

September 8, 2020

Dear Families & Faculty of the High School of Awesome:

We are about to embark on uncharted waters. The city and state have deemed that the COVID-19 numbers are low enough to reopen schools this fall. We are working our hardest to ensure that the school building and classrooms are as safe as possible for students and staff to return. The last time we had students in school for in-person instruction was on March 13, 2020, almost half a year ago. In order to maintain the well-being of the school, it is imperative for everyone in our community to help out and remain vigilant in the coming months.

The High School of Awesome will be requiring all staff, students, and visitors to (1) wear masks while in the building, (2) maintain social distancing, and (3) install the contact tracing app COVIDWISE. Wearing masks and social distancing in the building will help prevent any potential spread of disease – we should have the best flu season ever this year! Meanwhile, the app will allow everyone in our community to quickly know if they have potentially been exposed to someone else who has tested positive for COVID-19 and if further steps need to be taken.

The app will protect user-privacy while also protecting your health. Users of the app will be notified if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, but the identity of the person who has tested positive will not be disclosed!

If the app notifies you that you have been in close proximity to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, our school response will be for those staff and students to quarantine themselves. If those staff and students do not show any symptoms for 14 days, they may resume in-person instruction. While quarantining, all staff and students are expected to continue remote learning and instruction!

This app will be even more effective if we can get our close family and friends to also install and use it. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Let's all do what we can to keep our community and families safe!

Remember - Learning 100% remotely is always an option for any student. Just follow the instructions on this site: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/choosing-remote-instruction-for-fall>.

I wish us all a happy and healthy school year!

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth Chung".

Your Proud Principal, Kenneth Chung