

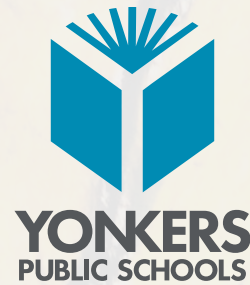


**YONKERS**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# **2023 – 2024**

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR & HANDBOOK**





# Mission Statement

*Creating a Foundation for Success: Innovation, Inspiration, Critical Thinking and Excellence for All*

Yonkers Public Schools is committed to creating a culturally responsive and sustaining environment that ensures all learners in our school community are equitably prepared with critical thinking skills, are able to lead, inspire, and succeed in the world of today and tomorrow.

## CORE VALUES

Everyone in Yonkers Public Schools will:

- Practice mutual respect for all including those with experiences that are different from one's own
- Anchor every decision to student achievement
- Develop the whole child
- Commit to understanding and affirming the cultural assets that children bring
- Support every educator in the pursuit of ongoing professional growth
- Connect the school, home, and community in all activities
- Engage all community members in student success

## DISTRICT GOALS

### Goal 1 – Student Achievement

Strengthen academic outcomes and graduation pathways through culturally responsive and sustaining curriculum and instruction.

### Goal 2 – Professional Development

Continue to develop teacher content and pedagogy to increase opportunities and outcomes for each student.

### Goal 3 – Data-Driven Instruction

Create a school-wide culture based on high expectations and accountability using qualitative and quantitative data to support decision-making and address inequities for each student.

### Goal 4 – Support Student Needs

Establish inclusive learning communities that support students with diverse social and emotional needs for equitable student growth and development.

### Goal 5 – Community-wide Engagement

Develop family and community partnerships through active engagement, participation and communication to support stronger and meaningful connections.

*Inspired by student artwork, the Yonkers Public Schools Calendar and Handbook serves as a vital year-long resource for families and staff. It provides essential District information and dates in one convenient format.*

Mary Pujeh, Grade 7, Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy



# Board of Education



Rev. Steve Lopez  
President



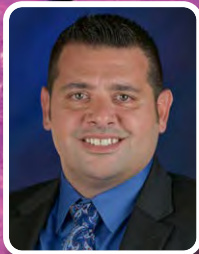
Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio  
Vice President



Gail Burns



Kevin Cacace



Dr. John C. Castanaro



Sheila Greenwald



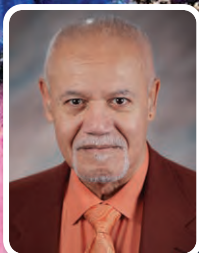
Amjed I. Kuri



Rosemarie P. Linton



Lawrence R. Sykes, Esq.



Dr. Luis Rodriguez  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

## Communication with the Board

The Trustees of the Yonkers Board of Education welcome comments from the community at their Stated Meetings. Members of the public, employees of the District, and others wishing to address the Board must register online in advance to speak during the Communications from the Community session held prior to the monthly Stated Meeting. Register to speak online at [yonkerspublicschools.org/speakersignup](https://yonkerspublicschools.org/speakersignup) which is available beginning the Monday prior to each Stated Meeting or onsite before the meeting by 5:00 p.m.

Stated Meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium at Saunders Trades and Technical High School. Agenda abstracts of Board meetings are available to the public on the District's website, [www.yonkerspublicschools.org](https://www.yonkerspublicschools.org). Board of Education meetings are televised on the District's educational channel WDMC-TV – Optimum 75 and Verizon Fios 38, and available on the District's website, [yonkerspublicschools.org](https://yonkerspublicschools.org).

### For further information:

Office of the Trustees  
of the Board of Education

(914) 376-8095

Fax (914) 376-8047

E-Mail: [trustees@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:trustees@yonkerspublicschools.org)

## Schedule of 2023-2024 Board of Education Meetings

### Stated Meetings

5:30 p.m. Honors, Communications from the Community and Stated Meeting  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium at Saunders Trades and Technical High School  
183 Palmer Road, Yonkers, NY 10701

September 20, 2023

March 20, 2024

October 18, 2023

April 17, 2024

November 15, 2023

May 15, 2024

December 20, 2023

June 18, 2024

January 17, 2024

July and August - *dates and times to be determined*

February 21, 2024

### Annual Board of Education Meeting

5:00 p.m., Board Room, One Larkin Center  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024

### Board of Education Meetings

Dates, times and locations of meetings are posted on the calendar pages that follow and on the District website, [yonkerspublicschools.org](https://yonkerspublicschools.org).



# Central Office Departments

**One Larkin Center • Yonkers, NY 10701 • Telephone (914) 376-8000**

Also located at One Larkin Center are the **Student Enrollment Office** for student registration and school placement - 376-8050 and the **Transportation Department** - 376-8015.

## **Superintendent of Schools**

376-8100

## **Public Information**

376-8092

## **Division of Equity, Inclusion and Access - Curriculum, Instruction, School Supervision**

### **Adult Education**

376-8600

### **Career and Technical Education**

376-8600

### **Dignity for All Act (DASA)**

#### **PK-5/6 Schools**

376-8066

#### **PK-8 Schools**

376-8011

#### **6-12 Secondary Schools**

376-8281

### **Early Childhood Education**

376-8213

### **Elementary Administration**

#### **PK-5/6 Schools**

376-8066

#### **PK-8 Schools**

376-8011

### **English Language Arts & Literacy**

#### **Grades PK-12**

721-8815

### **Instructional Technology**

#### **and Innovations**

376-4773

## **Intramural Sports – Grades 7-8**

376-8118

## **Library Services**

376-8181

## **Mathematics - Grades PK-12**

376-8068

## **Physical Education/Health/Athletics**

376-8292

## **Professional Development**

376-8274

## **Research, Evaluation and Reporting**

376-8234 / 376-8232

## **School Counseling/Guidance**

Grades PK-12

376-8454

## **School Safety & Security**

376-8678

## **Science – Grades PK-12**

376-4772

## **Secondary Administration**

### **Grades 7-12**

376-8281

## **Social Studies – Grades PK-12**

376-8272

## **Superintendent's Hearings**

### **PK-5/6 Schools**

376-8066

### **PK-8 Schools**

376-8011

### **6-12 Secondary Schools**

376-8281

## **Yonkers Basics**

376-8066

## **Division of Language Acquisition, Funded Programs and The Arts**

376-8230

## **Arts Education**

376-8231

## **Grants Development**

376-8231

## **Language Acquisition/Transitional Bilingual/MLL-ENL/Dual Language/World Languages**

376-8230

## **McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children**

376-8074

## **Medicaid Compliance**

721-8820

## **My Brother's Keeper/My Sister's Keeper Initiatives**

376-8183

## **School Improvement and Innovations**

376-8183

## **Division of Special Education and Pupil Support Services**

376-8489

## **Committee on Special Education (CSE)**

## **Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE)**

376-8209

## **Home Instruction/Homeschooling**

376-8214

## **Pupil Support Services**

376-8489 / 376-8214

## **Special Education Compliance**

376-8205

## **Special Education Out of District Student Program Recommendations**

376-8209

## **Student Health/Wellness/Medical Services**

376-8226

## **Division of Non-Instructional Services**

376-8031

## **Food Services**

376-8166

## **Infrastructure Support Technology**

376-8090

## **Student Enrollment**

376-8050

## **Student Information Systems/PowerSchool**

376-8083

## **Transportation**

376-8015

## **Division of School Facilities Management**

376-8008

## **Buildings and Grounds Custodial**

376-8010

## **Building Permits**

376-8060

## **Capital Programs Management**

376-8008

## **Maintenance Operation**

376-8383

## **City of Yonkers Shared Services**

### **Corporation Counsel**

376-8082

### **Finance and Management Services**

376-8030

### **Purchasing**

376-8056

### **Human Resources**

376-8075

### **Health Benefits**

376-8085

### **Instructional Personnel**

376-8075

### **Non-Instructional Personnel**

376-8070

### **Graphics**

377-6081

### **Print Shop**

376-8115

294-0930

### **Records Retention**

222-6852

### **WDMC-TV Educational Access**

### **Cable Television**

376-8520



# SEPTEMBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

3

4

Schools/Central Office Closed  
Labor Day

5

**Superintendent's  
Conference Day**  
Professional Development  
for Teachers/PPS Staff  
CSEA 10 Month Staff Begins  
CSEA Hourly Staff Begins

6

**Superintendent's  
Conference Day**  
Professional Development  
for Teachers/PPS Staff

7

**SCHOOLS OPEN**  
Full Day for All Students  
Grades Prekindergarten – 12  
and All Staff

8

9

10

Grandparents' Day

11

Patriot Day

12

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

13

14

15

Rosh Hashanah  
Begins at Sundown

16

Rosh Hashanah

17

Constitution Week  
Citizenship Day  
Rosh Hashanah  
Ends at Sundown

18

Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Executive Board Meeting  
Saunders H.S. Library  
6:30 p.m.

19

20

BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium

21

Yonkers Partners in Education  
Annual Gala • ypie.org  
International Day of Peace

22

23

First Day of Autumn

24

Yom Kippur  
Begins at Sundown

25

Schools/Central Office Closed  
Yom Kippur

26

27

28

29

30

## AUGUST 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Welcome Back to School

Hispanic Heritage Month

Library Card  
Sign-up Month



Viennah Rivera  
Grade 8  
Yonkers Middle/High School



# Schools at a Glance

Parents of students in the Yonkers Public Schools have the unique opportunity to select the schools their children will attend.

The exciting programs available at every school attract children and their families from all across Yonkers. Specialized themes and instructional philosophies enable children to discover and develop their interests, intelligences, and imaginations while meeting the New York State Learning Standards. Hands-on activities that are connected to real-world situations bring the curriculum to life. The arts and technology are vehicles for learning and applying new skills and for sharing knowledge and understanding with others.

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit schools. In order to protect our students and staff and maintain a secure environment, all visitors are asked to use the main entrance doors. Sign in with either the public safety officer or staff member at the door or go directly to the main office. A visitor's pass will be issued to all visitors.

## Length of the school day:

**Pre-K-5, Pre-K-6 and Pre-K-8** schools begin at 8:35 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m.

**EXCEPTIONS: Early Start Schools begin at 7:35 a.m. and end at 2:15 p.m.:** Cross Hill Academy, Robert C. Dodson School, PEARLS Hawthorne School, Yonkers Early Childhood Academy and Yonkers Montessori Academy

**Extended Learning Time Schools begin at 8:35 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m.:** School 9, School 16, School 17 and School 23

**High schools** begin at 7:45 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. except for Saunders Trades and Technical High School, which ends at 2:40 p.m.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

### GRADES PREKINDERGARTEN - 6

#### Montessori School 27 (Pre-K - 6)

132 Valentine Lane 10705  
(914) 376-8455  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/montessori27](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/montessori27)  
• Montessori Program

#### Montessori School 31 (Pre-K - 6)

7 Ravenswood Road 10710  
(914) 376-8623  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/montessori31](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/montessori31)  
• Montessori Program

#### Museum School 25 (Pre-K - 5)

579 Warburton Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8450  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/museum25](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/museum25)  
• Community School Model  
• Museum Studies Through Inquiry

#### Paideia School 24 (Pre-K - 6)

50 Colin Street 10701  
(914) 376-8640  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/paideia24](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/paideia24)  
• Paideia Program

#### Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School (Pre-K - 6)

60 Crescent Place 10704  
(914) 376-8570  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/siragusa](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/siragusa)  
• Global Academy

#### School 9 (Pre-K - 6)

53 Fairview Street 10703  
(914) 376-8325  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps9](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps9)  
• Civic Mindedness

#### School 17 (Pre-K - 5)

745 Midland Avenue 10704  
(914) 376-8345  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps17](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps17)  
• Career Education

#### School 21 (Pre-K - 6)

100 Lee Avenue 10705  
(914) 376-8435  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps21](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps21)  
• World Communities

#### School 22 (Pre-K - 6)

1408 Nepperhan Avenue 10703  
(914) 376-8440  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps22](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps22)  
• Multicultural Studies

