



QSHS FAMILY EMPOWERMENT GUIDE

HANDBOOK FOR FAMILIES, LIAISONS, AND PARTNERS

Families Elevate and Accelerate to Transform



SCHOOL YEAR 2026–2027



Superintendent **Dr. Josephine Y. Van-Ess**



Deputy Superintendent **Dr. Namita Dwarka**

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Chancellor's Priorities and Framework for Education Transformation

Listening to our school communities is at the heart of how we lead. After more than 20 years in our schools as a teacher, principal, and superintendent, the Chancellor is committed to what every student deserves: **a safe, academically rigorous, and truly integrated school.**



These priorities were shaped by the voices of our families, students, and staff.

**By listening to our communities,
we can build the schools our children deserve.**



Superintendent's Letter to the Families

Dear Queens South High School Families,

Welcome to a new school year!

It is my privilege to welcome our students and families back to Queens South High Schools. As we begin another year together, I am filled with excitement about what lies ahead and gratitude for the partnership of our families who continue to help us strengthen our schools and shape the experiences we create for our young people.

This year, our theme is **E²: Elevate and Accelerate to Transform**. We believe every student is a seed of excellence, filled with tremendous potential. Our collective responsibility is to nurture that potential by ensuring that every student is connected, challenged, supported, and prepared to thrive, not only in high school, but well beyond graduation.

Our work this year is anchored in six district priorities:

1. **Student Connection & Support:** Ensure every student feels known, valued, safe, supported, and connected to caring adults and their school community.
2. **Academic Rigor:** Provide high quality, rigorous learning experiences that challenge every student to think critically and achieve at high levels.
3. **Adult Capacity:** Invest in our educators and leaders through meaningful professional learning, collaboration, and support that strengthens teaching and leadership.
4. **Equitable Outcomes:** Ensure all students, particularly students with disabilities, multilingual and students requiring additional support, have access to the opportunities and resources they need to thrive.
5. **Postsecondary Readiness & Pathways:** Prepare every student for life beyond high school through college, career connected learning, technology, and meaningful pathways to future success.
6. **Family Partnership & Community Empowerment:** Elevate family voice and strengthen school, family, and community partnerships are informed, engaged, and empowered as partners in student success.

Family voice is especially important to this work. One of my greatest joys has been having more intimate opportunities to connect directly with our families through our **Parent Symposium, Family Chat and Chill** and **District Town Halls**. These gatherings have allowed us to move beyond formal meetings and presentations and simply talk. We have listened to your experiences, heard your questions and concerns, learned what is working, and gained a better understanding of what you need from us. I have deeply valued these conversations because they remind us that some of our most important learning happens when we create the space to listen.

Your voices have also helped shape our **QSHS Serves and Supports Plan**, strengthening how we think about the resources, information, opportunities, and supports we provide to students and families. This is what authentic family partnership should look like: not simply inviting families into spaces after decisions have been made, but ensuring your experiences and perspectives help inform the work itself.

As we move forward, you will see these priorities come to life throughout our schools, from stronger student supports and rigorous learning experiences to expanded college and career pathways and deeper partnerships with families and communities.

The **QSHS Family Engagement Guide** is part of that commitment. I hope it serves as a resource throughout the year to help you remain informed, connected, and empowered.

Together, we will elevate expectations, accelerate opportunities, and transform outcomes for every student we are privileged to serve.

Thank you for trusting us with your children, sharing your voices, and continuing to be an essential part of the Queens South High Schools community. I look forward to seeing you, hearing from you, and continuing this work alongside you throughout the year.

With appreciation and partnership,

Dr. Josephine Yeboah Van-Ess
Superintendent
Queens South High Schools

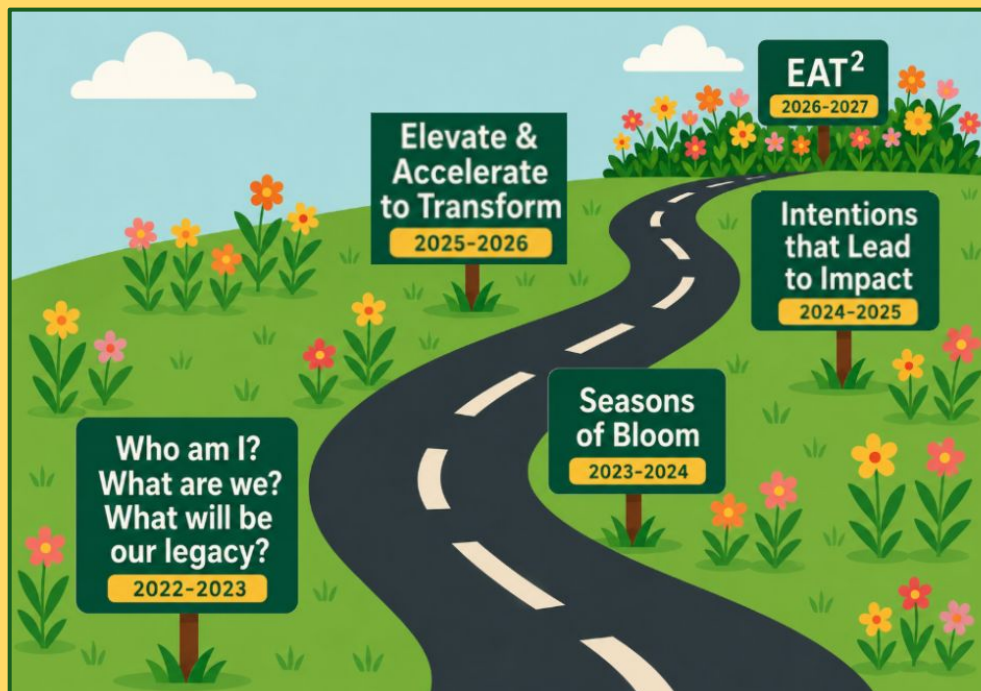


QSHS Vision

Nurturing schools, families, and communities in fostering affirming environments of empowerment, engagement, and infinite possibilities for students to explore, achieve, and succeed.

QSHS Mission

S	Sparkling Innovation- Preparing our students to think critically and leave our schools motivated and able to contribute to legacies of positive change.
E	Elevating Equity, Diversity, and Access- Providing social-emotional supports and learning experiences that uplift, celebrate, and cultivate diversity and bridge the disparities that exist within our educational system.
E	Ensuring Accelerated Learning— Developing leadership capacity to ensure that schools are using data-informed methodologies to provide rigorous instruction grounded in literacy development, civic engagement, STEAM, CRSE, SEL, and post-secondary readiness, and that learning is transferable to college and career aspirations.
D	Developing Student Self-Efficacy- Nurturing students' voice, agency, healthy sense of self, confidence, mindset, and belief in their capacity to accomplish their goals.
S	Strategically Engaging Families and Partners- Galvanizing families, community leaders, and partnerships to work collaboratively in using their voice, role, and capacity to contribute to the system, structures, and practices that will help to meet the needs of all students.



