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Dear School of the Future Families,

As we say goodbye to summer vacation, we want to say we are very excited to welcome you all back! We have been working hard getting the building ready for students, planning curriculum and creating robust schedules! As usual we have a lot of important information to share with you.

Let's move forward with this letter by sharing information in Q&A format!

More comprehensive information is on our website [sof.edu](http://sof.edu). Also, SOF now has an app!! You can download it in your app store by searching for School of the Future Manhattan. The app will give you quick access to important SOF information including the staff directory, class websites, the lunch menu, and sports calendar. You can also enable notifications and the SOF School Calendar events as alerts on your phone.

**I. *When does school start again and when is dismissal (new this year)?***

School starts on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:50. Dismissal is at 3:27, Monday through Thursday. On Fridays this school year, students are dismissed at 2:40.

**Please note: All 11th and 12th graders start school at 9:40 on Fridays. On September 4th and 5th - the first two days of school, 11th and 12th graders start school at 9:40.**

If you would like your child to be enrolled in our Manhattan Youth After School program starting at 2:40 on Fridays, [please fill this out](#).

If your child will be enrolled in Manhattan Youth other days, there is no need to fill out additional paperwork, but if you only want them enrolled on Fridays starting at 2:40, please fill out the enrollment form. If you need help with the paperwork, please contact Donnie Martino at [dmartino@manhattanyouth.org](mailto:dmartino@manhattanyouth.org).

The After School program starts on Monday, September 15th.

## II. What time can students enter the building and what door do they use?

Students can enter starting at 8:30. Middle School students enter on the Lexington Ave side door and High School students enter through the front door. Students cannot enter before 8:30, so please plan accordingly.

## III. Where do we go on the first day?

When you arrive on the first day, there will be signs and people telling you where to go. The 6th graders will go to the gym on the 10th floor (you will be able to use the elevator) The 9th graders (without parents) will go to the auditorium on the 2nd floor.

## IV. When will we get our schedule?

Your schedule will be in jumprope between now and the first day of school. Please print it out as you will not have access to your phone.

If you are an 11th or 12 grade student and would like to request a change in your Science or Pathway class, or you are a 10th grade student who would like to request a change to your Pathway, you can fill out [this](#) form. Please note that you must follow your schedule in jumprope and cannot attend a different class unless and until it is updated in jumprope.

Students cannot change Electives or Languages.

## V. What are the (recommended, but optional) school fees?

We ask that each family give \$150 to be used to supplement the school's budget for trips, supplies, arts and enrichment programs and projects. This is optional and you can give what you want. You can make payments on venmo to @SchooloftheFuture You can also write a check to School of the Future or give cash to our Parent Coordinator, Lisa Mathew. Anything helps. Thank you!

## VI. What forms do I need to fill out & sign?

This year, we're going 'old school' and all student forms will be on paper as opposed to digital. Students will bring home paperwork on the first day - please ask them (or dig through their bags) for it. Students will return this paperwork to their teachers.

## VII. When are summer assignments and supplies due?

All summer assignments and supplies have been listed on our website. Summer assignments that were assigned are due on the second day of school. Students can bring minimal supplies the first day of school as teachers will go over when to bring in the rest of the supplies that are listed.

All supplies you are donating to the school and classrooms (such as paper towels, tissues, and spray cleaner) can be brought on the first day and dropped off with helpers in the lobby.

## VIII. What is the deal with cell phones and personal devices?

As you may have heard, all of NYC schools are device free zones now! All SOF students will receive new YONDR pouches on the first day of school. As a reminder, [here](#) is our cell phone policy.

Please remember that students cannot bring personal computers or Ipads to school unless they have been given an Assistive Technology device in alignment with their IEP.

Reach out to Sam Shapiro [sshapiro@sof.edu](mailto:sshapiro@sof.edu) and Tom Sokol [tsokol@sof.edu](mailto:tsokol@sof.edu) with any Yondr questions.

We will have a new student sign in and sign out system this year called CAASS. During the first week of school, students will be issued IDs and starting on Monday, September 8th, all students will 'swipe in and out' at entry and dismissal, including OutLunch.

IX. *What about outlunch?*

All students in 7th - 12th grade have permission to go out to lunch on the first day of school UNLESS their family fills out [this form](#). If this form is not filled out, your 7-12 grade child will have outlunch permission. You can change your mind at any time by emailing Samantha Shapiro [sshapiro@sof.edu](mailto:sshapiro@sof.edu) or Tom Sokol [tsokol@sof.edu](mailto:tsokol@sof.edu)

6th grade students will be eligible for outlunch some time in November.

6th grade students, and any student who does not go out, can bring their lunch to the cafeteria or eat the school's hot lunch. All students are eligible for free lunch in the cafeteria

X. *What about the elevator?*

Students must have a health related pass to use the elevator. To obtain a pass, a student's parent/guardian must submit medical documentation using [this form](#), and if approved, Lisa Mathew will provide a pass with an expiration date that enables a staff member to swipe them on the elevator.

High school students are allowed to ride the elevator between 12:10-12:50, during their lunch period.

XI. *When will we receive OMNY/Metrocards?*

All students who the DOE deem eligible based on distance between home and school, will receive their OMNY cards the first week of school. Students who receive DOE bussing DO NOT receive OMNY cards.

XII. *Will students use lockers?*

We do not have lockers. Students will be able to leave belongings in classrooms if needed.

XIII. *What is the attendance and grading policy this year and how do I see my child's grades and attendance?*

[2025 Attendance & Grading Policy](#)

You can access your child's grades and attendance on JumpRope. If you are new to SOF or do not have access, please email Lisa Mathew at [lmathew@sof.edu](mailto:lmathew@sof.edu) to get you set up!

XIII. *When is Curriculum Night/Back to School Night?*

Back to School Night is on Thursday, September 18th at 5:30. We will send more information soon.

XIV. *What about information about Fall Sports and the Middle School After School Program?*

For information about Middle School Sports, please email Ron Varrichio  
[rvarrichio@sof.edu](mailto:rvarrichio@sof.edu).

For information about High School Sports, please email Daniel Mark at [dmark@sof.edu](mailto:dmark@sof.edu)

For information about the Middle School after school Program, please email Donnie Martino at [dmartino@manhattanyouth.org](mailto:dmartino@manhattanyouth.org)

Please email Principal Stacy Goldstein at [sgoldstein@sof.edu](mailto:sgoldstein@sof.edu), AP Katherine Brown at [kbrown2@sof.edu](mailto:kbrown2@sof.edu), AP of Special Education Rebecca Sorenson @[rsorenson@sof.edu](mailto:rsorenson@sof.edu) or AP of Operations John Fanning @[jfanning@sof.edu](mailto:jfanning@sof.edu) with any questions.

We look forward to a special year!

Warmly,

Stacy, Katherine, Becca and John