#### Thomas Cornell Academy (Pre-K - 6)

15 St. Marys Street 10701  
(914) 376-8315  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/cornell](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/cornell)  
• Literacy Across the Curriculum  
• Dual Language Program (Pre-K - 6)

### GRADES PREKINDERGARTEN - 8

#### Casimir Pulaski School (Pre-K - 8)

150 Kings Cross 10583  
(914) 376-8575  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/pulaski](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/pulaski)  
• Technology and Media Literacy

#### Cesar E. Chavez School (Pre-K - 8)

20 Cedar Place 10705  
(914) 376-8969  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/chavez](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/chavez)  
• Literacy  
• STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics

#### Cross Hill Academy (3 - 8)

160 Bolmer Avenue 10703  
(914) 376-8300  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/crosshill](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/crosshill)  
• Leadership, Scholarship, Citizenship and Character  
• 7:35 AM to 2:15 PM

#### Enrico Fermi School (Pre-K - 8)

27 Poplar Street 10701  
(914) 376-8460  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/fermi](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/fermi)  
• Transitional Bilingual Education Program  
• Career Opportunities and Real World Experiences

#### Eugenio María de Hostos MicroSociety School (Pre-K - 8)

75 Morris Street 10705  
(914) 376-8430  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/hostos](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/hostos)  
• MicroSociety Program

#### Family School 32 (Pre-K - 8)

1 Montclair Place 10710  
(914) 376-8595  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/family32](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/family32)  
• Community and Family Connections

#### Kahlil Gibran School (Pre-K - 8)

18 Rosedale Road 10710  
(914) 376-8580  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/gibran](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/gibran)  
• Bridges - Literacy Across the Curriculum

#### Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy (Pre-K - 8)

135 Locust Hill Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8470  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/mlk](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/mlk)  
• STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics

#### Paideia School 15 (Pre-K - 8)

175 Westchester Avenue 10707  
(914) 376-8645  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/paideia15](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/paideia15)  
• Paideia Program

#### Patricia A. DiChiaro School (Pre-K - 8)

373 Bronxville Road 10708  
(914) 376-8565  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/dichiaro](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/dichiaro)  
• Literacy Across the Curriculum

#### PEARLS Hawthorne School (Pre-K - 8)

350 Hawthorne Avenue 10705  
(914) 376-8250  
[yonkerspublicschools.org/pearls](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/pearls)  
• Academically Talented Program (Academic Admission Requirements)  
• 7:35 AM to 2:15 PM



# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 National Principal's Month	2	3	4	5	6 German American Heritage Day	7
8 Fire Prevention Week National Metric Week	9 Schools/Central Office Closed Columbus Day/ Indigenous People's Day	10 BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m. Audit, Budget and Finance/ Workshop Committee Meeting 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	11 College Board Testing Day for High Schools Gen. Casimir Pulaski Memorial Day	12 BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs Committee Meetings 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	13	14 Yonkers Council of PTAs School of Instruction PEARLS Hawthorne School 9:00 a.m.
15	16 National School Bus Safety Week	17	18 BOE – Honors, Communications from the Community and Stated Meeting 5:30 p.m. Saunders Trades and Technical H.S. Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium	19	20	21
22	23	24 United Nations Day	25	26	27	28 Make a Difference Day
29	30	31 Halloween				

## SEPTEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## NOVEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

German-American  
Heritage Month

Italian-American  
Heritage and Culture  
Month

Polish-American  
Heritage Month

National Bullying  
Prevention Month



Katie Talty  
Grade 6  
PEARLS Hawthorne School



### **Robert C. Dodson School (Pre-K - 8)**

105 Avondale Road 10710  
(914) 376-8159

[yonkerspublicschools.org/dodson](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/dodson)

- STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics
- Transitional Bilingual Education Program
- 7:35 AM to 2:15 PM

### **Ella Fitzgerald Academy (Pre-K - 8)**

77 Park Hill Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8420

[yonkerspublicschools.org/fitzgerald](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/fitzgerald)

- Culturally Responsive Framework through the Arts

### **Las Hermanas Mirabal Community School (Pre-K - 8)**

195 McLean Avenue 10705  
(914) 376-8335

[yonkerspublicschools.org/mirabal](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/mirabal)

- STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics

### **School 5 (Pre-K - 8)**

118 Lockwood Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8320

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps5](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps5)

- Government and Citizenship

### **School 16 (Pre-K - 8)**

750 North Broadway 10701 (Pre-K - 1)  
759 North Broadway 10701 (Grades 2-8)  
(914) 376-8340

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps16](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps16)

- Environmental and Health Science

### **School 23 (Pre-K - 8)**

56 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8445

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps23](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps23)

- Community Connections

### **School 30 (Pre-K - 8)**

30 Nevada Place 10708  
(914) 376-8590

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps30](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps30)

- International Studies

### **Westchester Hills School 29 (Pre-K - 8)**

47 Croydon Road 10710  
(914) 376-8585

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ps29](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ps29)

- A.C.E.S. Academics, Character, Evolving, and Social

### **William Boyce Thompson School (Pre-K - 8)**

1061 North Broadway 10701  
(914) 376-8563

[yonkerspublicschools.org/boycethompson](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/boycethompson)

- 21st Century Instruction

## **SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

### **GRADES 7-12**

### **Barack Obama School for Social Justice (7 - 12)**

201 Palisade Avenue 10703  
(914) 376-8177

[yonkerspublicschools.org/obama](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/obama)  
(School Uniform Required)

- Social Justice
- Computer Information & Environmental Studies Pathways

### **Yonkers Middle High School (6 - 12)**

150 Rockland Avenue 10705  
(914) 376-8191

[yonkerspublicschools.org/ymhs](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ymhs)

(School uniform required)

- International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (9-12)  
(Academic Admission Requirements for Grades 9 - 12)
- Transitional Bilingual Education Program (9-12)

### **GRADES 9-12**

### **Charles E. Gorton High School (9 - 12)**

100 Shonnard Place 10703  
(914) 376-8350

[yonkerspublicschools.org/gorton](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/gorton)

- Medical Professions Academy
- Marketing Academy

### **Lincoln High School (9 - 12)**

375 Kneeland Avenue 10704  
(914) 376-8400

[yonkerspublicschools.org/lincoln](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/lincoln)

- Finance and Business Development Academies

### **Riverside High School (9 - 12)**

565 Warburton Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8425

[yonkerspublicschools.org/riverside](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/riverside)

- Engineering Pathway  
(Academic Admission Requirements)
- Computer and Graphic Design

### **Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies (9 - 12)**

631 Tuckahoe Road 10710  
(914) 376-8118

[yonkerspublicschools.org/roosevelt](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/roosevelt)

- (School uniform required)
- Business and Media Communications
- Graphic Design
- Automotive Technologies

### **Saunders Trades and Technical High School (9 - 12)**

183 Palmer Road 10701  
(914) 376-8150

[yonkerspublicschools.org/saunders](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/saunders)

- Technical Studies  
(Academic Admission Requirements)
- Occupational Studies
- Vocational Studies

## **SPECIALTY SCHOOLS**

### **GRADES PREKINDERGARTEN-2**

### **Yonkers Early Childhood Academy (Pre-K - 2)**

(located at Cross Hill Academy)  
160 Bolmer Avenue 10703  
(914) 376-8500

[yonkerspublicschools.org/yeca](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/yeca)

- 7:35 AM to 2:15 PM

### **GRADES PREKINDERGARTEN-12**

### **Yonkers Montessori Academy (Pre-K - 12)**

160 Woodlawn Avenue 10704  
(914) 376-8540

[yonkerspublicschools.org/yma](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/yma)

(Academic Admission Requirements - Interview for Non-Montessori Students)  
(School Uniform Required)

- Montessori Program
- 7:35 AM to 2:15 PM

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

### **Vive School Yonkers Pathways to Success**

75 Riverdale Avenue 10701  
(914) 376-8600

[yonkerspublicschools.org/vive](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/vive)

- High School Diploma Program
- GED Program
- Adult Basic Education
- Family Welcome Center



# NOVEMBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2	3	4
5 Standard Time Begins	6 BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m. Audit, Budget and Finance/ Workshop Committee Meeting 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	7 Schools Closed Election Day	8	9 BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs Committee Meetings 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	10 Schools/Central Office Closed Veterans Day Holiday	11 Veterans Day
12	13 Yonkers Council of PTAs Executive Board Meeting Casimir Pulaski School 6:30 p.m. American Education Week	14	15 BOE – Honors, Communications from the Community and Stated Meeting 5:30 p.m. Saunders Trades and Technical H.S. Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium America Recycles Day	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Schools/Central Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	24 Schools/Central Office Closed Thanksgiving Recess	25
26	27 Report Card Distribution Week Grades 7-12	28	29	30		

## OCTOBER 2023

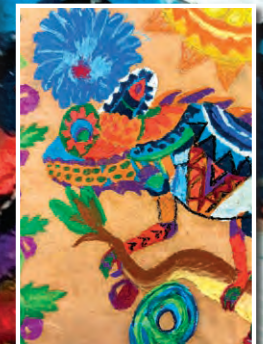
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## DECEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Native-American  
Heritage Month

Ukrainian-American  
Heritage Month



Aaron Shibu  
Grade 7  
Cross Hill Academy



# 2023-24 School Calendar at a Glance

**Schools Open on Thursday, September 7**  
**Full Day of Instruction Grades PreK-12**

**Schools will be closed on the following days:**

<b>2023</b>	September 4 .....	Labor Day
	September 25 .....	Yom Kippur
	October 9 .....	Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples Day
	November 7 .....	Election Day
	November 10 .....	Veterans Day
	November 23-24 .....	Thanksgiving Recess
	December 5 .....	Superintendent's Conference Day
	December 15 .....	Elementary Parent Conference Day (Elementary students half day of instruction)
	December 25-29 .....	Holiday Recess
<b>2024</b>	January 1 .....	New Year's Day
	January 15 .....	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
	February 19-23 .....	Winter Recess
	March 25-29 .....	Spring Recess
	April 1 .....	Spring Recess
	April 5 .....	Elementary Parent Conference Day (Elementary students half day of instruction)
	April 10 .....	Eid-al-Fitr
	May 27 .....	Memorial Day
	June 19 .....	Juneteenth
	June 25 .....	Elementary Students Half Day of Instruction
	June 26 .....	All Students Half Day of Instruction Last Day of School

## Make-up Day Calendar for Students and Staff

New York State requires a minimum of 180 school days. Please do not make any plans for the make-up days listed below which will be used if schools are closed for inclement weather or other conditions. The first two emergency closing/ inclement weather days are built into the calendar; no makeup days are required.

- 3 Emergency Closing Days Used – Schools open April 1, 2024
- 4 Emergency Closing Days Used – Schools open March 25, 2024
- 5 Emergency Closing Days Used – Schools open March 26, 2024
- 6 Emergency Closing Days Used – Schools open March 27, 2024

**Central Office will be closed on the following days:**

<b>2023</b>	September 4 .....	Labor Day
	September 25 .....	Yom Kippur
	October 9 .....	Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples Day
	November 10 .....	Veterans Day
	November 23-24 .....	Thanksgiving Holiday
	December 25 .....	Christmas Day
<b>2024</b>	January 1 .....	New Year's Day
	January 15 .....	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
	February 19-20 .....	Presidents' Holiday
	March 28 .....	Holy Thursday
	March 29 .....	Good Friday
	May 27 .....	Memorial Day
	June 19 .....	Juneteenth
	July 4 .....	Independence Day

## Emergency School Closing Information

Reports on emergency school closings due to weather or other conditions are posted on our website at [yonkerspublicschools.org](https://yonkerspublicschools.org), our Cable television station **WDMC-TV Optimum Channel 75** and **Verizon Fios Channel 38** and are broadcast over the following radio and television stations:

<b>WCBS</b> (880 AM)	<b>WCBS-TV</b> (Ch. 2)
<b>WINS</b> (1010 AM)	<b>WNBC-TV</b> (Ch. 4)
<b>WHUD</b> (100.7 FM)	<b>WNYW-TV</b> (Ch. 5)
<b>News 12 - Optimum</b> (Ch. 12)	<b>WABC-TV</b> (Ch. 7)
<b>News 12 - Verizon Fios</b> (Ch. 529)	

## WDMC-TV Educational Access Cable Television

WDMC-TV is the school district's television station broadcast on Optimum Channel 75 and Verizon FiOS Channel 38. The studios are located at Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies where they operate year-round. The station's primary mission is to provide educational and informational programs about the school district to residents in the City of Yonkers.