QSHS District Team



Dr. Josephine Y. Van-Ess

Superintendent



Dr. Namita Dwarka

Deputy Superintendent



Steven Chernigoff

Executive Director



Nadine Mangra
Administrative Assistant



Mark Satchell
Academic Policy,
Performance, Assessment
Specialist



Henri Huezo
Academic Policy,
Performance, Assessment
Specialist



Dr. Mayra LaSalle Kaplan
Director of Student Services



Shoshana Abolafia
Director of Secondary
Instruction & Curriculum
Alignment



Dr. Katwona Warren
Director of District
Initiatives & Student
Advancement



Selena Gales
Family Leadership
Coordinator



Jeff Bolanos
Family Support
Coordinator



Vivian Lu
MLL/ELL Services
Administrator



Efua Hagan
Administrator of
Special Education



Nazia Amin
Administrator of
Special Education



Martha Velez
District Social Worker



Christine Bennett
School Improvement Coach
(ELA)



Brittnei Kanhai
School Improvement Coach
(ELA)



Hany Morsi
Instructional Lead
(Science)



Donna Drayss
School Improvement Coach
(Social Studies)



Dr. Inna Nurik
Instructional Lead
(Math)



Saida Atmaca
Instructional Coach
(Math)



Gregory Hinckson
UFT Instructional Coach
(Math)



Dr. Jose Fernandez
Student Services Manager &
District Attendance



Dr. Lyndon Charles
Director of Advanced
Academic Access



Andrew Kenney
Director of State &
Federal Programs

District Family Support Team

Selena Gales

SGales@schools.nyc.gov

“Knowledge is the key to success.”

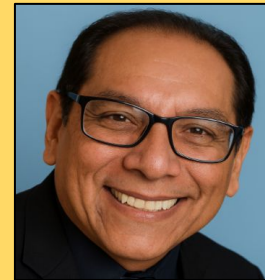


“While serving the Queens South Community for over 20 years, I am here to provide information and support to the parent leadership structures, including the PA/PTA, School Leadership Teams, President’s Council, and Citywide Council for High Schools.”

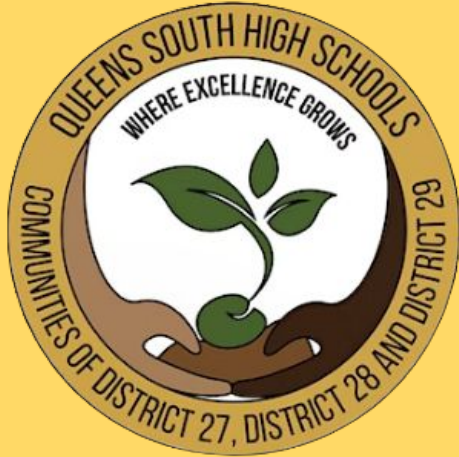
Jeff Bolanos

JBolanos2@schools.nyc.gov

“Consistency, patience, and attention to detail is core to family engagement.”



“I have been humbly serving the Greater NYC area for over 20 years. Our primary objective is to cultivate strong partnerships with families, providing the support necessary to foster student success and promote collaboration with citywide parent leadership structures to strengthen schools. My role is to assist families in navigating systems, processes, and local resources.”



Queens South High Schools

Principal Team

Districts 27, 28, & 29

District 27

Principals



**Tenesha
Worley**
FDA



**Dr. Joseph
Birgeles**
Goddard



**Dawood
Abdul-Hameed**
AMT



Neil Ganesh
Epic South



Kristen Breen
Epic North



Shazima Ali
*Rockaway
Collegiate*



Allison Tiberio
August Martin



Tarek Alamarie
Richmond Hill



Pedro Cubero
John Adams



**Lakeisha
Gordon**
CTEA

District 28

Principals



James Harrell
*Queens
Collegiate*



**Raquel
Nolasco**
HALA



**Dr. Neeta
Ahmed**
*Jamaica
Gateway*



Paul Wilbur
Forest Hills



Moses Ojeda
Thomas Edison



Judy Henry
Queens Gateway



William Johnson
Metropolitan



Dr. Ana De Jesus
*Queens HS for
the Sciences*



**Laura Van
Deren**
LEAPS

District 29 Principals



**Avionne
Gumbs**
*Queens Prep
Academy*



Dr. Sylvan Haseley
*Pathways College
Prep: IB World
School*



Rodney Orji
Excelsior



Dr. Latoya Key
Carver



Charles Anderson
PAW



Dudrige Brenord
BFIT



**Dr. Christopher
Smith**
Eagle



Allika Thompson
MAST



**Kayode
Ayetiwa**
HARTS



**Dr. Asya
Johnson**
*HBCU Early
College Prep*

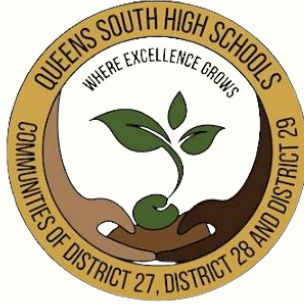




Queens South District 27, 28, 29

School DBN, Location Name, and Zip Code Directory

DBN	Location Name	Zip Code
27Q260	Frederick Douglass Academy VI High School	11434
27Q308	Robert H. Goddard High School of Communication Arts	11368
27Q309	Academy of Medical Technology: A College Board School	11694
27Q314	Epic High School - South	11429
27Q334	Epic High School - North	11319
27Q351	Rockaway Collegiate High School	11694
27Q400	August Martin High School	11434
27Q475	Richmond Hill High School	11418
27Q480	John Adams High School	11417
27Q650	High School for Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture	11416
28Q310	Queens Collegiate: A College Board School	11432
28Q325	Hillside Arts & Letters Academy	11432
28Q350	Jamaica Gateway to the Sciences	11432
28Q440	Forest Hills High School	11375
28Q620	Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Education High School	11432
28Q680	Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	11432
28Q686	Queens Metropolitan High School	11374
28Q687	Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	11451
28Q690	High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety	11451
29Q248	Queens Preparatory Academy	11433
29Q259	Pathways Early College World School	11433
29Q265	Excelsior Preparatory High School	11433
29Q272	George Washington Carver High School for the Sciences	11433
29Q283	Preparatory Academy for Writers: A College Board School	11433
29Q313	Benjamin Franklin High School for Finance & Information Technology	11431
29Q327	Eagle Academy for Young Men III	11434
29Q427	HBCU Prep	11423
29Q492	Mathematics, Science Research and Technology Magnet High School	11434
29Q498	Health, Arts, Robotics, and Technology High School	11433



NYCPS & District Family Priorities



Every Family, One Community

Our commitment to students represents the unbreakable bond between our schools, families, and communities.

By prioritizing collaborative engagement, dedicated parent advocacy, and continuous communication, we create an environment where every scholar has the support they need to learn, grow, and thrive.

NYCPS District Priorities and Goals

2026–27 School Year

The NYC Public Schools (NYCPS) has set several priorities and goals for high schools in 2026–27. These include:



1 Improving Literacy for Students with Disabilities (SWD):

Literacy for SWD will improve, with a 3 points increase in phonemic skills to support reading on the Foundations Intervention Placement Inventory.



2 Enhancing Physical and Mental Wellness:

The percentage of incidents involving infractions (bullying) will decrease and the percentage of students performing at or above the 41st percentile will increase.



3 Ensuring a High-Quality Academic Experience:

The percentage of students performing at or above the 41st percentile will be increased.



4 Graduating College and Career Ready:

The percentage of students enrolled in early college coursework (AP/IB) will increase.



