

Photo Credit: Jeenah Moon/POOL

August 27, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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> NYC Mayor Announces Ventilation Action Teams for Public Schools

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Mayor Announces Bridge to School Plan; UFT Comes To Agreement with NYC; New York State Files Lawsuit Against Trump; and More!

NYS Confirmed: 432,131 NYS Deaths: 25,309 NYC Confirmed: 233,140 Brooklyn Confirmed: 64,664

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Kevin P. Coughlin / Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

- Governor Cuomo announced that Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Maryland and Montana have been removed from New York State's COVID-19 travel advisory. Guam has been added.
 - View full list of restricted states here.
- The governor directed state agencies to pre-deploy emergency response measures as a storm is predicted to hit New York today and this weekend. Read more <u>here.</u>
- The governor announced that a crew of **Department** of Environmental Conservation wildland firefighters will travel to the Rocky Mountains to help contain high priority wildfires in the region. Read more here.
- The governor rejected new federal guidance on coronavirus testing calling it "political propaganda".
 - The new guidance says that people without symptoms do not need to be screened. The CDC previously recommended testing for anyone with a "recent known or suspected exposure" regardless of whether they presented with symptoms.
- The **New York State Department of Health** (NYSDOH) 'SWAT' team is deployed in the Western New York region due to increased positive COVID-19 tests there.
 - The team will set up eight additional testing sites. Read more <u>here.</u>

- Governor Cuomo cleared all New York schools to reopen next month, but lowered the COVID-19 positivity rate threshold for closing schools again to 5% as opposed to 9%.
 - NYC has announced an even lower threshold of **3%**.
- On Monday, the governor announced that some low-risk school athletics could resume beginning **September 21**.
 - Low-risk sports include tennis, soccer, cross country, field hockey and swimming.





Photo Credit: Rick Bowmer/AP Photo

- **Mayor de Blasio** announced the **"Bridge to School"** plan to help children cope and learn as they begin the new academic year. This plan will provide students with:
 - social, emotional activities as they return to school;
 - materials and lessons to help build coping skills and help students who are processing with grief;
 - training for teachers; and
 - a hotline to assist teachers.
 - Mayor de Blasio and Department of Education
 Chancellor Richard Carranza announced
 that ventilation action teams will be inspecting every single learning space in every public school.
 - The DOE will use the assessments to ensure sufficient ventilation by the first day of school.
 - A room or building will not be used until repairs can be made.
 - The DOE purchased **10,000** portable air purifiers to be placed in schools by the first day.

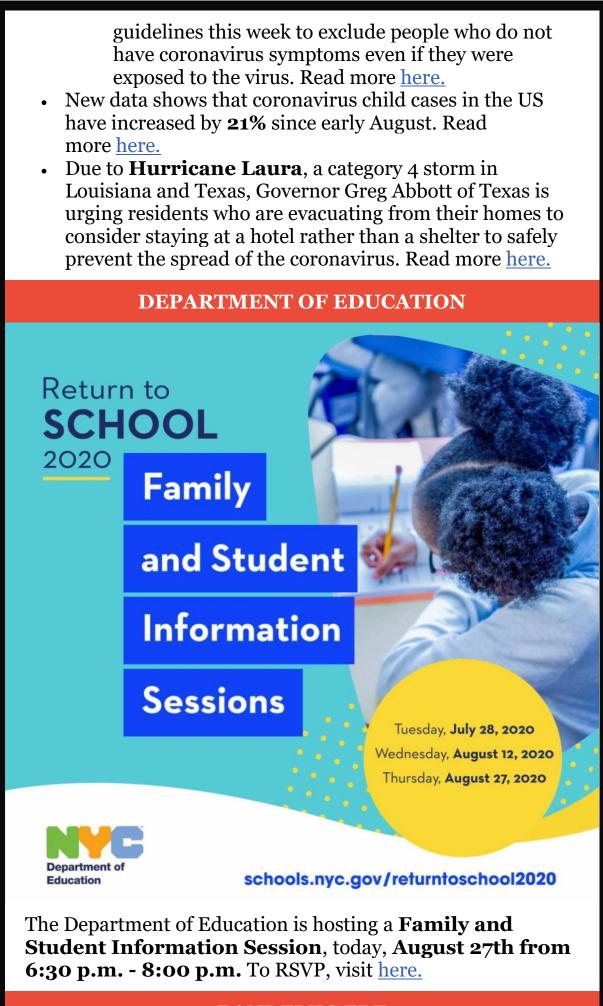
- Every building will also be provided a CO₂ testing device for custodial engineers to measure the level of fresh air.
- As of today, **370** schools have been fully inspected in the last two days.
- Read more <u>here.</u>
- The mayor announced that the city reached a curriculum agreement with the **United Federation of Teachers**.
 - The agreement will allow blended learning students to have two different teachers, one for the days they are in person and one for days they are remote.
 - According to the mayor, both teachers will work as a team.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Richard Drew/AP Photo