A wide array of program offerings are provided to keep the community informed and involved from live broadcasts of Board of Education meetings to interviews with key district, state and influential educational leaders to school activities throughout the year and the high school graduations. The broadcasts demonstrate how students and staff are involved in educational, culturally responsive and enriching experiences. Beyond these program offerings, viewers get a firsthand look at the extraordinary opportunities for learning found in all 39 schools. Tune in for the latest reports on emergency school closings due to weather or emergency conditions.

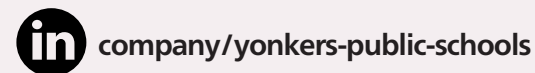
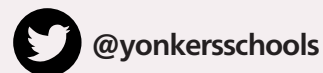
## yonkerspublicschools.org

The school district's website provides up-to-the-minute and comprehensive information about the schools, instruction, district policies, procedures and events. Educational and community resources are available for students, parents and staff. Career opportunities are also available. Look for important messages from the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education President, and postings of regulatory documents.

Webcasts are posted on the homepage including live Board of Education and virtual meetings and District events. Board of Education monthly Stated, committee and special meetings are available live and archived for on-demand access by the public.

Each school also has a website offering access to administrators, teachers, staff and school activities.

**For the most up-to-date information, subscribe to the YPS News Email List at [yonkerspublicschools.org](https://yonkerspublicschools.org) and stay connected on:**





# DECEMBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## NOVEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## JANUARY 2024

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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## Happy Holidays

See page 8 for information about emergency school closings caused by inclement weather conditions.



Selena Jimenez  
Grade 4  
School 17

3

4

5

Schools Closed  
Superintendent's Conference Day  
for Staff

6

7

Pearl Harbor Day  
Hanukkah Begins at Sundown

8

9

School Choice Fair  
Snow Date

10

Human Rights Day

11

Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Executive Board Meeting  
Holiday Dessert Reception  
Board of Education  
One Larkin Center  
6:30 p.m.  
Report Card Distribution Week  
Grades 1-6

12

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

13

14

BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

15

Half Day for  
Elementary Students Only  
Parent/Guardian Conferences  
Full Day for Staff  
Hanukkah Ends

16

17

18

19

20

BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium

21

First Day of Winter

22

23

24

31

25

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess  
Central Office Closed  
Christmas Day

26

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess  
Kwanzaa Begins

27

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess

28

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess

29

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess

30



# School Conduct and Discipline

## S.A.V.E. Legislation

All school districts throughout New York State are governed by the S.A.V.E. legislation, Schools Against Violence in Education.

Some of the requirements of the legislation are:

- Appointment, by the Board of Education, of a districtwide school safety team in accordance with the applicable laws;
- Appointment, by principal in each school of building level school safety team members in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Board of Education and applicable laws;
- Development of a comprehensive districtwide school safety plan and confidential building level emergency response plans by the districtwide school safety team in accordance with the applicable laws;
- Adoption, and amendment from time-to-time, by the Board of Education, of the comprehensive districtwide school safety plan and building level emergency response plans regarding crisis intervention, emergency response and management, in accordance with the applicable laws;
- Implementation of a districtwide Code of Conduct;
- Implementation of a character education program for all grades K-12;
- Fingerprinting (for a criminal history and background check) of all school district employees hired after July 1, 2001;
- Development of policies and procedures for responding to acts of violence by students, teachers, other school personnel and visitors to the school;
- Development of policies and procedures for contacting appropriate law enforcement officials in the event of a violent incident;
- School violence prevention training for all professional staff.

With increased attention being paid to the safety of our young people while they are in school, Yonkers Public Schools have many programs that make the school environment safer. The Districtwide School Safety Team meets annually to review NYSED or Districtwide regulations, Code of Conduct, and any Board of Education policies affecting safety and security in our schools. The committee includes students, parents, community members, teachers, administrators, civil service staff, central office and a Board of Education member.

## Dignity For All Act (DASA)

### Report Incidents of Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying

The Yonkers Public Schools is committed to providing an educational and working environment that promotes respect, dignity and equality. The Board recognizes that discrimination, such as harassment, hazing and bullying, are detrimental to student learning and achievement. These behaviors interfere with the mission of the district to educate its students and disrupt the operation of the schools. Such behavior affects not only the students who are its targets, but also those individuals who participate and witness such acts.

To this end, the Board condemns and strictly prohibits all forms of discrimination, such as harassment, hazing and bullying on school grounds, school buses and at all school-sponsored activities, programs and events. Discrimination, harassment, hazing or bullying that takes place at locations outside of school grounds, such as cyberbullying, which creates or can be reasonably expected to create a material and substantial interference with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school or impinge on the rights of other students are prohibited, and may be subject to disciplinary consequences. (BOE Policy 0115)

Any allegation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be investigated accordingly. Students, parents/guardians, staff, and community members are encouraged to alert school personnel and report alleged incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying by doing the following:

#### Students:

- Talk to your parents/guardians
- Talk to your teacher, nurse, or school counselor
- Talk to your principal or assistant principal
- Talk to any adult in the school setting with whom you feel comfortable

#### Parents/Guardians:

- Contact your child's teacher, nurse, or school counselor for assistance
- Contact your child's principal or assistant principal if the issue continues
- Contact the building Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) liaison if the issue remains unresolved

#### Staff:

- Contact an administrator
- Contact the Superintendent of Schools
- Contact the Civil Rights Compliance Officer - [civilrightscompliance@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:civilrightscompliance@yonkerspublicschools.org)

Whenever possible, go directly to school personnel for immediate assistance. In addition, you can use the online form to alert school personnel [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/dasaform](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/dasaform), which is located on the district website and sent directly to central office for follow up. Each school also has an area outside its main office designated to the DASA which identifies the DASA coordinator/school liaison, email address and telephone number. All DASA liaisons receive professional development annually.

#### For further information:

**For Students – Pupil Support Services**

**(914) 376-8489**

**For Staff (914) 377-6941**

## Code of Conduct

The Yonkers Public Schools Code of Conduct, is annually reviewed by a committee of educators, community partners, parents and students. It is available for community input and presented at a public hearing for final adoption by the Board of Education Trustees.

The adopted Code of Conduct is based on theories of action including:

Restorative Practices, Solutions Not Suspensions, Disproportionality Training, the District's 3 Year Strategic Plan, MTSS Multitiered System of Supports and Board of Education Equity Policy #0105, 0105E Equity Inclusivity and Diversity in Education Exhibit - shift in instructional practice.

These actions focus on the social emotional supports necessary for students and their families to forge relationships with the entire school community. Collectively they create personalized plans for the success for each student. Restorative Practices ascertains why the student is acting in a particular fashion, provides social, emotional and academic supports and follows with appropriate actions to support student success. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the larger school community has necessitated an increase of support for the social emotional well-being of students. During the transition into various learning modalities (in-person, remote, hybrid), it is important that the social emotional health of each student is both acknowledged and addressed. Yonkers Public Schools works collaboratively with various community-based organizations to ensure students receive a continuum of social emotional support services.

The Code of Conduct is based on the policies of the Board of Education and contains District administrative procedures and practices that are essential to

maintaining a safe and positive learning environment for all students and staff. It serves to inform students and parents of the Yonkers Public Schools' expectations regarding behavior and conduct and the consequences for misconduct.

Students, parents and staff are expected to become familiar with the provisions of the districtwide Code of Conduct, as well as the rules and regulations adopted and implemented by their individual schools. The Code of Conduct protects the rights of students. It specifies the behavior that is expected of all students, and describes the broad range of student misconduct. Additionally, it includes the appropriate disciplinary consequences/ options for the various types of misconduct. Students are expected to abide by the policies in the Code of Conduct so that everyone has the opportunity to grow and develop as a positive member of society.

The District is focused on parent participation in all aspects of school. In terms of school conduct and discipline, we count on parents and guardians to join the school staff in setting high expectations for excellent student behavior.

We also ask that parents and guardians let their children know that they are working in partnership with the school staff and that parents will support consequences that are enforced when behavior rules are not followed. Together, the school and the family can ensure that the atmosphere in our schools provides children with a safe school environment where everyone's focus is on teaching and learning. The Code of Conduct is available to view or download on the District website, [www.yonkerspublicschools.org](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org).

#### For further information:

**Division of Equity, Inclusion and Access,  
Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision  
(914) 376-8011**

## Safety and Security

Working together with state and local officials to maintain a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff, the District has a Comprehensive Safety Plan, which is aligned with New York State Education Department, Centers for Disease Control and Department of Health guidelines that address safety and security with a comprehensive focus on health, wellness, equity and social justice. This approach includes strategies for students, parents and staff focused on prevention and intervention.

#### For further information:

**Safety and Security  
(914) 376-8678**



# JANUARY

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1

Schools Closed  
Holiday Recess  
Central Office Closed  
New Year's Day  
Kwanzaa Ends  
Anniversary of the  
Emancipation Proclamation

2

Schools Reopen

3

4

5

PEARLS, Academically  
Talented Program and  
High School Century Honors  
Application Deadline Date

6

Three Kings Day  
Kahlil Gibran's Birthday

## DECEMBER 2023

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

7

Orthodox Christmas

8

Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Executive Board Meeting  
Barack Obama School, 6:30 p.m.

9

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

10

11

BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

12

13

## FEBRUARY 2024

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Chinese-American  
Heritage Month

Filipino-American  
Heritage Month

See page 8 for  
information about  
emergency school  
closings caused by  
inclement weather  
conditions.

14

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

15

Schools/Central Office Closed  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

16

17

BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium

18

19

20

21

22

23

Regents Exams

24

Regents Exams

25

Regents Exams

26

Regents Exams  
Regents Rating Day

27

International Holocaust  
Remembrance Day

28

29

30

31



Shubdeep Kaur Suman  
Grade 8  
Yonkers Middle High School



# General Information



Tulin Ali, Grade 8, PEARLS Hawthorne School

## Attendance Policy

The Yonkers Public Schools Board of Education Attendance Policy #5100, is based on the principle that regular school attendance maximizes students' interaction with their teachers and peers and is a major factor in achieving academic success. The goal of our District is to have each student attend school 100% of the time. Students, parents/guardians, teachers, counselors, and administrators each play a crucial role in achieving this goal.

New York State Education Law classifies absence from school as either legal or illegal. The following are considered legal reasons for school absence: illness, religious observance, death in the family, court required appearance, college visitation and military obligation. All other reasons for absence are considered illegal.

A student shall be considered chronically absent when he or she has missed at least ten percent

of enrolled school days. The emphasis here is on missed instruction, and as such, when determining chronic absenteeism, both unexcused and excused absences shall be taken into account.

It must be noted that a significant, unexcused absentee rate that has a detrimental effect on a student's education can serve as the basis for a finding of educational neglect against a parent. Additionally, habitual unexcused absence or irregular attendance by a student of compulsory school age may constitute grounds for referral to Child Protective Services (CPS) or filing a person in need of supervision (PINS) petition in family court.

If your child has a legal reason for being absent from school, please call the school office before 7:45 a.m. for secondary school students or for elementary school students before the start of the school day either 7:30 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. to notify them that your child will not be in school.