5 Increasing Inclusivity and Responsiveness:

The percentage of families choosing NYC public schools will increase.



These goals reflect the NYCPS's commitment to providing a high-quality education for all students, including those with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds. The district's focus on literacy, wellness, and academic excellence is part of a broader effort to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed in their educational journey.



DISTRICT FAMILY PRIORITIES & ONGOING ACTION STEPS



NYCPS Priority 5: Family Engagement, Parent Empowerment & District Responsiveness

Queens South High Schools (Districts 27 • 28 • 29)



DISTRICT GOAL

Increase family engagement, strengthen parent leadership, expand multilingual access, and increase the number of families choosing NYC Public Schools.



1. PARENT COORDINATOR DEVELOPMENT

Building Strong Family Engagement Leaders

- ✓ Registration & Family Welcome Strategies
- ✓ Public Relations & School Branding
- ✓ Conflict Resolution Training
- ✓ Family Engagement Best Practices
- ✓ Weekly Professional Learning & Coaching



2. COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

Keeping Families Connected

- ✓ Weekly Newsletters & Resource Bulletins
- ✓ Monthly Family Calendars
- ✓ Academic & Assessment Reminders
- ✓ Virtual Town Halls
- ✓ Community Resource Sharing
- ✓ District & Citywide Campaign Promotion



3. INCLUSIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Supporting Every Family

- ✓ Multilingual Learner (MLL) Outreach
- ✓ Special Education Family Support
- ✓ Translation of Family Resources
- ✓ Interpretation Services at Events
- ✓ Family Empowerment Workshops
- ✓ College & Career Readiness Events



4. MONITORING & SUCCESS METRICS

Measuring Impact

- ✓ NYCSA Registration
- ✓ Family Survey Completion
- ✓ Family Inquiry Form Completion
- ✓ SPLCI Reporting
- ✓ PCAR Compliance
- ✓ PCMMR Reporting
- ✓ Parent Leadership Participation
- ✓ District Event Attendance
- ✓ Town Hall Engagement

NYCPS CARES INITIATIVES

Supporting Families Through:



NYC Reads



NYC Solves



FutureReady NYC



Family Connector Resources



Health & Hospitals Services



Social Services Resources



ACS Family Supports



Anti-Bullying Awareness



Anti-Vaping Campaigns



QSHS DISTRICT COMMITMENT

At Queens South High Schools we are committed to:

- ✓ Strengthening School-Family Partnerships
- ✓ Empowering Parent Coordinators as Family Advocates
- ✓ Increasing Parent Leadership Participation
- ✓ Improving Communication and Responsiveness
- ✓ Expanding Access to Resources & Services
- ✓ Supporting Chancellor and Superintendent Priorities
- ✓ Improving Student Success Through Family Engagement



TOGETHER WE EMPOWER FAMILIES.
TOGETHER WE SUPPORT STUDENTS.



STAY CONNECTED!

Look for updates in school newsletters, emails, social media, and district websites.



THANK YOU!

Your partnership makes a difference in the success of our students.

Queens South High Schools Family Engagement Team
Jeffrey Bolanos • Selena Gales • Namita Dwarka

One District. One Family. One Future.



QSHS

Serves — AND — Supports

LIKE SEEDS WHAT YOU **NUTURE** WILL GROW ♥



STRONG SCHOOLS



STRONG FAMILIES



STRONG COMMUNITIES



STRONGER TOGETHER



Our Commitment to Students & Families



QSHS *Serves — AND — Supports*



LIKE SEEDS WHAT YOU **NUTURE** WILL GROW ♥

A Message from the Superintendent



Dear Queens South High School Families and Students,

At Queens South High Schools, we believe that every student deserves to be seen, supported, and empowered to thrive. While academic excellence remains at the heart of our work, we also recognize that students are most successful when their social, emotional, and wellness needs are met.

It is with that commitment in mind that we present the Queens South High Schools Services & Supports Directory. This resource was created to ensure that our students and families are aware of the many programs, services, and supports available within our schools. From mental health services and counseling supports to food pantry resources, after-school opportunities, and specialized programs, this directory is designed to make access to support clear, transparent, and readily available.

This directory was developed in response to feedback from our families and students. We heard your desire for greater awareness of the resources that exist within our schools and how to access them. Our goal is not simply to provide supports, but to ensure that every family knows where those supports are, how to access them, and who can help connect them to the services they need.

As a district, we are committed to creating schools where every student feels safe, valued, connected, and prepared for success. We hope this directory serves as a meaningful tool that strengthens the partnership between our schools, families, and community as we work together to support the whole child.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for entrusting us with the education, well-being, and future of your children.

With gratitude,

Dr. Josephine Van-Ess

Superintendent

Queens South High Schools

"Like Seeds, Nurture Them and They Will Grow."



Dr. Josephine Yeboah Van-Ess
Superintendent of Queens South High Schools



82-01 Rockaway Blvd
Ozone Park, NY 11416



Email: Jvaness@schools.nyc.gov



"Like seeds, nurture them and they will grow" – JVE



Our Commitment to Students & Families



QSHS Serves and Supports

Together We Grow. Together We Thrive.



DISTRICT SUPPORTS

- Student Services Team Support SW & SC within all schools.
- Monitor student well-being through data and school-based teams
- Family Support Coordinator
- Family Leadership Coordinator



IN SCHOOL SUPPORTS

- School Counselors
- Social Workers
- SAPIS Workers
- Crisis Response Teams
- Clubs and Afterschool Programs
- Access to safe and supportive spaces
- Designated Respect for All Liaison in every school



FAMILY SUPPORTS

- Parent Coordinator
- Translation & Interpretation services
- Special Education support & guidance for families



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Dept. of Youth & Community Development
- Community-based organizations
- School Based Health Centers



At QSHS, we believe excellence grows when we work together.

Thank you for being part of our community!



**EVERY STUDENT
MATTERS**



**EVERY FAMILY
COUNTS**



**WE CARE.
WE SUPPORT.**



**WE EMPOWER.
WE CONNECT.**

STRONG SCHOOLS ♥ **STRONG FAMILIES** ♥ **STRONG COMMUNITIES** = **STRONGER TOGETHER**

Our Commitment to Students & Families



Directory

Click the link to visit your school's Serves and Supports page

District 27	District 28	District 29
<u>Frederick Douglass Academy VI High School</u>	<u>Queens Collegiate Middle and High School</u>	<u>Queens Preparatory Academy</u>
<u>Robert H. Goddard High School of Communication Arts</u>	<u>Hillside Arts and Letters Academy</u>	<u>Pathways Early College World School</u>
<u>Academy of Medical Technology</u>	<u>Jamaica Gateway to the Sciences</u>	<u>Excelsior Preparatory High School</u>
<u>Epic South High School</u>	<u>Forest Hills High School</u>	<u>George Washington Carver High School for the Sciences</u>
<u>Epic North High School</u>	<u>Thomas A. Edison High School</u>	<u>Preparatory Academy for Writers</u>
<u>Rockaway Collegiate High School</u>	<u>Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School</u>	<u>Benjamin Franklin High School for Finance & Information Technology</u>
<u>August Martin High School</u>	<u>Queens Metropolitan High School</u>	<u>Eagle Academy for Young Men III</u>
<u>Richmond Hill High School</u>	<u>Queens High School for the Sciences at York College</u>	<u>HBCU Early College Prep</u>
<u>John Adams High School</u>	<u>High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety</u>	<u>Mathematics, Science Research and Technology Magnet High School</u>
<u>The High School for Construction Trades, Engineering, and Architecture</u>		<u>Health, Arts, Robotics, and Technology High School (HARTS)</u>



