

# M.S. 447



## WELCOME

## Class of 2028!

# M.S. 447 STAFF

**Arin Rusch, Principal**

**Christine Vissa, Assistant Principal**

**Hera Yoon, Assistant Principal**

**Asia Stanislaus, Assistant Principal**



**Amy Sirot, Parent Coordinator**

**Stacey Billups & Lisa Bell Lemm, Social Workers**

**Star Corvinelli, School Counselor**

**Jessica Saunders, Special Education/ICT Coordinator**

**Dallas Alexis, Sameera Abadi, Restorative Justice Coordinators**

# Do you remember...?

- What would you wish someone older had told you when you were in middle school?
- What was your best/worst subject in middle school? What subjects would you want to learn today?
- What was the best/worst thing that happened to you in middle school?
- Think of your best teacher. What characteristics did she/he have that made her/him terrific?
- What were you most afraid of in middle school?



# **We are the Wolfpack**

**In our community...**

- **We act with INTEGRITY**
- **We work for JUSTICE and EQUITY**
- **We learn through CURIOSITY**
- **We take RESPONSIBILITY**
- **We all BELONG here**

**What does it look like for YOU, an MS 447 parent/guardian, to uphold these values?**

# What is a Restorative Justice School?

At Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility they define Restorative Practices as...

“Restorative practices are a set of **processes and tools** that help us **create a caring school community** and **keep that community whole**. The premise is that **people and relationships** are valued first and foremost. When people make mistakes or cause harm, restorative practices can help them to understand the impact of their actions, **heal the harm**, and **restore the community**.”

## **Components of Restorative Justice in Education include:**

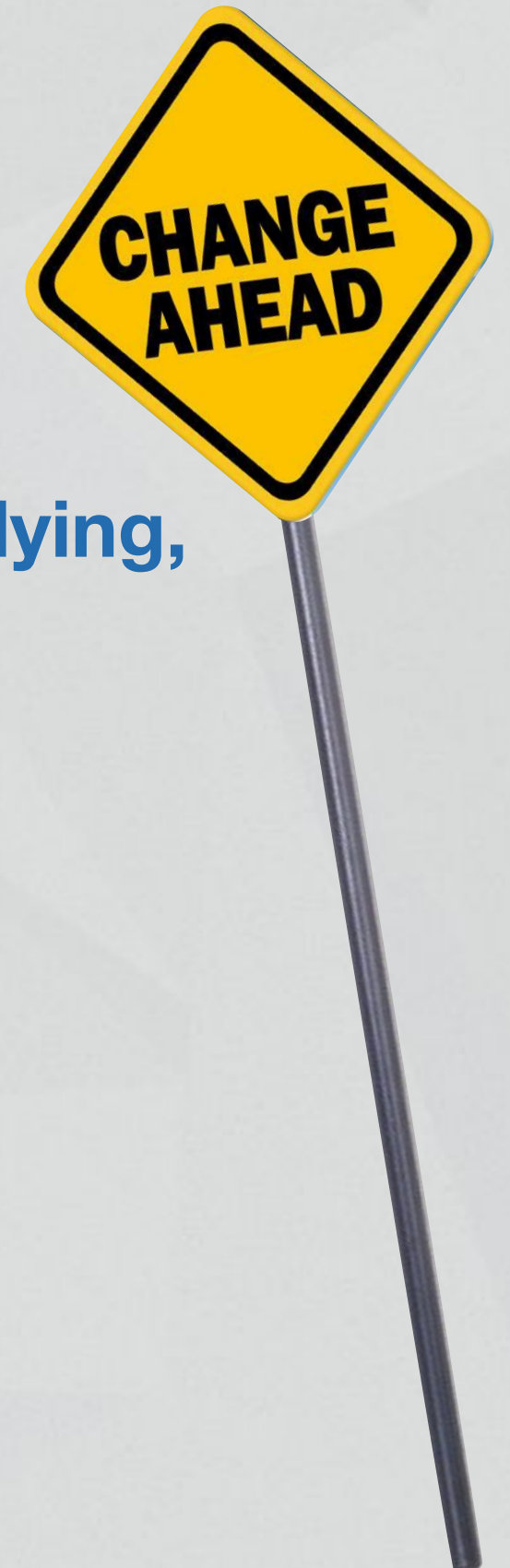
- creating just and equitable learning environments
- nurturing healthy relationships
- repairing harm and transforming conflict



# Transitioning to Middle School

## New Challenges and Routines

- Making new friends and leaving old ones
- Having different teachers
- Managing academic workload – homework, studying, project deadlines
- Remembering a new schedule – changes daily
- Much more stuff to keep organized
- Getting around in a new building
- Learning to use a locker and a combination lock
- Sharing space with high school kids
- Mastery Based Grading and Jump rope



# Opening Days

**School Starts every day at 8:30 and ends at 2:50!  
Breakfast is served at 8:10 every morning.**

## **FIRST FEW DAYS OF SCHOOL**

- **Modified Schedule**
- **Agenda Book**
- **Understanding the Schedule**
- **Schoolwide Book Club**
- **Supplies, lockers**
- **Tour of Building**
- **Names and Pronouns**
- **Community-building Activities and Circles**
- **Getting to know your Pack and Pack Leader**