### Student Responsibilities:

- Attend all classes each day and work to meet the academic, behavioral and attendance expectations of the Yonkers Public Schools
- Bring absence notes to school within two days after an absence
- Make up any class or homework missed

### Parent Responsibilities:

- Discuss this Attendance Policy with your child and reinforce our expectations for 100% attendance in school
- Send your child to school with an absence note explaining the reasons for absence(s)
- Call the school counselor or administrator if your child is having attendance problems
- Respond to any and all communications from school regarding your child's attendance
- Provide your child with an opportunity to make up any work missed due to an absence
- Make sure home address, email address and phone numbers provided to the school are up-to-date

*Chronic Absenteeism impacts student performance. We encourage families to contact their school administrator if they are having difficulties arriving to school on time.*

*Students must be given the opportunity to make up class work, projects, tests and homework that were missed due to legal absences.*

## High School Attendance Policy Grades 9 - 12

The following attendance requirements for high school students are based on illegal absences. Students on home instruction are not considered absent. Validated extended absences, for which there are extenuating circumstances, may be excused by a central officer or building administrator.

A student absent for more than 24 classes for a full-year course or 12 classes for a semester course may not receive credit for the course. Illegal absences will be counted in this number. The only exceptions toward the 24 or 12 limitation are (a) administrative altered schedule; (b) school-operated music lessons; (c) school testing; (d) curriculum-based field trips; and (e) approved participation in school athletic events. These are considered legal absences from class.

If a student is illegally absent more than 24 times in a full-year course, that student will not be allowed to attend summer school. This policy takes effect 10 days after the first official day of class. This allows schools two weeks to refine and finalize student schedules. Decisions under this policy may be appealed to the building principals and, in succession, to the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education.

## Appeals Process

In some cases, students will have demonstrated a dramatic change in behavior, performance and attitude toward school attendance or will have had an extended absence period due to illness or some other extenuating circumstance. In such cases, students or parent(s)/guardian(s) may exercise their right to appeal the 24 absence practice of no credit. Request for Appeal of No Credit forms are available at the school. The form will be accepted by the building principal during the first ten school days of the month prior to the end of the course. Review the Code of Conduct for detailed information on the District's Attendance Policy.

## Middle Years Attendance Policy Grades 7 - 8

The middle school years bridge the learning between elementary and high school. Fostering the responsibility and importance of attending school and all classes daily is critical to improving student outcomes and preparing students for success in high school and beyond. Excessive absence impacts required seat time and may impact promotion to the next grade. Promotion is based on passing three out of four core subjects (English, Math, Social Studies and Science) during the year and two non-core subjects. Please review the Code of Conduct for detailed information on the District's Attendance Policy.

## Elementary Attendance Policy Grades Pre-K - 6

Attendance at the elementary school level encourages good learning habits, study skills and responsibility in young children. Parents need to contact their child's teacher if there will be a prolonged absence from school. Participation in all school programs promotes appropriate social and emotional development in children.

Attendance will be considered when making a judgment about promoting a student to the next grade level. A very poor attendance record can severely impact a child from achieving the skills and knowledge required to be successful at the next grade level. Please review the Code of Conduct for detailed information on the District's Attendance Policy.

## Field Trips

Students may not participate in any field trip(s) without the written permission of their parent/guardian. Official school permission slips will be distributed by your child's teacher. The cost of field trips vary and is usually shared by all participating students.



# FEBRUARY

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## JANUARY 2024

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## MARCH 2024

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## African-American Heritage Month

## Black History Month

See page 8 for information about emergency school closings caused by inclement weather conditions.



Evelyn Cruz  
Grade 5  
Enrico Fermi School

1

National Freedom Day

2

Groundhog Day

3

4

5

Report Card Distribution Week  
Prekindergarten and Kindergarten  
National School Counseling Week

6

7

8

9

10

Chinese New Year

11

12

Report Card Distribution Week  
Grades 7-12  
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

13

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

14

School Choice Begins  
Ash Wednesday  
Lent Begins  
Valentine's Day

15

BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

16

17

National PTA Founders Days

18

19

Schools Closed  
Winter Recess  
Central Office Closed  
Presidents' Day

20

Schools Closed  
Winter Recess  
Central Office Closed  
Presidents' Holiday

21

Schools Closed Winter Recess  
BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium

22

Schools Closed  
Winter Recess  
George Washington's Birthday

23

Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

24

25

26

Schools Reopen

27

District Black History Celebration

28

School Choice Ends

29



# General Information



Aaron Shibu Juhn, Grade 7, Cross Hill Academy

## Requests For Early Dismissal

Parents must send a **written request** for permission to pick up a child before regular dismissal time. Children are to be picked up in the main office for early dismissal. When authorizing a child to return home with anyone other than a parent, please give the name of the person who is picking up the child. The authorized person's name must appear on the school's emergency card in order for the child to be released early from school. The individual should also appear as a contact in the Student Management System, PowerSchool Demographic Page. Appropriate identification must be submitted to school personnel before a child is released from school. Parent/Guardian should contact school immediately related to any changes in guardianship and/or legal orders so that the school can make note of those changes in the Student Management System, PowerSchool.

**For further information, contact your child's school.**

## Health Related Questions

**Medication in Schools**, (including over-the-counter (OTC)) Only medications medically necessary for the student to take while in school will be scheduled during the school day; this does not apply to medications that may be taken at another time of day. A Medication Authorization form must be completed by your healthcare provider and signed by the parent even if these are OTC medications or your child can self-carry and administer their own medications. We recommend having medications available for your child for mild headaches and allergies if there is a history, and menstrual cramps so we can keep your child in school. All medications must be in original pharmacy packaging and be

delivered by the parent, not the student. Please refer to the Health Services section of the website to obtain a form.

**Contagious Conditions** – Students sent home who are not feeling well with the potential of a contagious disease must follow all protocols the school nurse provides, which may include a note from their doctor for clearance to return to school. Please refer to the Health Services website for the full list.

**For further information, refer to the Health Services website or contact your child's school nurse.**

## Any Questions? Who to Call

For answers to questions regarding grades, homework, report cards, and other school-related concerns, start by calling your child's teacher. The principal or assistant principal will provide you with additional assistance when necessary. If you would like to arrange a conference or speak with a teacher, call the school OR email the teacher, administrator or counselor. Calls will be returned promptly. Parents also can view student assignment(s), Progress Reports, Report Card Grades, Secondary Class Schedule, and any assigned Transportation information through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. For additional information on how to access the PowerSchool Parent Portal visit: [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/parentportal](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/parentportal), or call 914-376-8083

**For further information, contact your child's school.**

## Homework and Study Habits are Important

Homework is assigned regularly and must be completed by students, but parents can assist. Homework is important because it reinforces what has been taught in class. It also provides an opportunity to extend students' learning beyond the classroom. Students should develop good study habits including organizational skills and independent practice. Homework serves as an assessment for both the student and teacher in case concepts or skills need to be reinforced or retaught.

**For further information, contact your child's school.**

## Extracurricular Activities are Important

Extracurricular activities are an integral part of students' learning. They provide opportunities for children to expand their knowledge and interests, develop leadership experience and enrich a high school student's transcript and provide valuable College, Career and Civic Readiness skills. A multitude of activities is available and varies across each respective high school.

**For further information, contact your child's school.**

## Student Accident Plan

The Yonkers Public Schools makes every effort to ensure that the schools are the safest possible places for all children. Student accidents are unfortunate, but on occasion, they do occur.

There is no law requiring that New York State schools provide a Student Accident Plan. The Yonkers Board of Education elected to do so. When we selected the method of helping parents meet medical bills, the following factors were considered: the quality of benefits to parents and how the expense will impact the school budget.

If a student is injured while participating in a teacher-supervised, Board of Education approved activity, the parent is eligible to file for assistance. The sole purpose is to provide financial assistance for the expenses resulting from a school injury.

A student must notify the teacher or coach that he or she has been injured. To file a claim, parents should go to the school office where they will receive a claim form, instructions for filing a claim and information regarding potential benefits.

This plan is a secondary, non-duplicating policy. If the parent or guardian has medical or dental insurance that covers the child, charges must be submitted first to that carrier. An explanation of benefits or rejection from the carrier, along with itemized bills, should then be submitted. The school office will provide information about the claim form, benefits, time limits and instructions.

**For further information:  
Pupil Support Services  
(914) 376-8489**



# MARCH

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

					1	2 Read Across America
3	4 National School Breakfast Week Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	5	6 College Board Testing Day for High Schools	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time Begins Ramadan Begins at Sundown	11 Yonkers Council of PTAs Executive Board Meeting Lincoln High School, 6:30 p.m.	12 BOE - Facilities Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m. Audit, Budget and Finance/ Workshop Committee Meeting 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	13	14 BOE - Policy and Instructional Affairs Committee Meetings 5:00 p.m. 4th floor conference room Yonkers Board of Education	15 School Transfer Request Begins	16
17 National Poison Prevention Week St. Patrick's Day	18 Orthodox Lent Begins Report Card Distribution Week Grades 1-6	19 First Day of Spring	20 BOE - Honors, Communications from the Community and Stated Meeting 5:30 p.m. Saunders Trades and Technical H.S. Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium	21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	22	23
24 Palm Sunday Easter 31	25 Schools Closed Spring Recess	26 Schools Closed Spring Recess	27 Schools Closed Spring Recess	28 Schools Closed Spring Recess Central Office Closed Holy Thursday	29 Schools Closed Spring Recess Central Office Closed Good Friday	30 Lent Ends

## FEBRUARY 2024

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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25	26	27	28	29		

## APRIL 2024

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Arabic-American  
Heritage Month

Greek-American  
Heritage Month

Irish-American  
Heritage Month

Women's History Month

Youth Art Month

Music in Our Schools  
Month



Jennifer Xoyatla-Ruiz  
Grade 5  
Rosemarie Ann Siragusa School



# School Uniform Policy

The School Uniform Policy required in prekindergarten through grade 12 may improve academic performance and self-esteem and may reduce absenteeism and competition over attire. Each school's uniform colors and styles must be agreed upon by the school administration, faculty, and parents. This information will be available in District and school publications, correspondence, and on the websites. Principals are required to inform the superintendent or his/her designee of any changes to their school's uniform colors and styles for the following school year in writing by June 1. In case of financial hardship, parents may contact their child's school by phone, e-mail or in person to request assistance. No punitive action of any kind will be taken against a student for not complying with the uniform policy.

## Dress Code for Students

All students are expected to dress appropriately for school and at school-sponsored functions. Students and their parents are responsible for ensuring that student dress (including jewelry) and appearance are safe and appropriate, and does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process. School personnel should help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

The following dress code will be enforced:

1. Students may not wear extremely brief, revealing garments such as, but not limited to, spandex shorts/leggings, tube/net/halter/spaghetti/muscle/bathing suit tops, plunging necklines (front and/or back), midriff tops, see-through fabrics, short shirts, or mini-skirts/dresses that are above the knee.
2. Undergarments such as, but not limited to, underwear and/or undershirts must be completely covered with clothing. Pants and/or shorts are to be worn at the waist. Pants/shorts/shirts with holes in them are inappropriate for school.
3. Footwear must be worn at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard, such as, but not limited to, flip-flops, sandals and slippers without a heel strap and lace up shoes without laces, are not allowed.
4. Clothing which promotes inappropriate products or activities prohibited by YPS BOE/school policy or that is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption in the educational environment is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to, t-shirts and other clothing that displays, promotes, or endorses profanity, illegal organizations, and/or gang identity, violent activities, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs/substances.

5. Clothing will be considered inappropriate if it contains obscenity, is libelous, or denigrates others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected class as outlined in YPS BOE policy.
6. Headgear of any kind including, but not limited to, hats, caps, scarves, rags and hoods may not be worn in school, with the exception of headgear for a religious or medical purposes.
7. Clothing generally accepted as "outer wear" may not be worn in the classroom.

8. Jewelry that potentially is capable of being used as a weapon is not allowed. This shall include, but is not limited to, rings covering multiple fingers, spiked necklaces or belts, belts with large removable buckles, heavy and/or large neckwear, martial arts gear, chain link wallets, and key rings.

While some garments are inappropriate to wear during the school day, exceptions may be made for school dances and proms by individual schools. Those who violate the dress code must modify their appearance by covering the offending item and/or replacing it with an acceptable one. If they refuse to do so or repeatedly violate the dress code, they will be subject to discipline under the Code of Conduct.