Citywide, Districtwide & Schoolwide Family Engagement



Your Voice Matters: How Your District & Schools Communicate with You – Our Feedback Systems

- Your primary advocate at the school level is your **Parent Coordinator who will send you weekly email resources, newsletters & bulletins**
- The Parent Coordinator will play an integral part in School Orientation and Communication serving as a conduit to all resources.
So get to know your key support staff and stay connected!!
- **NYCSA Parent Registration** is crucial to getting weekly Notifications
- Completing annual Family Surveys or at every school event let families share their thoughts quickly to help improve student support
- **District-wide Family Insight Surveys** happen regularly to gather broader feedback & shared insight

Fill out the [School Meals Forms](#) for funding important student services



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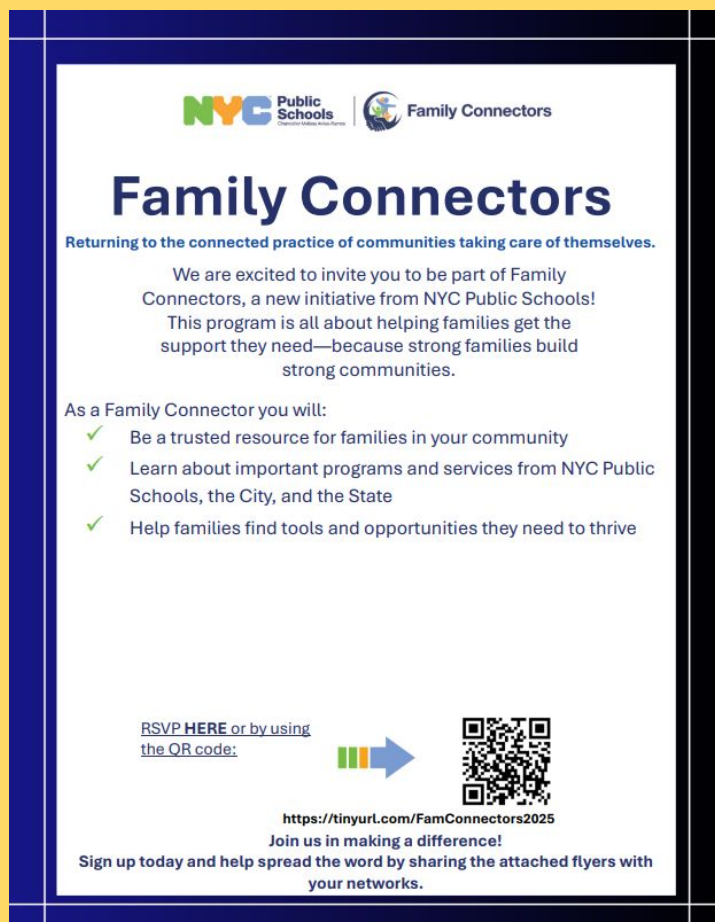
Your Voice Matters: How Your District & Schools Communicate with You – Our Feedback Systems

- **Family Town Hall Meetings** Roundtables with district leaders happen every quarter for direct conversation & resource dissemination.
- **CHAT & CHILL with the Superintendent** Meet in person with district parent leaders to share views in a collaborate effort to improve our schools.
- **Coordinating efforts with your School PTA & SLT –** Checking-in regularly to share feedback with school parent leaders
- Digital Family Voices through the District Chronicle, social media & supported NYCDOE platforms displays family ideas and stories throughout the school year.
- Joining virtual meetings within the citywide **Parent Leadership Community Structure** I.E. Citywide Education Councils CCHS –CCSE—CCELL—CCD75, Queens High School President Council, Panel for Educational Policy –PEP, Chancellor & District Advisory Councils (CPAC - DPAC), and District Leadership Council (DLT)



Family Empowerment Means Getting Connected!

- Family empowerment goes beyond just attending school events
- It means families become decision-makers, advocates, and co-creators of school culture
- Empowered families help shape policies, programs, and practices that affect student learning
- Family Empowerment Connectors recognizes that families know their children best and have valuable insights to share
- Family Connectors provide City public school families with information, resources, and even referrals to other City agencies and local community organizations.
- By training Family Connectors to support families in local schools, we aim to boost academic achievement, improve attendance, and reduce school-based violence.



NYC Public Schools | **Family Connectors**

Family Connectors

Returning to the connected practice of communities taking care of themselves.

We are excited to invite you to be part of Family Connectors, a new initiative from NYC Public Schools! This program is all about helping families get the support they need—because strong families build strong communities.

As a Family Connector you will:

- ✓ Be a trusted resource for families in your community
- ✓ Learn about important programs and services from NYC Public Schools, the City, and the State
- ✓ Help families find tools and opportunities they need to thrive

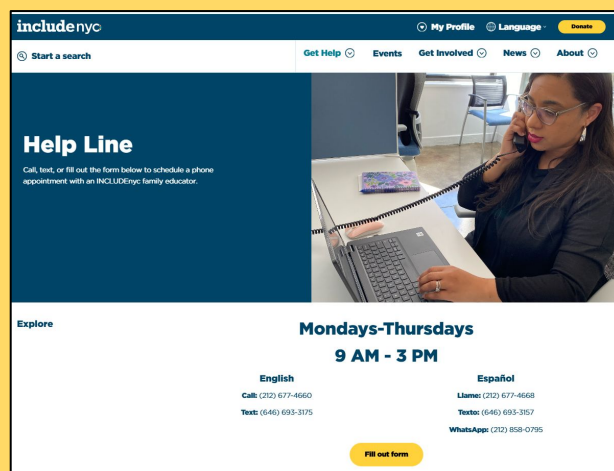
RSVP [HERE](#) or by using the QR code:



<https://tinyurl.com/FamConnectors2025>

Join us in making a difference!

Sign up today and help spread the word by sharing the attached flyers with your networks.



include nyc

Get Help | Events | Get Involved | News | About

Help Line

Call, text, or fill out the form below to schedule a phone appointment with an INCLUDEnyc family educator.



Explore

Mondays-Thursdays
9 AM - 3 PM

English	Español
Call: (212) 677-4660	Llame: (212) 677-4660
Text: (646) 693-3175	Text: (646) 693-3157
	WhatsApp: (212) 858-0795

[Fill out form](#)

Become a Parent Member!
Use the link below to learn how...

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/special-education/the-iep-process/parent-members>

Know Your Parent Leadership Structure!

New York City Public Schools Parent and Community Leadership Structure

Citywide Level

Panel for Educational Policy (PEP)

Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council (CPAC)

Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS)

Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE)

Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL)

Citywide Council for District 75 (CCD75)

DOE Support

Office of Family and Community Empowerment

District/Borough Level

Community Education Councils (CECs)

District Leadership Teams (DLTs)

Borough High School Presidents' Councils

District Presidents' Councils

District Title I Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs)

District/High School Family Leadership Coordinators (FLCs)

School Level

Parent Associations/Parent Teacher Associations (PAs/PTAs)

School Leadership Teams (SLTs)

Title I Parent Advisory Councils (PACs)

School Parent Coordinators (PCs)

Division of Community Empowerment, Partnerships and Communication

schools.nyc.gov | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) /nycschools

Required by State Law

NYC
EDUCATION COUNCILS

Join Your Parent Educational Leadership Groups

Parents please be sure to create a NYC SCHOOLS ACCOUNT (NYCSA) for NYCDOE website link access

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/> ---- See Parent Coordinator for Account Creation Code

Check out Parent University for free training.

