



Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School

MELANIE KATZ, Principal

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"Building our youth for the future"

TO: All Staff, Students returning to the building, and their Guardians.

FROM: Principal Katz

Date: September 4, 2020

RE: School's adoption of NOVID, a contact tracing app

In these times of uncertainty, the FDR school community is choosing to embrace technology to be proactive against the spread of COVID-19. Amongst the staff, we have a mantra of "Maslow before Bloom", which acknowledges the need to address basic human needs before effective teaching and learning can occur. Included in that is the need to feel safe and secure. With that in mind, I want to inform you about a contact tracing app that all members of the community will be required to use.

NOVID is an app available for devices running both iOS and Android, and has the ability to inform you if you have been exposed to someone that has self-reported as COVID-19 positive. As you use the app in the background of your normal day-to-day activities, a network of the people you have had extended contact with builds. Once a person has self-reported, everyone they have recently been in contact with get alerted and are encouraged to visit a testing site. There are many contact tracing apps available, but the following features influenced our decision to choose NOVID:

- Privacy: Upon download and first launch, you will have created for you a randomly generated user profile that has no ties to your identity to protect your privacy. Additionally, the technology relies on ultrasonic technology with Bluetooth; not relying on your location data.
- Low phone strain: The app can run seamlessly in the background or while it is in your pocket, avoiding battery loss.

Additionally, I would like to share the following [link](#) explaining how Georgia Tech has used NOVID to reopen safely.

Cooperation with this app and the use of face coverings at all times will result in a safer environment for all of us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Principal Katz