- New York State joined a coalition of states and cities from across the country in **filing a lawsuit** against President Donald Trump, the **United States Postal Service**, and Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to stop attempts made to dismantle the USPS and undermine the November General election. Read more <u>here.</u>
- Dr. Robert R. Redfield, the director of the **Center for Disease Control and Prevention**, stated that "testing may be considered for all close contacts of confirmed or probable Covid-19 patients."
 - This statement was made after the CDC received criticism for modifying their coronavirus testing



PANDEMIC EBT

Pandemic-EBT

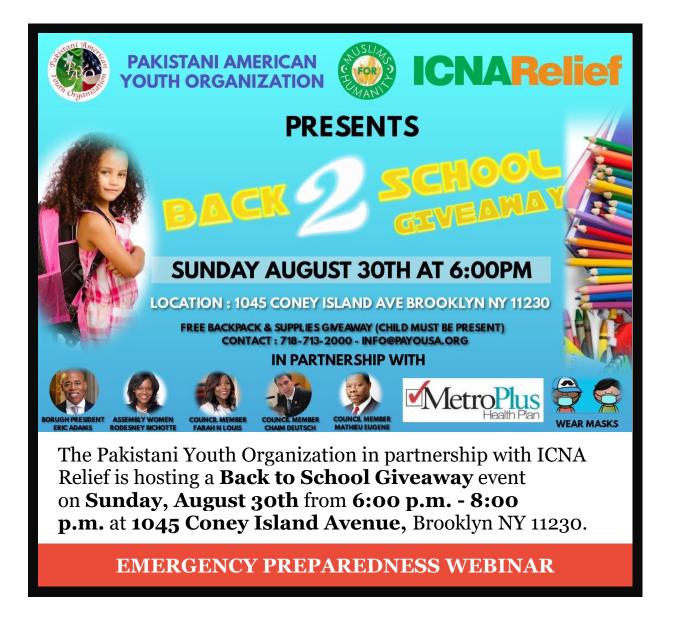


Families will continue to receive P-EBT benefits throughout August and until the end of September.

Call 1-833-452-0096 for help or to request a replacement Medicaid card

If you have questions regarding **Pandemic-EBT**, please call (833)452-0096 for help or to request a replacement Medicaid card.

BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY



Join our virtual presentation! **Prepare, Respond, Recover:** What to do When Disaster Strikes

Tuesday, September 1st @ 4PM

Co-Hosted by



Susan Rounds CEO of the American Red Cross in Greater New York Region



Kevin Parker New York State Senator



Rodneyse Bichotte New York State Assembly Member



Farah Louis New York City Council Member

The presentation will cover:

• Tasks you need to do to prepare, respond and recover from local emergencies and large-scale disasters in your community.

• Describe the types of **disasters you and your family may face**, from home fires to hurricanes.