<https://parentu.schools.nyc/>

Become a Parent Member to help IEP Families

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/special-education/the-iep-process/parent-members>

What is the Parent & Teacher Association (PTA)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/parent-associations>

What is the School Leadership Team (SLT)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/school-leadership-team>

What are Education Councils (CEC & CCEC)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/education-councils>

Which Community Education Council are you interested in?

CCHS –CCSE—CCELL—CCD75

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/education-councils/citywide-education-councils/cec>

What is the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy>

What is Chancellor’s Advisory Council (CPAC) & Family Connector Initiative?

<https://www.cpacnyc.com/>

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/news/morning-bell/contentdetails/morning-bell/2025/04/03/we-listened-now-what>

What is the President’s Council (QHSPC)?

<https://qhspcnny.ptboard.com/home>

What is District Leadership Teams (DLT)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/district-leadership>

What is Division of Family and Community Engagement, (FACE)?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/family-and-community-empowerment-face>

What is Tile1 District Parent Advisory Council (PAC & DPAC)?

<https://infohub.nyced.org/nyc-doe-topics/students-and-families/title-i-parent-and-family-engagement-requirements>

What if I do not speak English & are multilingual families welcome?

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/multilingual-learners/welcoming-and-inclusive-schools-for-multilingual-and-immigrant-communities>

What does the overall DOE Community Parent Leadership Structure look like and how do I fit in?

<https://ptalink.org/topic-areas/parent-leadership/pa-ptas>





Supporting Students with Disabilities & Families



*Strengthening Connections: Building Bridges within District,
Special Education Office (SEO) & Families Through Partnership*



SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

= A Guide for Families =



Partnering with schools and families to ensure every student with a disability has the support, opportunities, and services needed to thrive in high school and beyond.

OUR APPROACH

1



ACCESS TO SERVICES

We work with schools to ensure students receive the special education programs, related services, accommodations, and supports outlined in their IEPs.

2



STRONG INSTRUCTION

We support schools in providing SWDs with access to grade-level learning through inclusive practices, specially designed instruction, accommodations, and classroom supports.

3



MONITORING PROGRESS

We work with schools to monitor student progress, attendance, credits, and graduation goals to identify when additional support may be needed.

4



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

We help schools and families prepare students for life after high school, including college, careers, independent living, and other post-secondary goals.



HOW WE SUPPORT SCHOOLS & FAMILIES



REVIEW

student needs and progress



SUPPORT

schools in implementing IEPs



PROVIDE

professional learning and resources to school staff



IDENTIFY

barriers to student success



CONNECT

students and families with transition and post-secondary resources



QUESTIONS? START HERE

Have questions about your child's IEP, services, or supports?

= YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL IS THE BEST PLACE TO START. =

= Reach out to your school's: =



SPECIAL EDUCATION
LIAISON



IEP
COORDINATOR



SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATION



Your school team can answer questions, explain services, connect you with the right staff, and work with you to support your child's success.

♡ We're here to *partner* with you every step of the way! ♡

Steps We're Taking:

- **Strengthening Collaboration Across the District**

Promoting cross-divisional partnerships by working collaboratively with all Divisions and Offices throughout NYC Public Schools.

- **Centering Family Voices**

Engaging with Parent Leaders by building relationships with the Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE) and Community Education Councils (CECs) across all districts to stay connected to their experiences and perspectives.

- **Elevating the Role of IEP Parent Members**

Raising awareness and promoting the value of IEP Parent Members as vital support for families and partners in the special education process.

Strengthening Collaboration Across QSHS:

- **Engagement with District Leaders**

- Monthly meetings with District Directors of Special Education (DSEs) and Special Education Community Coordinators (SECCs) to collaboratively address escalations and analyze trends.
- Joint problem-solving sessions involving Superintendents, district, and school staff to ensure comprehensive support and resolution.
- Workshops or training sessions for families and staff based on identified needs.

- **Community Partnership Engagement**

- Partner with the Division of Family, Community, and Student Empowerment (FCSE) through the Family Connectors Initiative
- Participate in community events led by other Divisions or Offices to connect with families and share information about the supports and resources available to them.

Focusing on Family Voices:

- **Monthly Leadership Meetings**

District collaboration with SEO family leadership meetings. Connecting parents regularly with CCSE Co-Presidents to maintain open communication and strengthen partnerships.

Partner with District Administrators, Directors of Special Education (ASEs/DSEs) and Special Education Community Coordinators (SECCs) in resolving challenges.

- **Ongoing Participation**

Actively participate in monthly CCSE and CCEC meetings to stay connected to family voices and community concerns, helping to inform and drive system-level change as trends and needs emerge. Encourage families to utilize SEO Citywide Family Support Inbox or Public Comment Cards for assistance

- **Policy Clarification and Support**

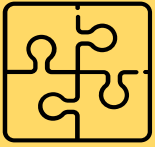
Provide clear explanations of existing policies and guidance to help address family concerns related to special education services and community resources.



Reimagining Special Education in NYCPS

District Support of Students with Disabilities

Family Resources



tinyurl.com/NYCPSspecialeducation

Explore family guides, special education services, and helpful resources to support your child's educational journey.



tinyurl.com/FamilyTransitionGuide

Find guidance and resources to help your child successfully plan for life after high school.



tinyurl.com/TransitionPlanningList

Use this checklist to help you and your child prepare for college, careers, independent living, and life after high school.



tinyurl.com/SDIGuideforFamilies

To understand how teachers personalize instruction to help your child learn, participate, and succeed in school.

Looking for more??
Scan the QR code or
use the link to
access additional
resources!



tinyurl.com/HTSCResources

Leveraging Citywide Special Education Resources

- **SEO Citywide Family Support Inbox:**
specialeducation@schools.nyc.gov
- **SEO Family Resources Webpage:**
schools.nyc.gov/learning/special-education/family-resources
- **SEO Bookmarks:**

Features QR codes linking to digital guides in multiple languages

Students with disabilities who require special education services have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). The links below will guide you to detailed information and resources about the special education process. To learn more scan the links below.

The IEP Process Preschool Family Guide Assistive Technology School Age Family Guide Special Education in NYC Life After High School Specialized Program



- **Family Assessment Program**
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/acs/justice/family-assessment-program.page>
- **CCSE Parent Support** <https://ccsenyc.org/>



Supporting Multilingual Families





SUPPORTING MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS

≡ *A Guide for Families* ≡



Partnering with schools and families to ensure every Multilingual Learner has the language support, cultural validation, and opportunities needed to thrive in high school and beyond.

OUR APPROACH

1



LANGUAGE ACCESS

We work with schools to ensure students have access to comprehensive language support services, including English as a New Language (ENL) instruction, based on their needs.

