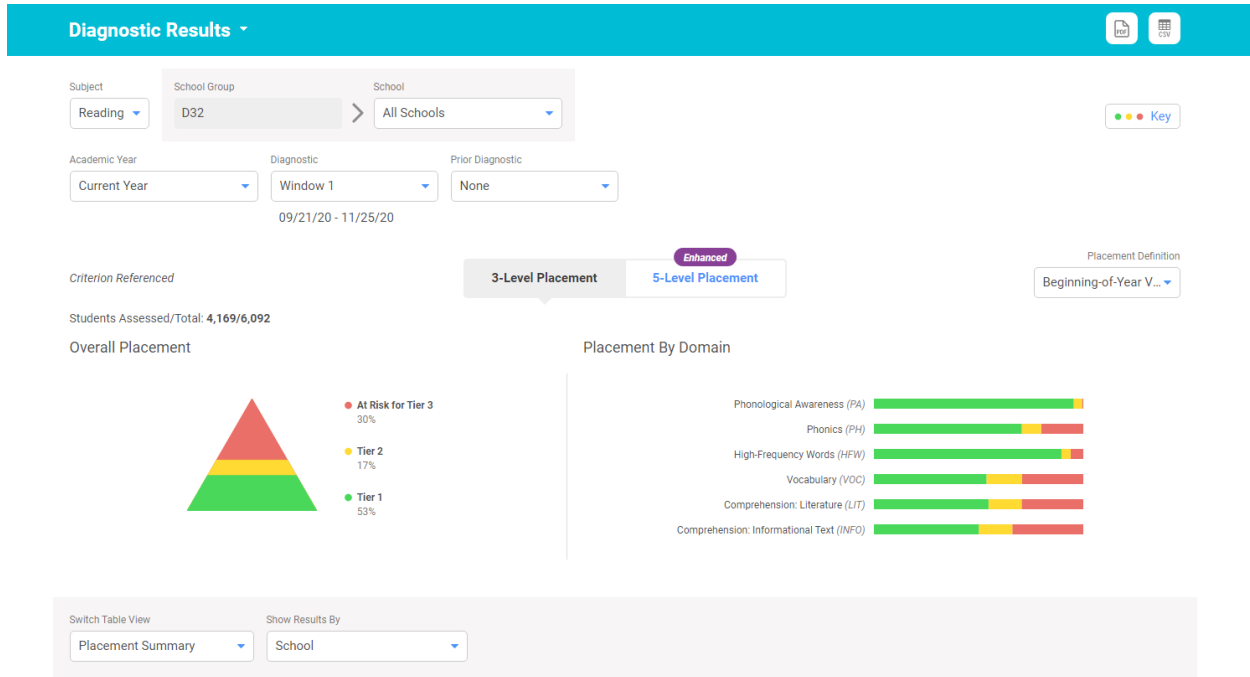


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Progress Monitoring of Skill Sets in Reading & Math



Domain- This assessment shows the results within Domains. Domains are the areas of focus within a Standard. Each of the areas you will hear about are area we focus on to facilitate reading comprehension

Phonological Awareness-Phonological awareness is the foundation for learning to read. It's the ability to recognize and work with sounds in spoken language. Some students pick it up naturally, but others need more help with it. That is because some words are easier to sound out and others are more difficult.

Phonemic Awareness (PA) - PA refers to the specific ability to focus on and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Phonemic awareness refers to the specific ability to focus on and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. ... For example, the word 'mat' has three phonemes: /m/ /a/ /t/. There are 44 phonemes in the English language, including sounds represented by letter combinations such as /th/.

Phonics- Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. For example, the sound k can be spelled as c, k, ck or ch. Teaching children to blend the sounds of letters together helps them decode unfamiliar or unknown words by sounding them out.



