September 13, 2016

Dear 8th Grade Families,

Welcome back!  I hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. I wanted to introduce myself to those of you who do not already know me.  My name is Star Corvinelli and I am the 8th grade School Counselor at MS 447.  I will be working with you and your family on the high school application process.

Please be aware that I am hosting a parent meeting to provide orientation to the ***Public High School Articulation Process***.  It will take place on **September 22th at 6:30PM** in our school auditorium.  I will also be having individual meetings with students and their families to discuss their high school choices.  These meetings will be held two mornings a week and after school in October and November**.  As soon as I have any further information I will let you know.**I schedule appointments approximately 20 minutes per family. I highly suggest that each student take advantage of this opportunity.

In deciding which high schools your child should apply, it is important to try and learn as much information about a particular high school as possible.  One way to start identifying potential schools is by using the *Directory of the NYC Public High Schools.*  Your child should have received a directoryas well as a *Specialized High School Student Handbook* last Spring. Electronic copies are also available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/High/default.htm> I also recommend that parents look up potential schools on [www.insideschools.org](http://www.insideschools.org/).  This website will give you further information regarding each school.

Another great way that families can learn more about the different high schools is to attend an Open House and/or School Tour hosted by the high school of interest.  Remember, you will have up to twelve choices to list on the high school application – see any and all schools you are interested in. Many of the public high schools do offer one of these events and so it is important that you try to attend them.  It is the responsibility of the family to learn about and register for either an Open House and/or School Tour at the various high schools.  Some high schools require parents to register for an Open House or School Tour, so please make sure that you do so through the high school directly.  I will always share with you any information I receive about scheduled open houses or tours but it is up to you to do the legwork and schedule your appointments.  You may find the school phone numbers in the High School Directory**.  I suggest that you start contacting schools or visiting their websites as soon as possible to see if they have finalized their Open House or School Tour schedule for this academic year.**

Please be on the lookout for any high school information I distribute.  As information comes to me with regards to the High School Articulation Process, I will in turn distribute the information to your child as soon as possible. I suggest that students carry a folder with them every day solely for H.S. information so that all letters and flyers can be collected and kept in one place.  Please note that all correspondence that I give out will also be posted on our school website ms447.org under high school information as well.

I look forward to working with all of you!

Sincerely,

Star Corvinelli

School Counselor

**Event:** Mrs. Corvinelli’s High School Meeting For 7th & 8th Grade Families

**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2016

**Time:** 6:30PM – 7:30PM

**Location**: MS 447 Auditorium