2



RIGOROUS INSTRUCTION

We support schools in providing all Multilingual Learners with high-quality, grade-level content instruction that is scaffolded for language development and promotes critical thinking.

3



PROGRESS MONITORING

We collaborate with schools to track language proficiency, academic growth, attendance, and graduation pathways, using data to tailor support for each student.

4



POST-SECONDARY PREPARATION

We guide schools and families in preparing Multilingual Learners for future success, offering bilingual career pathways, college planning, and dual enrollment opportunities.



HOW WE SUPPORT SCHOOLS & FAMILIES



REVIEW

language and
academic data



DEVELOP

bilingual and
ENL program
options



PROVIDE

cultural
competency
training for staff



FACILITATE

family
engagement and
communication



CONNECT

with community
resources and
services



QUESTIONS? START HERE

Have questions about your child's ENL services, language proficiency, or academic placement?

≡ YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL IS THE BEST PLACE TO START. ≡



BILINGUAL/ENL
LIAISON



PARENT
COORDINATOR



SCHOOL
LEADERSHIP



Your school team can explain language services, assess progress, and connect you to bilingual resources to support your child's success.

♡ We're here to *partner* with you every step of the way! ♡

Multilingual Family Resources

English Language Learner Identification

All parents and guardians of newly enrolled students must complete a Home Language Identification Survey to let school staff know which language your child speaks at home. If your responses show that your child speaks a language other than English at home, the school may give your child the [New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners](#). This test measures your child's knowledge of English and shows whether your child needs support programs and services. If the test shows that your child needs support learning English, your child will be identified as an English language learner. You can learn more about supports for English language learners on our [NYC Public Schools website](#).

Program Options for English Language Learners

Find out about the [programs offered](#) for English Language Learners: All ELLs receive **English as a New Language (ENL)**. Your child will be taught to read, write, and speak in English with support in your child's home language. There are two types of bilingual education programs. In both programs, your child will learn reading, writing, and other classes in both English and in your child's home language. Both programs include English as a New Language (ENL) instruction. View a list of current [Bilingual Programs](#) offered at NYC Public Schools. Access [Middle and High School](#) brochures.

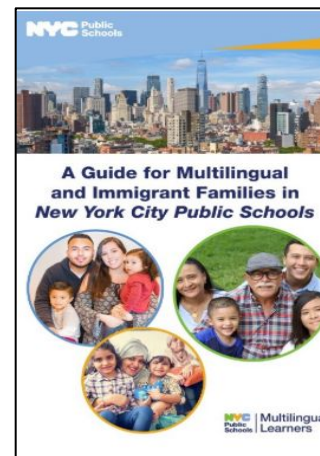
Multilingual and Immigrant Family Resource Guide

The **Multilingual and Immigrant Family Resource Guide** is designed to inform families of their educational rights regardless of immigration status and provide key resources to promote language justice and postsecondary opportunities.

Through this guide, families can learn about:

- their child's rights as an English Language Learner student,
- how and where they can enroll their children,
- how they can be their child's advocate at school,
- program options for English Language Learners, and more.

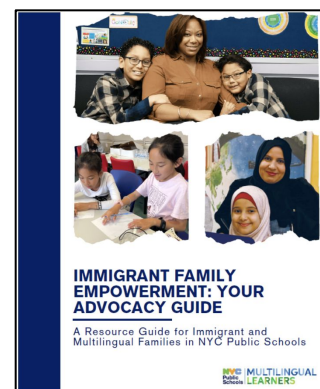
[Albanian](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Bengali](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Haitian Creole](#) | [Korean](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Urdu](#) | [Ukrainian](#) | [Uzbek](#)



Immigrant Family Empowerment

The **Immigrant Family Empowerment - Your Advocacy Guide** is a resource guide designed for multilingual and immigrant families in NYC Public Schools. Through this guide, you will have access to knowledge about your rights as immigrant families, different ways to get involved in your child's school, and how to lead for the purpose of change in your school community.

[Albanian](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Bengali](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Haitian Creole](#) | [Korean](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Urdu](#) | [Wolof](#) | [Uzbek Cyrillic](#) | [Punjabi](#) | [Ukrainian](#)



Translation and Interpretation Services of Families

Parents have the right to translation and interpretation services if they require or request language assistance in order to communicate effectively with NYC Public School staff in accordance with [Chancellor's Regulation A-663](#). The Translation and Interpretation Services Request form is available in the following languages:

[Arabic](#) | [Bangla](#) | [Chinese \(Simplified\)](#) | [Chinese \(Traditional\)](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Haitian Creole](#) | [Korean](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Urdu](#) | **Coming Soon: Albanian, Ukrainian, and Uzbek**

Supporting Multilingual and Immigrant Families

A Joint District & Citywide Approach



**Capacity
Building**

**Direct to
Families
Programs**



**Consistent
Multilingual
Family
Engagement**

Supporting Multilingual and Immigrant Families

By Consolidating Support Systems & Ongoing Training

Capacity Building:

CRSE Family Engagement Series

- Implementing Citywide PL opportunities for capacity building for families educators and school-based staff to increase their knowledge and understanding of ML and immigrant families
- Promote best practices for collaborating with ML families
- Connect with experts, resources and services available in New York City to support ML and immigrant families



Partnering with Office Of Multilingual Learners (OML)

Teams:

- Disseminate OML comprehensive training to families and provide ongoing collaboration with school staff to ensure seamless alignment and support in district wide schools..
- Ensure that Parent Coordinators share resources and supports cohesive and are responsive to the diverse needs of students and families through strong partnerships with district school teams.



Know Your Multilingual Learner Resources

- **Family Engagement:**

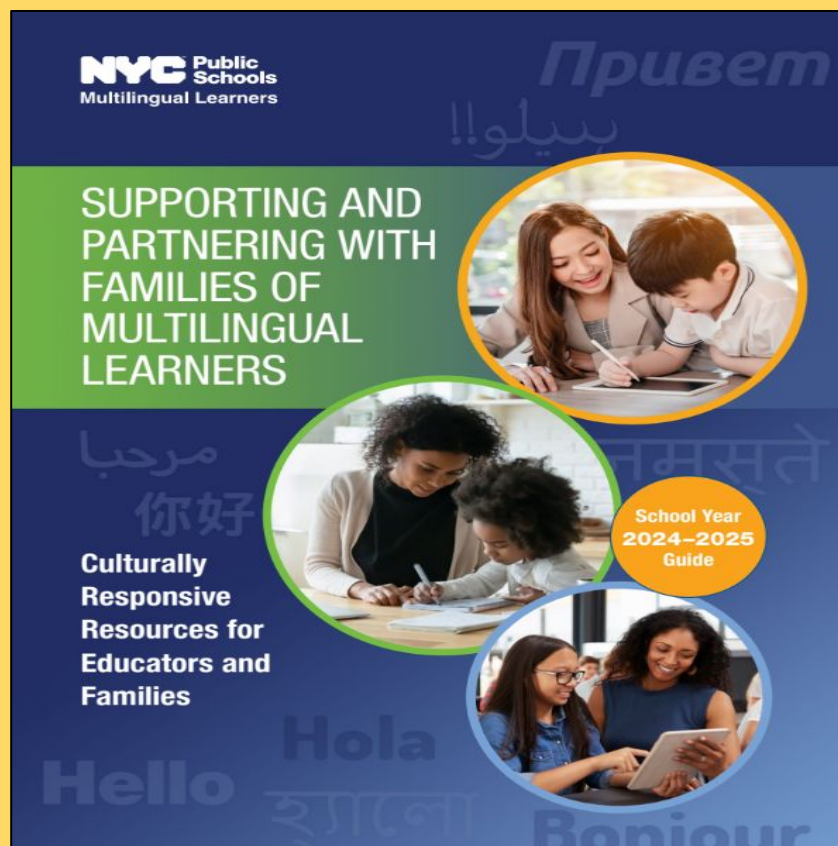
- [Bill of Rights for Parents of English Language Learners](#)

- [Supporting and Partnering with Families of MLs](#)

- [Immigrant Family Empowerment](#)

- [Multilingual and Immigrant Family Resource Guide](#)

- [Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Family Engagement Training Resource Hub](#)





Important Dates to Know



Mark your calendars!