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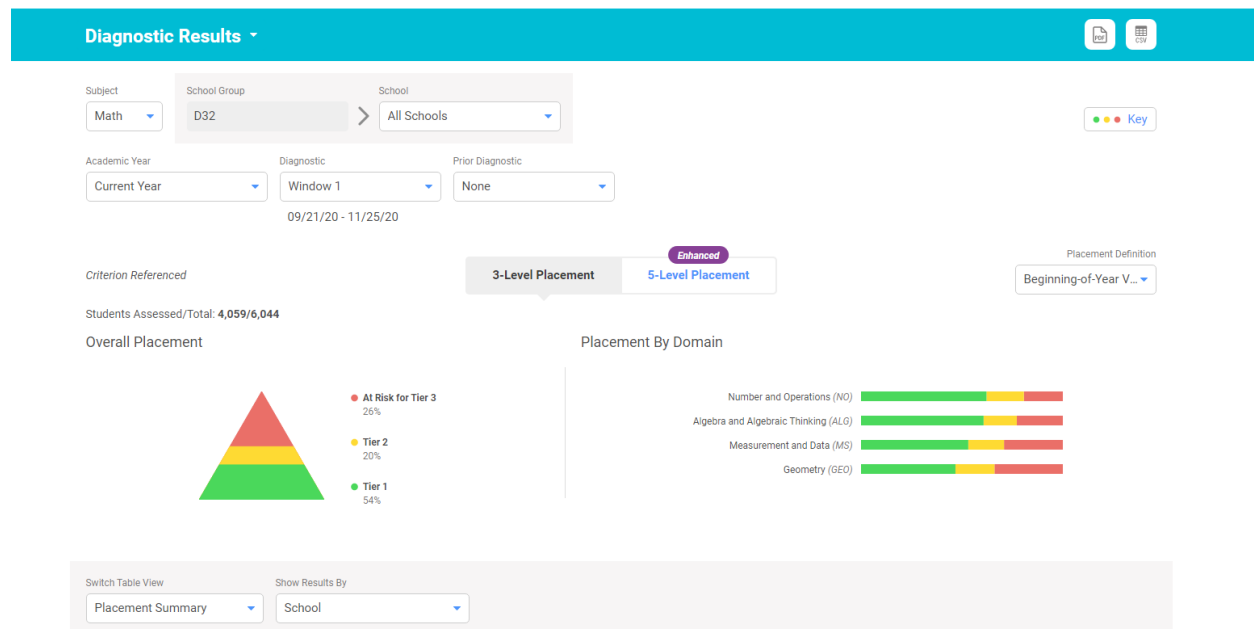


High Frequency Words- A high frequency word is a word that is immediately recognized as a whole and does not require word analysis for identification. Good readers instantly recognize high frequency words without having to decode them or take them apart. Sight words are usually "high-frequency" words, which occur most frequently in our language. (e.g. You, Me, There, Just, Help)

Comprehension Literature- Reading comprehension is the ability to integrate with what the reader already knows. Reading becomes difficult when word recognition is challenging. That becomes evident to the teacher when students show they are hesitating with reading individual words, which interferes with their ability to understand what they are reading.

Comprehension Information in Writing- Comprehension, or understanding, is the goal of all reading. When reading for information, readers use the features such as, the table of contents, headings, words in bold type, graphics, index and glossary to help them understand what they read.

Progress Monitoring of Skill Sets in Reading & Math



Numbers and Operations- When students understand numbers, the ways of representing numbers, relationships between numbers, and number systems, they then understand the meanings of operations and how they connect to one another.

Algebra and Algebraic Thinking- When our students engage in studying algebra they are examining patterns and relationships. Students then represent addition and subtraction with



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objects, mental images, drawings, sounds (e.g., claps), acting out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, etc.

Measurement and Data- When students use measurement they determine size, capacity, or quantity. The instruments such as rulers, yardsticks, they provide accurate measurement so they are assessing the extent, size, capacity, or amount of something. Some examples are, expressed in inches, feet, and pounds, in the United States, and centimeters, meters, and kilograms in the metric system. Students are able to show the measurements in data thru a variety of graphs, clocks, figures, volume, etc.

Geometry- When students study Geometry they are examining sizes, shapes, positions, angles and dimensions of things. Students represent their thinking in squares, circles, and triangles. They measure lengths, areas, and volumes, etc.

