

September 6, 2024

Dear 8th Grade Families,

I hope you had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer. My name is Lisa Bell-Lemm, and for those who do not know me, I am the Social Worker for the Class of 2025. I will be assisting you throughout the high school application process this year. Once I receive final updates from the department of education office of high school admissions I will be holding an information session for parents. I will additionally have opportunities for parents and students to meet with me to discuss their application.

Following is the timeline of important dates for the high school process.

- **Tuesday, October 1, 2024:** High School Application, LaGuardia Application, and Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) Registration Opens
- **Friday, October 18, 2024:** SHSAT Registration Closes
- **Wednesday, October 30, 2024:** SHSAT School Day Testing
- **Sat / Sun, November 16-17, 2024:** SHSAT Testing (8th grade students not participating in school day testing)
- **Wednesday, December 4, 2024:** High School Application Closes
- **Thursday, March 6, 2025:** High School Offer Release

Please note these dates are subject to change.

If you are interested in learning more about the high school admissions process, Inside Schools and NYC Admissions Solutions are hosting a free webinar. You can [register here](#). Spanish interpreters will be available.

Following are some resources to assist you with the high school admissions process:

- Get organized! Create a chart that highlights some of the most important features to consider when evaluating high schools. You can use [this chart](#) as a template.

- [My Schools High School Directory](#): MySchools features the DOE online NYC public school directory where you can filter your search by size, interest areas, borough, accessibility, admissions method, and early college. The DOE requires NYC families to submit high school applications via MySchools. If you do not have a MySchools account, you will create an account in the fall 2024 using a PIN number that you will receive from enrollment.
- Schools will be announcing their open house dates soon. These dates are posted on individual school websites and on the My Schools calendar.
- [DOE High School Information](#): You can find comprehensive information about the high school admissions process on this page.
- [Highlights of New York City High Schools](#): Here you can find a list of New York City High schools organized by school focus.
- [Inside Schools](#): Inside Schools is a project of the Center for New York City Affairs at The New School. They provide independent information about New York City's public schools. Their staff include journalists, parents and public school advocates. Their staff visits many schools every year and interviews principals, teachers, students, and parents. They observe what's happening in the classrooms, cafeterias, hallways and even the bathrooms.
- Exchange resources with other NYC parents through the "Applying to High School NYC" Facebook group.

Warm wishes,

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8th Grade Social Worker
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