School Year Calendar 2026–2027

This is the 2026–27 school year calendar for NYCPS schools from 3-K through grade 12. If your child attends a private, parochial, charter school, NYC Early Education Center (NYCEEC), or Family Childcare Program, please contact your child’s school for information about their calendar. Please note the following:

- On days when school buildings are closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, NYCPS may be in session remotely.
- Individual schools’ Parent-Teacher Conference dates might be different from the dates below. Your child’s teacher will work with you to schedule your conference.
- On this schedule, **elementary schools** are defined as programs that serve kindergarten (K) through grade 8, including schools with 3-K and Pre-K programs, as well as those that end in grade 5 or grade 6. **Middle schools** are defined as programs that serve grades 6–8, and **high schools** are defined as programs that serve grades 9–12. **6-12 schools** are defined as programs that serve just grades 6–12 in a single school.

Date	Weekday	Event
September 10	Thursday	First day of school
September 21	Monday	Yom Kippur, schools closed
September 23	Wednesday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools
September 24	Thursday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools
September 30	Wednesday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers
October 12	Monday	Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples’ Day, schools closed
November 3	Tuesday	Election Day, school will be in session remotely for all students
November 5	Thursday	Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers; students in these schools dismissed three hours early
November 11	Wednesday	Veterans Day, schools closed
November 12	Thursday	Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75; students in these schools dismissed three hours early
November 19	Thursday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools
November 20	Friday	Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early
November 26–27	Thursday–Friday	Thanksgiving Recess, schools closed
December 24–January 1	Thursday–Friday	Winter Recess, schools closed

January 18	Monday	Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, schools closed
January 26-29	Tuesday–Friday	Regents Administration
February 1	Monday	Professional Development Day; students that attend high schools and schools that serve only grades 6-12 are not in attendance. All other students attend school.
February 2	Tuesday	Spring Semester begins
February 15–19	Monday–Friday	Midwinter Recess, schools closed
March 3	Wednesday	Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers; students in these schools dismissed three hours early
March 4	Thursday	Afternoon and Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools; students in these schools dismissed three hours early
March 9	Tuesday	Eid al-Fitr, schools closed
March 18	Thursday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools
March 19	Friday	Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools; students in these schools are dismissed three hours early
March 26	Friday	Good Friday, schools closed
April 22-30	Thursday–Friday	Spring Recess, schools closed
May 12	Wednesday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools
May 13	Thursday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for middle schools and D75 schools
May 17	Monday	Eid al-Adha, schools closed
May 26	Wednesday	Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for elementary schools and Pre-K Centers
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day, schools closed
June 8	Tuesday	Clerical Day; no classes for students attending 3-K, Pre-K, elementary schools, middle schools, K–12 schools, and standalone D75 programs
June 10	Thursday	Anniversary Day/Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development; students do not attend school
June 15–18; 21–25	Tuesday–Friday; Monday–Friday	Regents Administration
June 28	Monday	Last day of school for students

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/sections/calendar/2026-27-school-year-calendar.pdf>

QSHS Family Engagement Calendar 2026-2027



Parent Coordinator Professional Development

Date	Topic	Location
July 29, 2026	QSHS Parent Coordinator Retreat	District Office
September 22, 2026	Queens North & South	Virtual
October 13, 2026	Queens North & South	Virtual
November 10, 2026	Queens North & South	Virtual
December 8, 2026	Queens South	Virtual
January 12, 2027	Queens North & South	Virtual
February 9, 2027	Queens South	Virtual
March 16, 2027	Queens North & South	Virtual
April 13, 2027	Queens South	Virtual
May 11, 2027	Queens North & South	Virtual
June 10, 2027	Queens South	Virtual

Parent Workshops

Date	Topic	Location/Time
October 13, 2026	Starting High School...Now What?	Virtual • 6:00 PM
October 28, 2026	Your Road to Middle School (6 & 7 Graders)	Virtual • 6:00 PM
November 18, 2026	School Leadership Team Training	Virtual • 6:00 PM
February 09, 2027	Navigating Special Education	Virtual • 6:00 PM
February 23, 2027	Your Road to High School (8 th Graders)	Virtual • 6:00 PM
March 23, 2027	Supporting Your Multilingual Learner	Virtual • 6:00 PM
April 14, 2027	Financial Literacy	Virtual • 6:00 PM

District Townhalls

Date	Topic	Location/Time
October 28, 2026	Fall Townhall	Virtual • 6:00 PM
April 07, 2027	Spring Townhall / Parent Symposium	In-Person • 5:30 PM

Superintendent CHAT & CHILL!

Date	Topic	Location/Time
December 17, 2026	Chat & Chill w/ Superintendent Dr. Van-Ess	Fall/Winter • 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
March 03, 2027	Chat & Chill w/ Superintendent Dr. Van-Ess	Spring/Pre Rock • 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM



Queens South High Schools • Family Engagement Office
Empowering Families, Supporting Students, Building Our Future.



Queens High Schools President's Council

Community Meetings



2026 – 2027 SCHOOL YEAR

1

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER

14
2026



6:30PM – 8:15PM

2

THURSDAY
OCTOBER

1
2026



6:30PM – 8:15PM

3

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER

5
2026



6:30PM – 8:15PM

4

THURSDAY
DECEMBER

3
2026



6:30PM – 8:15PM

5

THURSDAY
JANUARY

7
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM

6

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY

4
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM

7

THURSDAY
MARCH

4
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM

8

THURSDAY
APRIL

1
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM

9

THURSDAY
MAY

6
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM

10

THURSDAY
JUNE

3
2027



6:30PM – 8:15PM



ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD FROM



6:30PM to 8:15PM unless otherwise noted.

<https://sites.google.com/site/queenshspcnny>



CITYWIDE COUNCIL ON HIGH SCHOOLS



CCHS 25-27 COUNCIL MEMBERS!