# 6-Day Schedule!



The Math & Science  
Exploratory School

## Class 601

MS 447 - MATH & SCIENCE EXPLORATORY SCHOOL, 345 DEAN STREET, BROOKLYN

	A	B	C	D	E	F
<b>AM Lockers</b> 8:20 - 8:26 AM	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454
<b>1</b> 8:26 - 9:11 AM	Geneen <b>PE</b> Gym	Acker / J. Farrell / McKanna Mullins <b>Arts Talent</b> B22,303,306,453	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA</b> 454	Moore / Wilson <b>Math</b> 455	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA - Ind. Read.</b> 454	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA</b> 454
<b>2</b> 9:14 - 9:56 AM	Moore / Wilson <b>Math</b> 455	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA - Ind. Read.</b> 454	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA - Ind. Read.</b> 454		<b>Exploration</b> 324,326,327	Geneen / Schrup <b>PE</b> Gym
<b>3</b> 9:59 - 10:41 AM	McCollum <b>Computer Apps</b> 304	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA</b> 454	Acker / J. Farrell / McKanna Mullins <b>Arts Talent</b> B22,303,306,453	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA</b> 454		Davis / Shedwell <b>Social Studies</b> 452
<b>4</b> 10:44 - 11:26 AM	Davis / Shedwell <b>Social Studies</b> 452	Davis / Shedwell <b>Social Studies</b> 452	Davis / Shedwell <b>Social Studies</b> 452	McCollum <b>Computer Apps</b> 304		
<b>5</b> 11:29 AM - 12:11 PM	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>6</b> 12:14 - 12:57 PM	Khan / Shedwell <b>ELA</b> 454	Moore / Wilson <b>Math</b> 455	Frantzis / Hyman <b>Science</b> 325	Frantzis / Hyman <b>Science</b> 325	<b>Exploration</b> 324,326,327	Shedwell / Moore / Antonello <b>Advisory</b> 302,455,452
<b>7</b> 1:00 - 1:43 PM	Shedwell / Moore / Antonello <b>Advisory</b> 455,454,302		Moore / Wilson <b>Math</b> 455			Moore / Wilson <b>Math</b> 455
<b>8</b> 1:46 - 2:30 PM	Acker / J. Farrell / McKanna Mullins <b>Arts Talent</b> B22,303,306,453	Frantzis / Hyman <b>Science</b> 325		Davis / Shedwell <b>Social Studies</b> 452	Acker / J. Farrell / McKanna Mullins <b>Arts Talent</b> B22,303,306,453	Frantzis / Hyman <b>Science</b> 325
<b>PM Lockers</b> 2:30 - 2:35 PM	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454	<b>Lockers</b> 454

Mondays: Staff PD, 2:35-3:55. Tuesdays: Parent Engagement, 2:35-3:15. Wednesdays & Thursdays: Office Hours, 2:35-3:35.

aSc Timetables



# Exploration

- Student-centered
- Real-life problem solving
  - Our curriculum explores issues – social and environmental concerns – happening in our local, regional and global communities
  - We challenge students to address these within their spheres of influence. Their spheres of influence can be within their peer groups, families, within their class or grade-level, their school community or neighbourhood.
  - We challenge students to think critically and about all stakeholders that are impacted by the issue of interest.
- Experiential-based learning
- Off-site learning experiences
- Collaboration
- Interdisciplinary
- Guest experts
- Presentation skills and celebration



# After-School

In partnership with **LeAp**

**Academics, STEM, Arts, Sports and everything in-between**

**FREE for all students**

**Tricia Frazier, Managing Director**

**Divine Garland, Director**





# Camp!

**DATE TBD (Late Oct/Early Nov)**  
**Outdoor Team Building**  
**Parent Chaperones**





# Pack/Advisory

- **Community-building circle structure**
- **Empathetic listening**
- **Self-awareness, self-management**
- **Social awareness**
- **Relationship skills**
- **Responsible decision making**
- **Race and Identity**
- **Organization**





# Cellphones and Yondr x 447

MS 447 has created a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning. We are committed to building an educational and social environment that optimizes our interactions, relationships, and community.

To that end, all MS 447 students will place their cellphones, smartwatches, and wireless headphones into a locking pouch at the beginning of each day. Students will carry their pouch with them and unlock the pouch at the end of the day. Students are responsible for bringing their pouch to school every day.

# Our expectation of you!

- **PARTICIPATION in Workshops!**
- **PARTNERSHIP**
- **COMMUNICATION**
- **VOLUNTEERISM** (when you can!)



# SOME TIPS...

- Share a positive attitude
- Learn the school policies
- Set up a study space
- Stay on top of schoolwork
- Help your child stay organized
- Label your child's clothes with their name!
- Support your child in learning new social skills
- Identify people in the school your child can go to
- Encourage your child to get involved
- Stay connected with your child
- Be an active parent, but...
- Allow and encourage your child to experience discomfort, challenges, and opportunities to self-advocate
- Expect highs and lows





# FIND US!

**Website:** [ms447.org](https://ms447.org)

**PTA Instagram:** [ptaofms447](https://www.instagram.com/ptaofms447)

**PTA Facebook:** [@ms447pta](https://www.facebook.com/ms447pta)

## E-MAILING STAFF

[\[First Initial\]\[Last Name\]@ms447.org](#)

**ex:** [arusch@ms447.org](mailto:arusch@ms447.org)



# Next Steps:

- **Make sure your email address in your NYC Schools Account is up to date**
- **Complete all your forms today!**
- **Pick up your child's book club book on your way out**



# Paperwork!

## Amy's Survey - DUE JULY 15, 2025!

- Family information form
- Busing/OMNY Survey (unless your child has busing on their IEP)
- Cell Phone Policy

## On your NYC Schools Account

- Emergency Contacts
- Media Consent Form
- Family Income Survey
- Immunization Letter and Health Examination Form
- Residency Questionnaire

## On ms447.org website

- PTA Welcome
- Parent Coordinator Welcome
- 6th Grade Supply List
- Book Club Information

## LEAP FY 2025-26 Application



Scan here to fill out the family information form



Scan here to fill out the Transportation Survey



English



Spanish