We will now engage in a preview of what the data is beginning to show us across our district schools. These skills are set within reading and math standards and the measure of student mastery of these skills is very important to the student proficiency level. As a whole when these skilled are mastered at each grade, they will inform how a student will continue to grow in those areas as they move through their academic careers from elementary schools to middle schools, high school and future independent goals and success.

Daniel Purus, Field Support Liaison will provide a brief summary of the most recent data course. In the end and as the data moves we are able to begin forming a picture of the strengths and need shown and how we will prioritize instructional modifications and amplifications.

Dr. Rebecca Lozada will then link the results we are already examining with the work our Instructional Leadership Team designed by the District is focusing on to support instructional adjustments and techniques incorporated in lessons and student supports to improve the teaching and learning.



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FAMILY INFORMATION, RESOURCES & LINKS

Yesterday our Chancellor sent all our families a letter with information regarding Remote Learning and I have placed some of that information and supportive links here as another resource you can use:

Devices for Remote Learning

Do you need a device, need technical support or to fix a broken device, or are dealing with a lost or stolen device? **Call DOE's IT Help desk at 718-935-5100 and press 5** to get assistance.

You can also get quick help online:

- ☉ Browse tech support topics: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support>
- ☉ File a tech support ticket: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/ipads-and-laptops/technical-support-for-families>
- ☉ Request a device: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/ipads-and-laptops/ipad-requests>
- ☉ Get support with a DOE-issued iPad: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/ipads-and-laptops/ipad-fixes>
- ☉ Issues with your Internet connection: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/ipads-and-laptops/free-and-low-cost-internet-options>

We are committed to ensuring every student is learning 5 days a week. Your child's school will support you in remote learning if you currently don't have a device by providing paper-based work. Contact your school for more information

Free Meals for Students and Families

All families and students can continue to go to any school building between 9:00 a.m. and noon on weekdays to pick up three free grab-and-go meals. No identification or registration is necessary. Halal and kosher meals are available at some sites, which are listed at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/community-meals>.



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From 3-5 p.m., New Yorkers of all ages can pick up free meals at 260 Community Meals sites across the city. For a list of sites, please visit <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/community-meals>.



Updates on Our School Buildings

- To enroll in Learning Bridges, families should fill out the application available here: www.schools.nyc.gov/learningbridges. The flyer is accessible in multiple languages [HERE](#).

Learning Bridges

- Principal Magaly Moncayo and PS 106 Located at and CBO: The Coalition for Hispanic Family Services
- Learning Lab Site: Hope Gardens Cornerstone located at 422 Central Ave, Brooklyn, NY, 11221
- To enroll in Learning Bridges, families should fill out the application available here: www.schools.nyc.gov/learningbridges. The flyer is accessible in multiple languages [HERE](#).
- - Principal Janice Bruce and IS 291 Located at 231 Palmetto Street, Brooklyn, NY 11221 and CBO: RiseBoro Community Partnership Inc.
 - Lab Site: RiseBoro Youth Center
 - COMPASS Learning Lab: Located at 1474 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11237, Brooklyn, NY, 11237
 - Principal, IA Natalie Perez-Hernandez and PS 376 Located at and CBO: RiseBoro Community Partnership Inc.
 - Learning Lab Site: RiseBoro Youth Center
 - Learning Lab 1474 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11237, Brooklyn, NY, 11237 COMPASS Learning Labs
 - Principal Dominic Zagami and PS 377 located at and CBO: Coalition for Hispanic Family Services



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- Learning Lab Site: Hope Gardens Cornerstone
- Learning Lab: 422 Central Ave, Brooklyn, NY, 11221



- ✓ Thursday-Friday, November 26-27- Thanks giving Recess Schools closed
- ✓ Thursday, December 24- January 1, 2021 Schools closed
- ✓ Monday, January 18, 2021-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day- Schools closed

Additional Technology Devices & Support

- If your child needs a Technical Device use the link here below:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/ipad-requests>

- If you need Technical Support please use the link here below:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/learn-at-home/technical-tool support/technical-support-for-families>

Stay Healthy and Safe

****We are here for you! A Community of ONE!***

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