CO-PRESIDENT – Deborah Kross (Bronx)

CO-PRESIDENT – Deborah Alexander (Bronx)

VICE PRESIDENT – Muhammad Salcem (Staten Island)

SECRETARY – Linda Quarles (Brooklyn)

TREASURER – Lawrence Lee (Queens)

Nancy Cruz (Brooklyn)

Adriana Aviles (Queens)

Benjamin Morden (Manhattan)

Kelly Bare (Manhattan)

Camara Hudson (Public Advocate Appointee)

Ezra Di Pietra (Student Member)

Kimberly Berney-Brooke (CCSE Appointee)

Clive Liew (CCELL Appointee)

Vacancy (Staten Island)



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

 www.cchsnyc.org

*See Website Calendar for
Monthly Meeting Schedule*





DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS



LET'S TALK TOWN HALL



FALL SESSION



Wednesday, October 28, 2026



6:00 PM – 7:30 PM



Virtual



SPRING SESSION



Wednesday, April 7, 2027



5:30 PM – 7:30 PM



Springfield Gardens Campus HS



In Person – Town Hall / Spring Symposium



CHAT N CHILL with DR. VAN-ESS



FALL SESSION



Thursday, December 17, 2026



2:00 PM – 4:00 PM



Pathways College Preparatory School:
A College Board School



SPRING SESSION



Wednesday, March 3, 2027



2:00 PM – 4:00 PM



Far Rockaway Campus



*Stay connected and be part of the conversation.
Your voice matters!*



QUEENS SOUTH HIGH SCHOOLS • DISTRICTS 27 • 28 • 29

One District • One Family • One Future





Queens South Political Power Partners





Queens Borough Hall



Queens Borough Hall

120-55 Queens Boulevard
Kew Gardens, NY 11424



Hon. Donovan Richards.

Queens Borough President.

info@queensbp.org 718-286-3000



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Chief Of Staff.

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Director Of Personnel

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Mohammed Sadiq,

Director Of Topography

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★ www.queensbp.org ★

Katherine (Kat) O. Zapata (she/her) | Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

T 718.286.2627 E kzapata@queensbp.nyc.gov

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. | 120-55 Queens Boulevard |

Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Queens South Political Support



Khaleel M. Anderson – District 31

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District Office:

19-31 Mott Avenue, Suite 301

Far Rockaway, NY 11691

718-327-1845

131-17 Rockaway Boulevard

South Ozone Park, NY 11420

718-322-4985

Albany Office:

LOB 628

Albany, NY 12248

518-455-5668



Vivian E. Cook – District 32

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Email: CookV@nyassembly.gov

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142-15 Rockaway Blvd

Jamaica, NY 11436

718-322-3975

Albany Office:

LOB 939

Albany, NY 12248

518-455-4203



Alicia Hyndman – District 29

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243-02 Merrick Blvd

Rosedale, NY 11422

Albany Office:

LOB 702

Albany, NY 12248

518-455-4451



Clyde Vanel – District 33

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District Office:

97-01 Springfield Boulevard

Queens Village, NY 11429

718-479-2333

Fax: 718-464-7128

Albany Office:

LOB 454

Albany, NY 12248

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Fax: 518-455-3740

Queens South Political Support



Jenifer Rajkumar – District 38

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Woodhaven, NY 11421

Phone: 718-805-0950

Fax: 718-805-0953



Lynn Schulman

ZIP Codes Served: 11374, 11375, 11419

District Office

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Forest Hills, NY 11375

Phone: 718-544-8800

Fax: 718-544-4452

Legislative Office

250 Broadway, Suite 1872

New York, NY 10007

Phone: 212-788-6981



Ty Hankerson

**New York City Council Member – District
28 (Queens)**

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Jamaica, NY 11434

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General Assistance Email

D28helps@council.nyc.gov

District28@council.nyc.gov

D28budget@council.nyc.gov



**Dr. Nantasha Williams – NYC Council
District 27**

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Website: NYC Council District 27

Queens South Political Support



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Fax 718-945-9549

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Fax 718-835-3190

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111-12 Atlantic Ave #5, Richmond Hill, NY
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LOB 526



Sam Berger - District 27

bergers@nyassembly.gov

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LOB 818 Albany, NY 12248
518-455-4404



Andrew Hevesi - District 28

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70-50 Austin Street Suite 114, Forest Hills,
NY 11375
718-263-5595

Albany, NY 12248,
518-455-4926
LOB 626



Contact Senator Leroy Comrie's Office



DISTRICT OFFICE

113-43 Farmers Boulevard
St. Albans, NY 11412

Phone: (718) 765-6359

Fax: (718) 454-0196



ALBANY OFFICE

Legislative Office Building, Room 612
Albany, NY 12247

Phone: (518) 455-2701

Fax: (518) 426-2816



EMAIL ADDRESS:

comrie@nysenate.gov



**SENATOR
LEROY COMRIE**

★ Representing the 14th Senate District ★



Other RESOURCES



<https://sway.office.com/d7O5oNgNWRR8hXPK>



SCAN ME



Contact Senator Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.'s Office



DISTRICT OFFICE

84-16 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Phone: (718) 738-1111

Fax: (718) 296-0495



ALBANY OFFICE

188 State Street Room 811,
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247

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Fax: (518) 426-6875



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addabbo@nysenate.gov



★ SENATOR ★
JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR.

Representing the 15th Senate District



SCAN ME



Get to Know Us!





QSHS District Chronicle Newsletters

Stay Informed!!



Spotlight on QSHS!

QSHS proudly hosted its First Annual Parent Symposium at Queens Borough Hall, bringing together families, students, educators, and community partners to celebrate the power of collaboration and engagement. The event featured remarks from Superintendent Dr. Josephine Y. Van-Ess, Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr., guest speaker Sherman Browne, student performances, and a discussion panel with QHSPC President Quentin Mezetin, and Parent Leader & Queens Family Connector Shirley Aubin.



Superintendent's Address

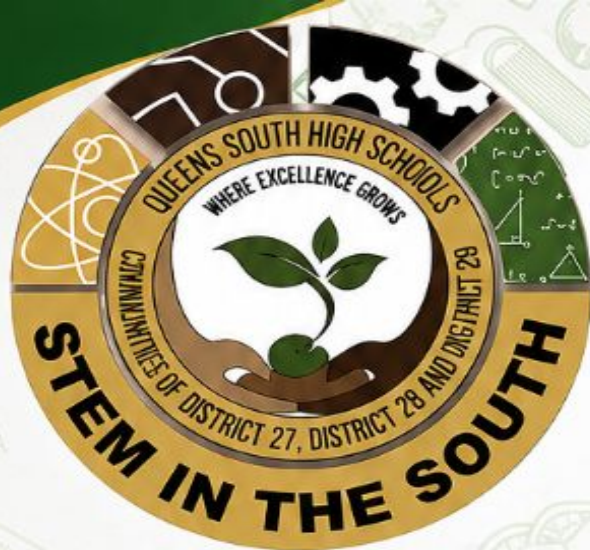
Dear QSHS School Community,

As we close out another incredible school year, I want to congratulate our students, families, educators, staff, and community partners for giving their all to ensure a successful year across Queens South High Schools. Your hard work, resilience, collaboration, and commitment to excellence continue to make our district shine as we remain committed to planting and nurturing seeds of excellence in every scholar and school community.

We are currently in a special season filled with celebration and achievement as our graduating seniors finalize their postsecondary decisions and schools conclude the year with Family Days, field trips, award ceremonies, senior trips, and prom celebrations. As students now prepare for Regents examinations, we wish everyone the very best of luck and encourage our scholars to finish strong. Thank you for an amazing year, have a safe and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to an even greater 2026–2027 school year ahead!

With pride & gratitude,
Dr. Josephine Yeboah Van-Ess

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