

Guidance Department NEWSLETTER

Middle School 88
Principal: Ailene Altman Mitchell

MAR
2016



HIGHLIGHTS

February was certainly an exciting month. We were happy to welcome Respect For All guest speakers, activities and assemblies that were focused on building upon ongoing diversity programs and to help us promote respect for diversity. We were very pleased with the student and staff engagement during these workshops and are confident that our school will continue to practice concepts of prevention for biased-based harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

As we approach the end of winter, we will joyfully welcome Spring with a fun-filled March. This month, M.S. 88 will be buzzing with exciting events and activities. Be sure to save all of the important dates and please follow up on upcoming events that concern your children. Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the school play. You will not want to miss out on M.S. 88's rendition of Little Shop of Horrors. Opening night is March 30th, with an encore performance on March 31st. Tickets are \$3 and can be purchased from Ms. LiDondici in the auditorium or during lunch periods in the cafeteria.

Counselor Quote

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us."

-Helen Keller

Theme Fridays

March 4: Football Futuristic Day

March 11: Polka Dot Day



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 8-10:** Fast Facts Tool Kit on High School Admission Process (9:00 am)
- **March 17:** Parent Teacher Conference
- **March 22:** Parent Engagement Workshop – High School Admissions
- **March 25:** Good Friday (**school is closed**)

Guidance Counselor Announcements

Ms. Caspi, Guidance Counselor (Ext. 166)
(8th grade): ccaspi@schools.nyc.gov

Dear 8th Grade parents,

Your children will be receiving a letter with the results of Round 1 of the high school admission process this Friday, March 4th. The letter will also include **offer/no offer** to Specialized High Schools. Please discuss the match with your child. If you would like to discuss entering Round 2 of the High School Application process please contact me in the guidance office.

In addition, if your child did not receive a match in Round 1, they are automatically entered into Round 2 and must submit a Round 2 application to the guidance office.

All Round 2 applications will be available in the guidance office.

Good Luck!

Mr. Matera, Guidance Counselor (Ext. 217)
(7th grade): rmatera@schools.nyc.gov

Dear 7th graders and parents,

M.S. 88 is very excited to announce that we are on the ballot for District 38's Participatory Budgeting (PB) three times over! Through our City Council Office, M.S. 88, and several public schools in our district, are able to get funding for projects that will improve our school and community in dramatic ways. Our Principal's Council members will be leading the effort to get the word out about Participatory Budgeting and the three projects; upgrades to our library, auditorium and air conditioning wiring, which we have on the PB ballot. Be on the lookout for information about how you can vote and be involved in PB!

For any other questions or concerns, please contact me at extension 217 or have your child report to room 216.

PTA News

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on **Tuesday March 15 at 6:00pm** in the auditorium. Learn how to support your children's test prep at home and how you can help MS 88 win grants to upgrade our auditorium, library and air conditioning systems. You'll also see a sneak preview of Little Shop of Horrors and have a chance to win four tickets to the show. Hope to see you there!

Join the PTA! Email ms88pta@gmail.com to find out more!

Guidance Counselor Announcements

MARCH 2016

Ms. Forman, Guidance Counselor (Ext. 165)
(6th grade): jforman2@schools.nyc.gov

Dear 6th grade parents,

Although it seems like your children just began middle school, I encourage you to begin thinking about the high school application process. On March 22nd there will be a parent engagement meeting at 2:45 p.m. in the School of One classroom. The topic of this meeting is high school admissions and we have invited two guest speakers to present. Maurice Frumkin is the former Deputy Executive Director of High School Admissions and now consults privately with families to help them navigate the high school application process. A representative from Bee Tutors, a private tutoring agency which prepares students for the Specialized High School exam will be presenting at the meeting as well.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Ms. Brown, Guidance Counselor (Ext. 203)
(IEP/Related Service Provider): Ebrown22@schools.nyc.gov

This month in school counseling, students will continue to work on their counseling goals. Students will engage in activities that build social skills, coping skills and decision making skills. I look forward to meeting with parents March 17th during parent teacher conferences. During the afternoon session I will be located in my office room 230. During the evening session I will be located in the auditorium where I will be distributing report cards. Counseling progress reports will be distributed with report cards.

KIDS AT HOPE

A key piece of the Kids At Hope framework is the concept of 'Mental Time Travel'. Mental Time Travel is about teaching our students to visualize themselves at different destinations in their futures. This positive exercise gives students a chance to develop hope about their future successes in their family, education, career, recreational activities, and as members of their communities. This month, starting on March 14th, our 6th graders will practice this positive visualization as they participate in dynamic group activities in our school gym.



Ms. Ailene Altman Mitchell, Principal
AMitche2@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 158)

S.I.S.T.A. House:

Ms. Figueroa, Assistant Principal
PFigueroa4@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 130)

Ms. Panag, Assistant Principal
SPanag2@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 144)

Mr. Roumbeas, Dean
JRoumbeas@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 148)

Ms. Durgin, Conflict Resolution
BDurgin@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 164)

S.M.A.R.T. House:

Mr. Russo, Assistant Principal
PRusso5@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 246)

Ms. Jordan, Parent Coordinator
TJordan3@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 216)

Medical House:

Mr. Bohbot, Assistant Principal
YBohbot@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 346)

Mr. Carroll, Dean
DCarrol3@schools.nyc.gov (Ext. 316)

Resources

NYC DOE: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ParentsFamilies/default.htm>

Respect For All: <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/RespectforAll/default.htm>

Engage NY: <https://www.engageny.org/>

Social/Emotional Assessment: <http://www.parenttoolkit.com/>

Behavioral Assessment: <http://www.thinkkids.org/>

Lutheran Medical Center: <http://www.lutheranhealthcare.org/>

High School Admissions Website: www.nyc.gov/schools/ChoicesEnrollment/High

High School Admissions Apps:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Home/AdmissionsApps>

School Search: <http://schools.nyc.gov/schoolsearch/>

Open House/Information Session Calendar:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Calendar/>

School Accountability Information: www.nyc.gov/schools/accountability