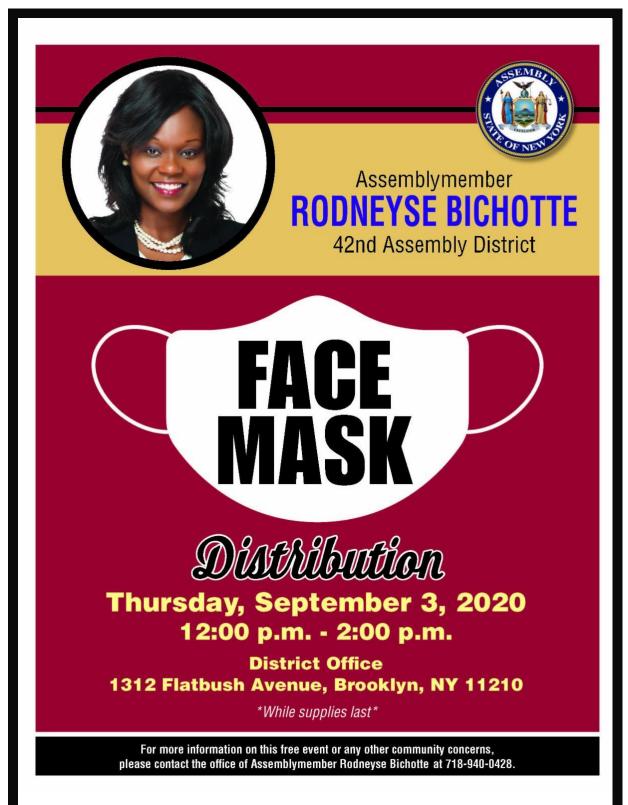
- Enables you to better prepare, respond and recover when an emergency strikes.





Join a virtual Emergency Preparedness Webinar on **Tuesday**, **September 1st** at **4:00 p.m.** To register click <u>here.</u>

FACE MASK DISTRIBUTION



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte invites you to a face mask distribution event on September 3rd from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. at her district office located at 1312 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11210.

FRESHDIRECT DELIVERY



FREE MEALS ON THE GO!



VIRTUAL CENSUS RALLY *NEW DATE*

COMPLETE THE CENSUS *GET YOUR SHARE*

Why is the Census important?

- Your count ensures that your community has the funds for schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other programs
- Businesses use *your* count to create jobs by expanding operations in your area
- Your count will increase the number of seats in Congress NYS will have to represent you

Join our Virtual Census rally on: Friday, August 28th at 7PM LittleHaitiBK.org/census

Telephone: 646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 965 7043 4250

Join a virtual Census Rally on **Friday**, **August 28th at 7:00 p.m.** To attend, visit <u>here.</u>

COMPLETE THE CENSUS





Featuring Kathleen Daniel



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte



Councilmember Farah Louis





- NYC Alternate Side Parking (ASP) is in effect from **Monday**, **August 17 - Saturday**, **September 5**.
- Monday, September 7: ASP is suspended for Labor Day.
- For more information visit <u>here.</u>

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



During these unprecedented and difficult times, we thank our **essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **EMT** workers for being there when they are needed the most.

COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **<u>2020</u> <u>Census</u>**. The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting <u>here</u> or by calling <u>844-330-2020</u>.



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or <u>NYC.gov/dcwp</u>. You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office by filling out a <u>complaint form</u>.
- NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- Employment Resources
- Food Assistance
- Health & Medical Assistance
- Financial Assistance
- Rent Arrears and Public Assistance
- Emotional Support & Spiritual Care
- Other Assistance

Visit this <u>website</u> for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test (888-364-3065). NYC residents should call (844-692-4692).

Volunteer to Support

Others: <u>https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/c</u> ovid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

Free Internet Services:

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or** **college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call** <u>844-488-8395</u>. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit <u>here.</u>

FreshDirect meals:

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 160z
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total

The packages will arrive by FreshDirect vehicles to locations listed <u>here</u>. If you have any questions, call (718) 802-3700.

In-District Businesses open/closed provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID:** Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory <u>here</u> and Church Avenue Business directory <u>here</u>. Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory <u>here</u>. Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave. Ocean Ave.)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road Foster Ave.)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave. Ocean Ave.)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave. Ocean Ave.)
- Ditmas Park

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs)**, and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education, Banks, Health, and Higher Education**. She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.**

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration**, **education**, **economic** **development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights**, as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

> Learn more about Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites: <u>http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte</u> and <u>www.rodneysebichotte.net</u>