## School Uniform Colors

SCHOOL	TOP COLOR	BOTTOM COLOR
School 5	Light Blue	Navy
School 9	Yellow	Blue
Mirabal Community School	Light Blue	Navy
School 16	Light Blue	Navy
School 17	White	Navy
School 21	White	Navy
School 22	White	Black
School 23	Light Blue	Navy (boys) Grey/Blue Plaid Jumpers (girls)
School 30	Blue	Khaki
Boyce Thompson	Maroon	Gray
Chavez	White	Grey (boys) Burgundy Plaid Jumpers (girls)
Thomas Cornell Academy	White	Navy
Cross Hill Academy	Blue or Green	Khaki
de Hostos	Yellow	Navy
DiChiaro	Light Blue	Navy
Dodson	White	Navy
Family School 32	Yellow	Navy
Fermi	Yellow	Navy
Gibran	White	Navy

SCHOOL	TOP COLOR	BOTTOM COLOR
King	White	Navy
Montessori 27	White	Black
Montessori 31	Light Blue	Navy
Museum 25	Light Blue	Navy (boys) Grey/Blue Plaid Jumpers (girls)
Paideia 15	White	Navy
Paideia 24	White	Grey (boys) Burgundy/Grey Plaid Jumpers (girls)
PEARLS Hawthorne	White	Navy
Pulaski	White	Navy (boys) Red/Navy Plaid Jumpers (girls)
Ella Fitzgerald Academy	White	Grey (boys) Plaid Jumpers (girls)
Siragusa	White	Navy
Westchester Hills School 29	White	Navy
Yonkers Early Childhood Academy	Yellow	Navy
Yonkers Montessori Academy	White	Navy
Roosevelt HS Early College Studies	Navy	Khaki/Blue
Obama School for Social Justice	Blue	Khaki
Yonkers MS	White/Navy	Navy/Khaki
Yonkers HS	White/Navy	Navy/Khaki

For further information regarding the School Uniform Policy or the District Dress Code, contact your child's school.



# APRIL

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1

Schools Closed  
Spring Recess  
Non-Public Schools  
Transportation Request Forms  
Deadline Date  
National Library Week

2

Schools Reopen  
International Children's  
Book Day

3

4

5

Half Day for  
Elementary Students Only  
Parent/Guardian Conferences  
Full Day for Staff

6

MARCH 2024

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

7

World Health Day  
National Library Week

8

National Assistant Principal Week  
Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Executive Board Meeting  
Westchester Hills School 29  
6:30 p.m.

9

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m., Audit, Budget and  
Finance/Workshop Committee  
Meeting, 5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education  
NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8  
Eid-al-Fitr Begins at Sundown

10

Schools Closed  
Eid-al-Fitr

11

BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education  
NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8

12

NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8

13

MAY 2024

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Jewish-American  
Heritage Month

Mathematics Education  
Month

Keep America Beautiful  
Month

National Poetry Month

14

15

NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8  
Public School Volunteer Week  
School Transfer Request Ends

16

NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8

17

BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium  
NYS ELA Assessments Grades 3-8

18

19

20

21

Administrative Professionals  
Week

22

Passover Begins at Sundown  
Earth Day U.S.A.

23

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8

24

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8  
National Student Leadership Week

25

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8  
Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner  
TBA, 6:30 p.m.  
Take Our Daughters and Sons  
to Work Day

26

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8  
National Arbor Day

27

28

29

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8  
Report Card Distribution Week  
Grades 7-12

30

NYS Math Assessments  
Grades 3-8  
Passover Ends at Sundown



Ayden Antonio  
Grade 7  
Cross Hill Academy



# Marking Periods and Report Card Schedules

The schedule for marking periods and report card distribution for the 2023-2024 school year is as follows:

## Prekindergarten and Kindergarten

1st Marking Period: September 7 – January 26  
Report Cards will be distributed during the week of February 5.

2nd Marking Period: January 29 – June 26  
Report Cards will be distributed during the week of June 24.

## Elementary – Grades 1-6

Elementary school report cards will be available for parents/guardians during Parent Conferences on, December 15 and April 5 or sent home with students during those weeks and during the week of June 24. The final report card may be withheld if a student has not returned library books, textbooks or other school property.

Fall Marking Period: September 7 – December 1  
Winter Marking Period: December 4 – March 8  
Spring Marking Period: March 11 – June 26

## Elementary Report Card Grades

In grades PK–K, the following grading system is used:

4 Exceeding Learning Standards  
3 Meeting Learning Standards  
2 Partially Meeting Learning Standards  
1 Not Meeting Learning Standards  
N/A Not Assessed

In grades 1–2, the following grading system is used:

4 Masters Grade Level Standard  
3 Achieves Grade Level Standard  
2 Approaches Grade Level Standard  
1 Below Grade Level Standard (area of concern)  
N/A Not Assessed

In grades 3–6, the following grading system is used:

GRADE	STANDARDS
A 90-100.....	AG – Achieved Grade Level
B 80-89.....	PS – Progressing Satisfactorily
C 70-79.....	PG – Progressing Gradually
D 65-69.....	NP – Not Progressing
F 64 and below.....	NA – Not Assessed (at this time)

## Elementary Interim Reports

Elementary school Interim Reports are sent midway through each marking period: the week of October 30, January 29 and May 13, to alert parent/guardian about a student's performance. Teachers may send an Interim Report if your child is not completing classwork and is falling behind. If your child receives an Interim Report, it is important that you contact the teacher for an explanation of the comments.

*Elementary/middle school (PK-8) students in grades 7 and 8 follow the secondary school schedule for interim reports and report cards.*

## Secondary – Grades 7-12

Middle years and high school report cards may be mailed home during the week of November 27, February 12, April 29 and June 24 and given to students on the last day of school, June 26. Some schools require parents/guardians to pick up their child's report card on designated days to provide an opportunity for teachers and administrators to

discuss a student's progress. The final report card may be withheld if a student has not returned library books, textbooks or other school property.

1st Marking Period: September 7 – November 9  
2nd Marking Period: November 13 – January 26  
3rd Marking Period: January 29 – April 19  
4th Marking Period: April 22 – June 26

## Secondary School Report Card Grades

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive report cards four (4) times per year.

The following grading scale shall be utilized:

- Passing grades shall include all numerical grades ranging from sixty-five (65) through one hundred (100) in increments of one (1).
- Failing grades shall include all numerical grades ranging from fifty (50) through sixty-four (64) in increments of one (1).
- A failing grade of fifty (50) shall be the lowest grade awarded to any student in any marking period, except that a grade of forty (40) may be awarded to those students who are chronically absent as defined by the New York State Education Department (See Board of Education Policy 4710 & 5100) if appropriate due to incomplete work or lack of class participation (no credits earned).

## Secondary School Interim Reports

Middle and high school Interim Reports are mailed midway through each marking period: the week of October 16, December 25, March 18 and May 27, to alert parent/guardian about a student's

performance. Teachers may send an Interim Report if your child is not completing class work and is falling behind. If your child receives an Interim Report, it is important that you contact the teacher for an explanation of the comments.

## High School Graduation Diploma Requirements

All students have access to the 3 Basic diploma types: Local, Regents and Regents with Advanced Designations. To graduate students must earn a total of 22 credits in the required disciplines and pass the required assessments in the discipline to meet the diploma requirements. High school students who attend Saunders Trades and Technical High School or the International Baccalaureate Programme at Yonkers Middle/High School have additional graduation requirements.

English.....	4 Credits
Social Studies.....	4 Credits
Mathematics.....	3 Credits
Science.....	3 Credits
Physical Education.....	2 Credits
Art or Music.....	1 Credit
Health.....	1/2 Credit
LOTE (Foreign Language).....	1 Credit
Electives.....	3 1/2 Credits

Total = 22 Credits

New York State Education Department offers multiple Pathways to Graduation. Comprehensive information about New York State Education Department Diploma/Credential/Graduation requirements is available at <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/general-education-and-diploma-requirements>.



Yonkers My Brother's Keeper (MBK) and Yonkers My Sister's Keeper (MSK) aim to close persistent opportunity gaps facing boys/girls and young men/women of color to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential.

Yonkers Public Schools joined the national My Brother's Keeper movement on September 21, 2016, after the City of Yonkers enthusiastically accepted the national My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Community Challenge. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano immediately tapped former Yonkers Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Edwin M. Quezada as co-chair of Yonkers MBK.

In March 2023, the Obama Foundation's MBK Alliance identified Yonkers from a network of hundreds, as an MBK Model Community. Yonkers demonstrated impact in Milestone #3 by instituting programming and initiatives that have positively shifted outcomes in the educational system. The City of Yonkers is dedicated to connecting young people to mentoring, support networks, and the skills they need to graduate from high school, find a good job, or go to college and work their way toward successful lives.

For further information, contact  
Yonkers MBK/MSK  
(914) 376-8183  
[YonkersPublicSchools.org/MBK](http://YonkersPublicSchools.org/MBK)





# MAY

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

5  
Yonkers Public Schools  
Staff Appreciation Week  
Orthodox Easter  
Be Kind to Animals Week  
Cinco De Mayo  
Holocaust Remembrance Day

6  
National PTA  
Teacher Appreciation Week

7  
Facilities Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m.  
BOE Annual Meeting, 5:00 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education  
NYS Science Assessments

8  
VE Day  
National School Nurse Day  
NYS Science Assessments

9  
BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education  
NYS Science Assessments

10  
NYS Science Assessments

11

12  
Mother's Day

13

14

15  
BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium

16  
Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Citizenship/Scholarship Awards  
Ceremony  
Executive Board Meeting  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium,  
7:00 p.m.

17

18  
Armed Forces Day

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27  
Schools/Central Office Closed  
Memorial Day

28

29

30  
Yonkers Civics and History Day

31  
All City Concert

## APRIL 2024

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28	29	30				

## JUNE 2024

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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Indian-American  
Heritage Month

Japanese-American  
Heritage Month

Korean-American  
Heritage Month

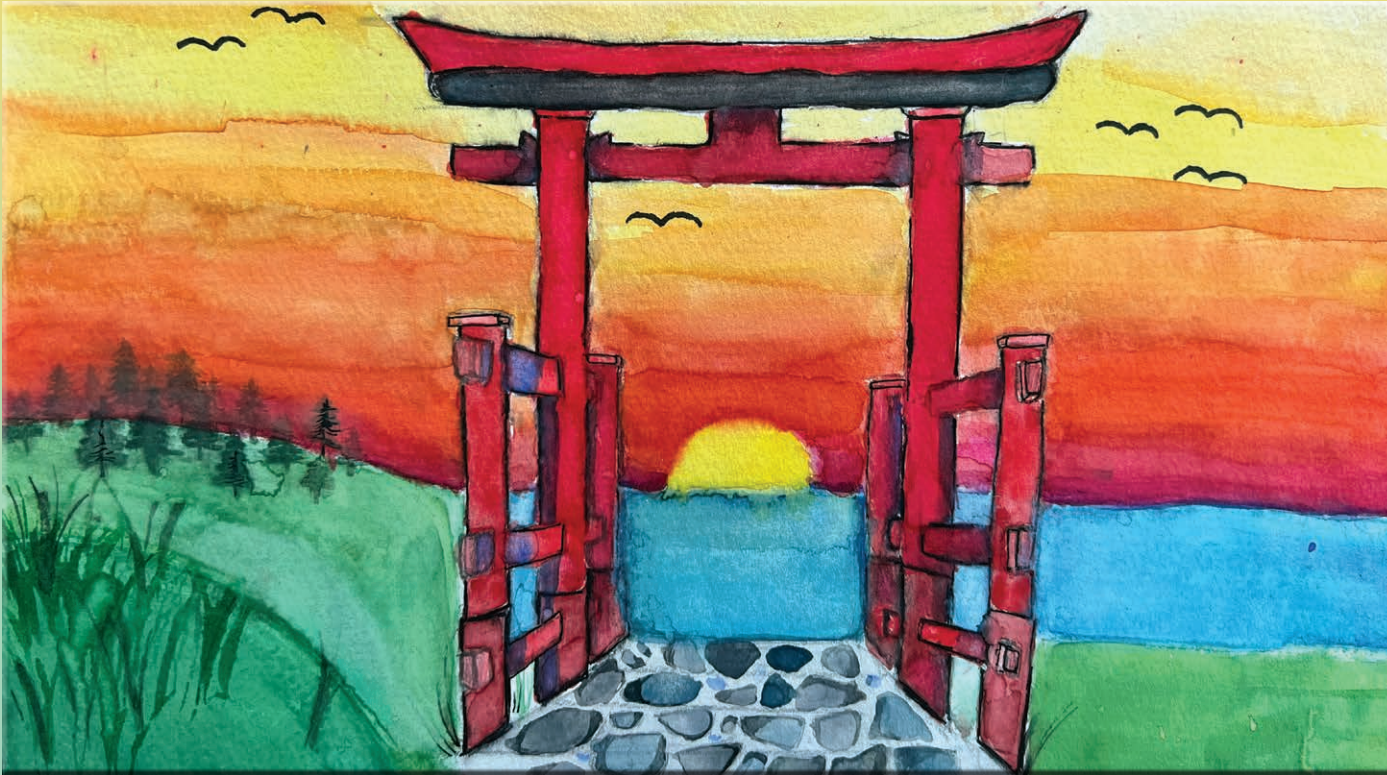
Portuguese-American  
Heritage Month



Isabella Fellows  
Grade 6  
PEARLS Hawthorne School



# Testing Program



Ellie Takaki, Grade 7, PEARLS Hawthorne School

## Districtwide Testing

Students in the Yonkers Public Schools are tested several times during the school year. A variety of assessments are used to evaluate student developmental and academic skills in key areas. These assessments provide teachers, administrators and parents valuable information about each child's progress in school.

The District participates in New York State's Computer Based Testing (CBT) program in English Language Arts and Mathematics for all students in grades 3 through 8. For more than ten years, the District has successfully used online testing with the Measure of

Academic Progress (MAP), a local assessment in a variety of subject areas. In addition, Diagnostic Assessments are administered that are closely aligned to the curriculum, including Benchmark Interim Assessments, DataMate Assessments, and i-Ready Assessments. Feedback from these tests assist teachers and administrators to evaluate student progress throughout the school year, and provide students the opportunity to demonstrate some of their 21st century technology skills.

The following assessments are administered in the grade levels indicated.

### Prekindergarten

- Brigance Assessment – an initial screening of student skills given in the fall
- Work Sampling System - the Work Sampling System (WSS) is a performance-based assessment focusing on 7 areas: Personal and Social Development; Language and Literacy; Mathematical Thinking; Scientific Thinking; Social Studies; The Arts; Physical Development and Health. The WSS is used to set student expectations and document observations of routine activities, identifying the child's strengths and needs.

### Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2

- Diagnostic Assessments (MAP, Benchmark, DataMate, and i-Ready) – assess academic skills in reading and mathematics given in the fall, winter and spring
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) – given only to English Language Learner (ELL) students

### Grades 3 - 8

- Diagnostic Assessments (MAP, Benchmark, DataMate, and i-Ready) – assess academic skills in reading and mathematics given in the fall, winter and spring
- New York State Testing Program – English Language Arts
- New York State Testing Program – Mathematics  
The majority of Grade 8 students have the opportunity to take an Algebra I Regents
- New York State Testing Program – Science (Grades 5 & 8) The majority of Grade 8 students have the opportunity to take a Science Regents
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) – given only to English Language Learner (ELL) students

### Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

- New York State Regents exams mandated to satisfy the State Education Department graduation requirements for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) – given only to English Language Learner (ELL) students



# JUNE

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## MAY 2024

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

## JULY 2024

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Congratulations to  
Our Graduates!

Have a Happy and  
Healthy Summer

Fireworks Safety Month



Isabela Ponce  
Grade 11  
Lincoln High School

2

3

4

New Regents Exam Algebra I

5

World Environment Day

6

7

8

9

10

Yonkers Council of PTAs  
Year End Dessert Reception  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education  
6:30 p.m.

11

BOE – Facilities Committee Meeting  
4:30 p.m.  
Audit, Budget and Finance/  
Workshop Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

12

13

BOE – Policy and Instructional Affairs  
Committee Meetings  
5:00 p.m.  
4th floor conference room  
Yonkers Board of Education

14

Regents Exams  
Flag Day

15

School Placement  
Appeals Process Begins

16

Father's Day

17

18

BOE – Honors, Communications  
from the Community and  
Stated Meeting  
5:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades and Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium  
Regents Exams

19

Schools/Central Office Closed  
Juneteenth

20

Regents Exams  
First Day of Summer

21

Regents Exams

22

23

School  
Placement  
Appeals  
Process Ends

30

24

Regents Exams  
Report Card Distribution Week

25

Regents Exams  
**Half Day for  
Elementary Students Only**

26

Regents Exams Rating Day  
**Last Day of School  
Half Day for Students  
and Hourly Staff  
Full Day for Staff**

27

28

29



# Testing Program



Belén Ruiz Benito, Pre Kindergarten, Enrico Fermi School

## Overview of Assessments Administered Achievement Tests

### District Examinations

- Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) – reading and mathematics, in English and Spanish
- Benchmark Interim Assessments
- DataMate Interim Assessments
- i-Ready Diagnostic Assessments
- Checkpoint A and Checkpoint B Local Assessments – proficiency tests in Spanish and Italian measuring oral, reading, listening and writing skills for grades 8-12.

### State Examinations

- New York State Common Core Testing Program exams in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science
- Regents Examinations for grades 8-12
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT)
- New York State Alternative Assessment (NYSAA)

## Early Childhood Screening

- Brigance Assessment
- Work Sampling System

## Language Assessment Tests for English Language Learner (ELL)

Given to students in grades kindergarten - 12

- New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSELL) – the English language level of new students whose home or primary language is other than English
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) – achievement test in English Language skills

## College Readiness Assessments - College Board Testing Day

Administered in all high schools to all students on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 and Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

**Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT-NMQT)** - grades 9, 10 & 11  
**Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)** - grade 12

## Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SAT) Reasoning and Subject Tests August 2023 through June 2024

SAT Date*	Registration Deadline*	Late Registration Online or by Phone*
August 26	July 28	August 15
October 7	September 7	September 26
November 4	October 5	October 24
December 2	November 2	November 21
March 9	February 23	TBD
May 4	April 19	TBD
June 1	May 17	TBD

*\*This table shows the anticipated administrative dates. For additional information, please obtain a Registration Bulletin from the Guidance Department in your school or on the Internet at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/dates-deadlines>*

## Important Information for Registration Deadlines:

- Sunday administrations occur the day after each Saturday test date for students who cannot test on Saturday due to religious reasons.

## School Codes Required for SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Test Applications

Gorton HS: 336 045  
Lincoln HS: 336 062  
Obama School for Social Justice: 336 048  
Riverside HS: 333 779  
Roosevelt HS: 336 044  
Saunders HS: 336 075  
Yonkers HS: 336 074  
Yonkers Montessori Academy: 336 046

College Scholarship Services (CSS) Financial Aid Profile is available online at <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>. Registrations accepted online 24/7. Other Financial Aid forms and information are available from School Counselors in September.

## Advanced Placement Program (AP) and International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

AP and IB examinations will be administered in early May 2024. Grade reports are sent to the principal, the student, and one designated college early in July. Additional information can be obtained from the Guidance Department at your school or online at [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) and [ibo.org](https://ibo.org).



# JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Central Office Closed Independence Day	5 Extended School Year Program Begins	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## JUNE 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## AUGUST 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Happy Birthday America

Enjoy your summer!

Complete your summer  
reading assignment!



Kaliyanei Richards  
Grade 10  
Saunders Trades & Technical  
High School



# School Choice Process

## Online School Choice

Yonkers Public Schools offers your child and you many exciting educational options. The Online School Choice Process is a key component and takes place once a year. To take advantage of these opportunities, you must actively participate in the process. To participate in the School Choice Process, your child must be registered prior to commencement of the School Choice period in February.

## Who MUST complete an Online School Choice Application for the 2024-2025 school year?

Students new to the District for September and currently enrolled students in transition grades:

- **New Students** for September 2024. If your child is not registered, please visit our Student Enrollment page at [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register).
- **Sixth grade students** at prekindergarten to grade 6 schools, except for those at Montessori School 27 and Montessori School 31 who are automatically assigned to Yonkers Montessori Academy, and 5th grade students at School 17 and Museum School 25 who are automatically assigned to Yonkers Middle High School
- **All eighth grade students** except for those at Barack Obama School for Social Justice and Yonkers Montessori Academy

All School Choice Applications must be completed online at [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/schoolchoice](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/schoolchoice).

## How are students placed in schools?

All school placements are made in accordance with the seating capacity of the school and the respective programs. Every effort will be made to give sibling preference provided that the sibling is duly registered with the District and submits a School Choice Application during the official School Choice Period. There are two types of preferences given to applications submitted during the School Choice Process: sibling and attendance zone for elementary school students in grades Prekindergarten through 8.

## Sibling Preference

First preference is given to siblings of currently enrolled students based upon seat availability **if the school is selected as the first (1) choice on the online School Choice Application**. Siblings are defined as brothers or sisters living in the same household. Sibling preference does not apply to schools or programs that have entrance requirements or require special education placement.



April Parham, Pre Kindergarten, School 17

## Attendance Zone

Most schools have attendance zones. The schools give preference based upon seat availability to students living within the attendance zone of the school. Students are placed in schools according to the following factors:

- Eighty percent (80%) of the **available seats** will go to the attendance zone students who request the school as their first (1) choice.
- Twenty percent (20%) of the **available seats** will be made available to students from throughout the school district who request the school as their first (1) choice. Attendance zone does not apply to these elementary schools: Yonkers Montessori Academy, Montessori 27 and Montessori 31.

## Facts you need to know!

- Online applications must be completed by end of the School Choice Process, February 28. A receipt will be emailed to the email address provided on the online application.
- All on time applicants will be placed through the School Choice Process.
- Only one (1) School Choice Application may be submitted per student.
- No changes will be made to a School Choice Application after it is submitted.
- Although we cannot guarantee that your child will be placed in a specific school or program, every effort will be made to assign students to one of their choices.
- Placements are based strictly on seat availability. Given this fact, please note that there exists the possibility of not receiving any of the school choices requested.
- Students entering the school district after the end of the School Choice Process will be placed in schools based on seat availability.
- School placements are conditional upon students' successful completion of the current school year. If students are retained, they will be required to remain at their current school.
- If a family has more than one child applying for school placement, an application must be submitted for each child.
- Some specialized services for students with disabilities or students who require bilingual education are not available in all schools.

For assistance with the School Choice process, families can visit or contact Student Enrollment or visit [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/schoolchoice](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/schoolchoice).

Student Enrollment is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to assist with questions or concerns regarding student enrollment.

## For further information:

**Student Enrollment**  
(914) 376-8050

[studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org)



# AUGUST

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Extended School Year Program Ends	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## JULY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## SEPTEMBER 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Enjoy your summer!  
Complete your summer  
reading assignment!



Suhana Selim  
Grade 4  
Museum School 25



# Registration



Izmael Artiles, Grade 3, Museum School 25

## Student Enrollment

Information regarding enrollment, educational choices and school assignments is provided by Student Enrollment. Children new to Yonkers Public Schools or reentering the District may enroll throughout the year. A parent/guardian who resides in the City of Yonkers must complete an online Student Enrollment application for their child/ children at [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register).

### For further information:

**Online:** [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register)

**Email:** [studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org)

**Phone:** (914) 376-8050

**Languages/Idioma:** English/Spanish  
Servicios se ofrecen en Español

**Address:** One Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701  
(Entrance through the Riverfront Library)

**Hours of Operation:** Monday through Friday,  
between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

### When does enrollment begin?

- Enrollment for the current academic year (2023-2024) is open year-round.
- Enrollment for the next academic year (2024-2025) begins on **November 1, 2023** for incoming Pre-Kindergarten 4 to Grade 12 students.
- Enrollment for the next academic year (2024-2025) begins on **March 1, 2024** for incoming Pre-Kindergarten 3.

### What is the Student Enrollment process?

**STEP 1** – Complete the Online Student Registration Form and upload required documents: [www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/register).

**STEP 2** – The Welcome Team Member will review your application and required documents for admission and finalize your enrollment.

**STEP 3** – A Student Enrollment Associate will issue a notification of your complete registration and/or school assignment.

### What are the required documents needed to enroll a child?

1. Proof of Age (i.e. copy of birth certificate)
2. Proof of Parental Relation and/or Custody (i.e. Photo ID of the guardian)
3. Three (3) Proofs of Residency – Lease, Deed or Mortgage statement plus two (2) supplemental documents within the last 30 days
4. Immunization Records and Physical Examination
5. Report Card or Official/Unofficial Transcript from their previous school
6. Individualized Education Plan (IEP) (if applicable)

### At what age can a child be enrolled for September 2024?

- For Universal Prekindergarten 3, three years old with a birth date on or before December 1, 2021. This program is contingent upon grant funding approval for the 2024-2025 school year.
- For prekindergarten, four years old with a birth date on or before December 1, 2020.
- For kindergarten, five years old with a birth date on or before December 1, 2019.

### PROOF OF AGE

In order to verify your child's age, the District requires that you submit a copy of a birth certificate. If such document is not available the District will accept a passport (including a foreign passport) in order to establish your child's age.

In the event that the above listed documentation is not available, the District may consider certain other documents or recorded evidence, as long as it has been in existence for two years or more. Such other evidence includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Official driver's license;
- State or other government issued identification;
- School photo identification with date of birth;
- Consulate identification card;
- Hospital or health records;
- Military dependent identification card;
- Documents issued by federal, state, or local agencies (e.g. local social service agency, local social security office, federal Office of Refugee Resettlement);
- Court orders or other court-issued documents;
- Native American tribal document; or
- Records from non-profit international aid agencies and voluntary agency.

### FAQ. I do not have a birth certificate. How can I get one?

1. Birth certificates for students born in Yonkers may be obtained at the following location:

#### Department of Vital Statistics

**City Hall – Room 107**

**40 South Broadway (corner of Nepperhan Ave.)  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
(914) 377-6017**

2. Birth certificates for students born outside of Yonkers may be obtained from the city or state where the child was born.



## PROOF OF GUARDIANSHIP

A **Photo ID of the parent/guardian** registering the student is necessary to identify the person whose name appears on the birth certificate or custody documents.

## CUSTODY DOCUMENTS

For purposes of proof of parental relationship or proof that the child resides with the parent(s) or person(s) in parental relation, the District may also require the parent(s) or person(s) in parental relation to provide:

- an affidavit stating that they are the person(s) in parental relation to the child, over whom they have total and permanent custody and control, and describing how they obtained total and permanent custody and control, whether through guardianship or otherwise
- an affidavit stating that they are the parent(s) with whom the child lawfully resides; documentation indicating that the child resides with a sponsor with whom the child has been placed by a federal agency

### FAQ. How can I petition for custody?

You may petition for custody through Yonkers Family Court.

#### Yonkers Family Court

131 Warburton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Yonkers, NY 10701  
Phone: (914) 831-6555 Fax: (914) 831-6409

## PROOF OF RESIDENCY

In order to make a determination that your child is entitled to attend a school within the District, you must submit evidence of you and your child's physical presence in the school District. Yonkers Public Schools require families to submit three (3) proofs of residency; the documentation and/or information needs to establish the physical presence of the parent(s) or person(s) in parental relation and the child in the District.

### Documentation must include at least one (1) of the following:

- A copy of a residential lease or proof of ownership of a house or condominium, such as a deed or mortgage statement;
- A statement by a third party landlord, owner, or tenant from whom the parent(s) or person(s) in parental relation leases or with whom they share property within the District, which may be either sworn or unsworn;
- Or such other statement by a third party establishing the parent(s) or person(s) in parental relation's physical presence in the District.

**The District will accept two (2) supplemental forms of documentation dated within 30 days of your scheduled appointment. The remaining document(s) may include any of the following:**

- Payroll stubs;
- Income tax form such as, but not limited to, a W-2 Form;
- Utility or other bills such as, but not limited to, electric, water, telephone, internet, or cable bills;

- Membership documents (e.g., library cards) based upon residency;
- Voter registration document(s);
- Official driver's license, learner's permit, or non-driver identification;
- State or other government-issued identification;
- Section 8 or Municipal Housing Statement;
- Documents issued by federal, state, or local agencies (e.g., local social service agency, local social security office, federal Office of Refugee Resettlement); or
- Evidence of custody of the child, including, but not limited to, judicial custody orders or guardianship papers.

## FAMILIES IN TEMPORARY RESIDENCE

If you are new to the District and have recently lost your residence, please reach Student Enrollment by phone or email or visit our website at [www.yonkerspublicschools.org](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org) for additional information.

#### Yonkers Public Schools Family and Homeless Liaison

Email: [rchavez@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:rchavez@yonkerspublicschools.org)  
Phone: (914) 376-8074

## EVIDENCE OF IMMUNIZATIONS & PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

In accordance with New York State Public Health Law, you must provide the District with a certificate of immunizations or other acceptable evidence of your child's immunization in accordance with New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance as established by New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization. Such proof is necessary to ensure your child's attendance in school. Your child shall not be permitted to attend school in excess of fourteen (14) days without either a certificate of immunization or other acceptable evidence of your child's immunization.

Additionally, as mandated by New York State, within thirty (30) days of your child's entrance into the District, you must provide the District with a record and/or certificate of your child's recent health examination. Such examination must be conducted by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner and be completed no more than twelve (12) months prior to the first day of entrance into a school.

**Required Student Immunizations information is available on page 39 in the Pupil Support Services section or by calling Student Health and Wellness Services at (914) 376-8226.**

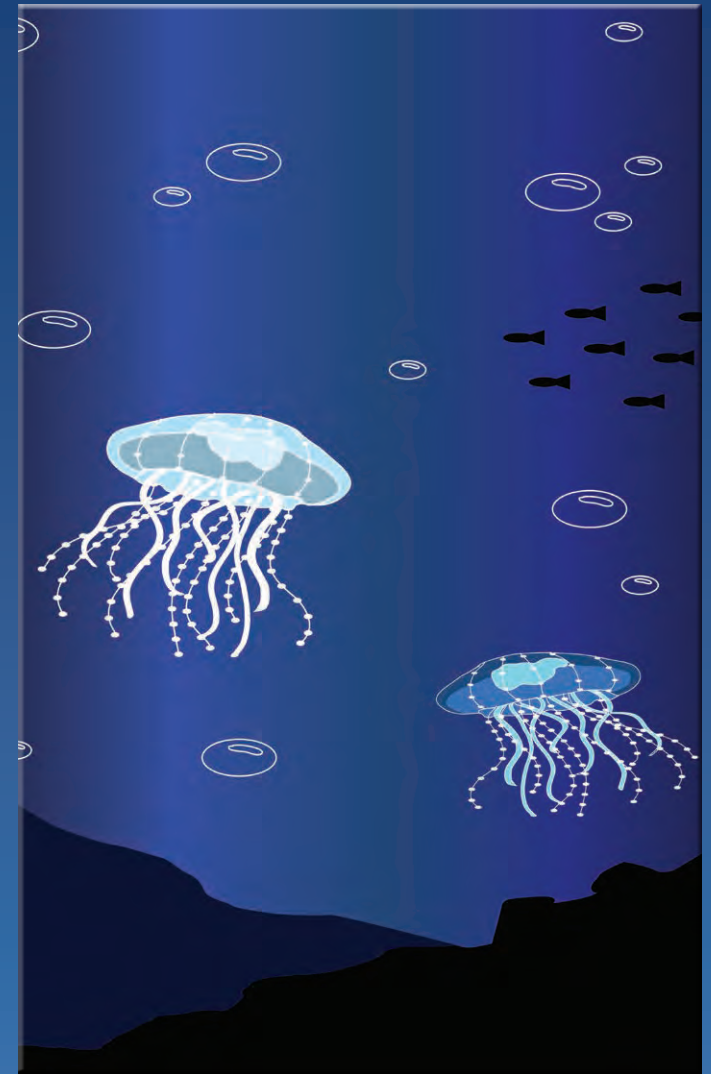
Immunizations may be obtained from a private physician by the Westchester County Health Department free of charge by making an appointment at:

#### Westchester County Health Department

Yonkers District Office  
20 South Broadway, Second Floor  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
(914) 231-2500

#### For further information:

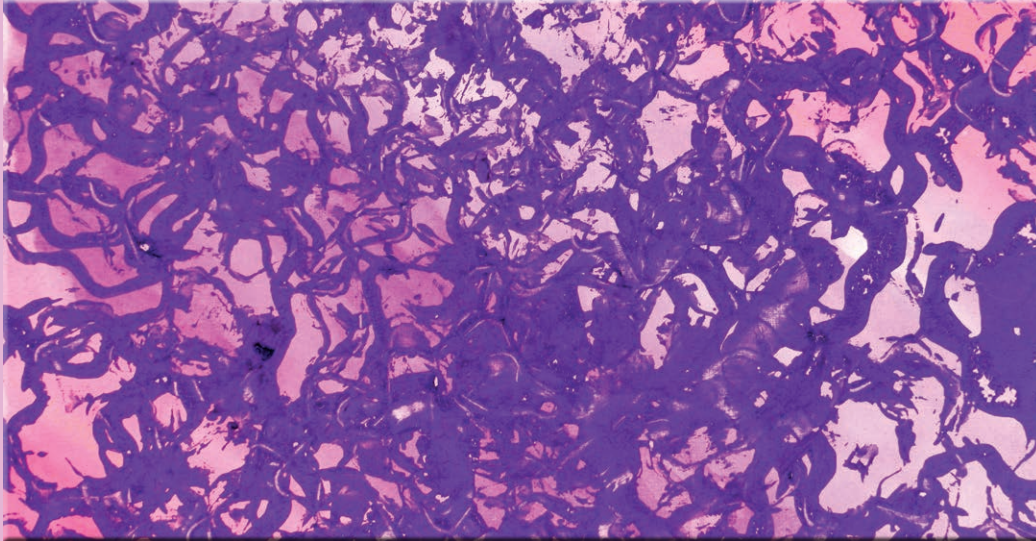
**Student Enrollment**  
**(914) 376-8050**  
[studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org)



Naomi Arias, Grade 10, Saunders Trades and Technical High School



# Transportation



Haylee Leal, Yonkers Montessori Academy, Pre Kindergarten

The Yonkers Public Schools Transportation Department plays a crucial role in supporting student achievement by ensuring a safe and dependable transportation service for students to and from school and related activities. Bus stops are selected carefully, and they may be located approximately half a mile from the student's home. The district is responsible for choosing safe bus stops, but it's the parent or guardian's duty to ensure the safety of their children while traveling to and from the stops, much like when they walk to school. Please note that scheduled pick-up and drop-off times are estimates and may vary day-to-day.

Transportation services follow the policies set forth by the Yonkers Board of Education and regulations and guidelines of the New York State Education Department.

## Transportation Eligibility for Elementary and Middle Years Students

Students in grades prekindergarten through eight receive transportation if their school is at least 1.5 miles away from their home address or if they have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that requires transportation.

For children under 8 years old and students with an IEP who receive transportation, a parent/guardian or designee must meet them at the bus stop. If no one meets the child, they will be taken to the Student Transportation Center at One Larkin Center. Parents will be informed and should pick up their child from the Transportation Center.

## Transportation for High School Students

High school students must pay for bus transportation to public and non-public high schools.

Students have the option to purchase a discounted student MetroCard for public transportation (Bee-Line Bus) at their high school for \$58.00 per month (\$580 for the school year September to June).

Families who meet the District Policy (reside 1.5 miles or more from school) and provide qualifying family income documentation from the Department of Social Services can receive public transportation free of charge.

## Special Busing Requests

Students requiring special busing, such as non-public school transportation, alternate pick-up and drop-off requests, or transportation to Board of Education-approved after-school childcare providers, must submit the appropriate application online to the Transportation Department before April 1 preceding the school year.

The application process must be completed every year as there is no automatic renewal of special busing.

## Important Information for Students Riding School Buses:

Follow the guidelines and rules for behavior on the bus, including, but not limited to:

- Finding a seat immediately upon boarding,
- No smoking (cigarettes or vapes), eating, or drinking,
- Respecting the driver, other students, and their property,
- Avoiding profanity or offensive language, and
- Keeping the bus clean.

## Safety is paramount:

- Students should remain seated while the bus is moving, keep aisles clear of obstacles, and refrain from bringing items that may pose a safety hazard.

- Electronic toys and cell phones are not allowed to be used on the bus.
- If any improper behavior is observed or experienced on the bus, students should inform the driver or monitor before getting off the bus.

## Additional Bus Transportation Information:

- Students should be at their assigned bus stop at least 10-15 minutes ahead of time for both pick-up and drop-off.
- Bus drop-off times after school are estimates and not exact.
- Only ride the bus assigned to you; special busing requests for playdates are not permitted.
- Before crossing the street, wait for the driver's universal crossing signal or an attendant's assistance.
- Parents are not allowed to board the bus.

Remember, school bus transportation is a privilege, and students should behave respectfully at all times.

## Transportation Department Contact Information:

The Transportation Department is available from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. during the school year and 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the summer to address any questions or concerns regarding transportation.

## For further information:

**Transportation Department**  
**(914) 376-8015**

[yonkerspublicschools.org/transportation](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/transportation)  
[yonkerstransportation@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:yonkerstransportation@yonkerspublicschools.org)

***The Yonkers Public Schools Transportation Department takes student safety seriously and provides essential services to ensure students have a reliable means of transportation to and from school and related activities. It's essential for parents, guardians, and students to understand and adhere to the rules and guidelines set forth to maintain a safe and efficient transportation system.***

**It's the Law: Stop for Flashing Red Lights!**  
**Safety First!**



# Educational Programs

## Teaching and Learning

### Core Curriculum

The Yonkers Public Schools provides a strong academic and instructional program for all students. A unified core curriculum based on the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards, New York State Education Department instructional content and core Frameworks, as well as current standards is followed throughout grades prekindergarten-12. All programs have been developed to help meet the individual learning needs and interests of students. Professional Development assists administrators and teaches to implement culturally responsive research-based curricula and pedagogy to prepare students for formative, summative, local, and state assessments.

Every child brings his or her own unique combination of interests, talents, and skills to the learning environment, which are identified and developed through interactions with teachers, pupil support staff and school administration. Students leverage a plethora of instructional technology programs to support their content instruction and academic success. Prekindergarten through grade 12 curricula design is innovative, standards based and framed in the inquiry method including a focus on STEAM supported by an interplay of CTE, IB, AP, CL and the Arts, to name a few. Instructional programs as well as professional development are aligned horizontally and vertically. The instructional program nurtures and increases each student's College, Career and Civic Readiness aspirations. Local Content Power Standards, grade level content curricula and pacing calendars ensure student skills are Assessed in September and the following June to ensure progress monitoring.

### Curriculum Themes

Many District programs are specifically integrated with curricular themes and educational philosophies as well as career and technical educational programs that increase student access, aspirations, achievement, and admission to college. These programs provide resources for: staff training, magnet and content curriculum development, after-school, Saturday and summer learning, parent involvement, instructional

technology implementation, field trips, service learning projects, college visits, instructional support, materials, and valued partnerships with colleges, cultural institutions, businesses, and community-based agencies.

Yonkers teachers, administrators, parents and community partners work hand-in-hand to create the world class programs that inspire and are used to assist every student in meeting College, Career and Civic Readiness, Next Generation Learning Standards and Power Standards necessary for the post-secondary studies and the world of work.

**For further information:  
Curriculum, Instruction, School Supervision  
(914) 376-8011**

### Career and Technical Education

The District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs are constantly evolving to meet ever-changing industry standards. CTE supports Career, College and Civic Readiness and improves graduation rates. Programs of study integrate rigorous academics and relevant career and technical skills. Through Career and Technical Education, students are able to assess their own abilities, explore relevant career options, and gain the vocational skills and real-world knowledge needed for jobs in meaningful technologically advanced sectors of the global economy.

CTE provides students with an understanding of workplace concepts, terminology and sector specific occupational situations. At the elementary and middle school levels, students participate in career inventories as well as career exploration programs including Virtual Enterprise and Junior Achievement to name a few. High school students engage in comprehensive training in business, technology and occupational skills. The New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Learning Standards serve as the framework for the District's programs.

Classroom instruction is complemented by a wide range of real-world experiences, including work based learning, job shadowing, and mentoring from professionals in various industries. Beginning in grades 7 and 8, students also engage in the career planning process aided by an online career exploration and management program.

As students progress through their CTE program, they create a detailed Employability Profile which prepares them for either work or college. A course on Career and Financial Management (CFM) is taught for every secondary career pathway. It provides students with career exploration, entrepreneurial/business management skills, and financial literacy.

The school district maintains a strong relationship with the local business community. Business partnerships provide our district with current industry standards, job market trends, in demand skills and the aforementioned real-world experiences. High schools have Advisory Boards to support career readiness forums and mentorships. The Yonkers Advisory Council for CTE also supports Career and Technical Education at all secondary Schools. The following high schools have NYSED CTE Program approval: Charles E. Gorton High School (Marketing and Medical Clinical Assistant), Lincoln High School (Business Entrepreneurship and Management), Roosevelt High School—Early College Studies (Business and Media Communications and Automotive Mechanics), Yonkers Montessori Academy (Early Childhood Education) and Saunders Trades and Technical High School (Architecture, Automotive Mechanics, Biotechnology, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management, Electronic and Computer Circuitry, Fashion Design Technology, Graphic Communications, Heating and Air Conditioning). For adult learners who reside in the city of Yonkers, occupational education (computers, carpentry, retail trades, medical billing & coding, culinary, home health, barbering) and employment preparation are available at Pathways to Success, the adult education program of the Yonkers Public Schools, which is housed at Vive School and other locations.

**For further information:  
Career and Technical Education  
(914) 376-8600**

### Language Acquisition

#### Identification and Assessment

As prescribed by NYSED, in Yonkers Public Schools all newly enrolled students and students reenrolling after two years are required to complete a Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ). The HLQ must

be conducted at the time of enrollment. Through this survey, along with an informal interview, a qualified teacher will ensure that all necessary information has been provided and determine how well the student understands, speaks, reads, and writes in English as well as document the child's prior schooling and personal history. If the survey and the interview indicate that the student's home or primary language is other than English, the child must take an English language proficiency test called the New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL). The NYSITELL results are then used to determine the child's English language level (Entering, Emerging, Transitioning, Expanding, and Commanding) and provide them with the mandated services needed to develop their English proficiency. During the spring, the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) is administered annually to all English Language Learners in grades K-12 in order to assess student English language proficiency growth, determine continuation of services, and be in compliance with the ESSA guidelines and the CR Part 154.

### MLL/ELL Programs

If your child scores at Entering, Emerging, Transitioning or Expanding, he or she is identified as an ELL. ELLs are entitled to receive Bilingual Education (BE) or English as a New Language (ENL) services. If a student scores at the Commanding (Proficient) level, he or she is not identified as an ELL.

### Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE)

TBE offers students of the same home/primary language the opportunity to learn to speak, understand, read, and write in English while continuing to learn academic content in their home/primary language. The students' home/primary language is used to help them progress academically in all content areas while they acquire English. The goal of the TBE programs at Yonkers Public Schools is to provide students with the opportunity to transition into a monolingual English classroom setting. However, there will always be home language instructional supports, allowing students the opportunity to develop bilingually. Yonkers Public Schools currently offers TBE programs in Spanish at Enrico Fermi School, Robert C. Dodson School, and Yonkers Middle/High School.

**For further information:  
Language Acquisition/Bilingual/ENL/  
World Languages  
(914) 376-8230**



# Educational Programs

## Dual Language (DL)

DL is designed to help native and nonnative English speakers achieve bilingual, biliteracy, cross-cultural competence, and academic proficiency equal to that of students in non-ELL programs. DL teachers provide instruction in both English and the home/primary language. The goal of these programs is for students to develop literacy and proficiency in English and in the home/target language. Yonkers Public Schools currently offers a two-way Dual Language program at Thomas Cornell Academy in grades Prek through 4th grade. Course curriculum is aligned to the NYSED Bilingual Progressions.

## English as a New Language (ENL)

Formerly known as English as a Second Language, ENL emphasizes English language acquisition. Language arts and content-area instruction are taught in English using specific ENL instructional practices. Integrated ENL classes are either taught by a teacher dually certified in the content area and ENL or co-taught by a certified content area teacher and a certified ENL teacher. Students receive core content area and English language development instruction, including the use of the home/primary language supports and appropriate ELL instructional support to enrich comprehension. In Stand-alone ENL classes, students receive English language instruction needed for success in the core content areas. ENL programs are offered in all Yonkers Public Schools. Course curriculum is aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards.

## World Languages

World Language instruction is an integral part of the academic program for secondary students in grades 7-12. Students gain proficiency in World Languages and also gain better understanding of the diverse cultural, geographical, and socioeconomic qualities associated with the languages studied. Currently, Yonkers Public Schools offers Italian and Spanish. Courses range from introductory courses, to college level language courses and Spanish for Heritage Speakers. Course curriculum is aligned to the World Language Learning Standards (revised 2021).

### For further information:

**Language Acquisition/Bilingual/ENL/World Languages**  
**(914) 376-8230**

## Music and Visual Arts

Visual and Performing Arts education is an integral part of the total school instructional program. Arts instruction is based on the New York State Learning Standards for the Arts which outlines high standards and expectations for all students in the four arts disciplines — dance, music, theatre, and visual arts. Students are expected to demonstrate skills in performing and creating works of art, the use of a variety of arts materials

and resources, the ability to analyze forms of art, and the understanding of the cultural forces that shape artistic works.

Music and Arts programs are augmented through collaborations with museums, cultural and governmental institutions and artist residencies.

### For further information:

**Music and Visual Arts**  
**(914) 376-8231**

## Social Studies

The Social Studies K-12 curriculum is aligned with the New York State Social Studies Framework (2016) and the National C3 Standards (College, Career, and Civic Life). It is a robust curriculum that is inquiry-based and develops deep content knowledge and 21st century skills, such as critical thinking and problem solving; examining conflict and resolution, cause and effect, and similarities and differences. It also provides a strong foundation in citizenship and civic readiness.

The Social Studies program, through its alignment to college and careers and the NYS assessments, develops students' understanding of patterns in history, turning points in history, change over time, and multiple points-of-view. The study of Social Studies includes learning about significant ideas, people, places, eras, themes, and developments at local, regional, national and international levels, including the City of Yonkers. Historical inquiry and the integration of technology are important aspects of the curriculum. Students actively engage in learning about the rights, roles and responsibilities of citizenship; government systems and structures; democracy; the Constitution and its foundation; and the origins of the United States. The Social Studies curriculum includes the study of global issues, world geography, and world history.

Throughout the K-12 continuum, students learn the skills of gathering, interpreting and using evidence; analyzing cause and effect; comparing and contrasting; using geographic and historical reasoning; civic participation; and economics and economic systems.

The Yonkers Public Schools is a leader in New York State in integrating Civic Readiness through its membership on the New York State Civic Readiness Commission and leadership in the Seal of Civic Readiness. During the 2022-2023 academic year, all eight Yonkers high schools graduated students with this designation.

### For further information:

**Social Studies**  
**(914) 376-8272**

## Library Services

Yonkers Public Schools Library System is an integral component of our scholars' success. Our dedicated team of school library media specialists foster critical thinking and problem solving skills while helping students attain their educational goals through research, digital and fabrication creation. By integrating information fluency skills into instructional programs that enrich the depth and breadth of instruction, school librarians help students become independent, future ready learners. Promoting student service learning and providing professional development for teachers districtwide, the Yonkers Public Schools Library System instills best practices for an inclusive and participatory learning culture throughout the public schools. Library Media Centers house a host of technologies that are aligned with the NGLS/NGSS as well as our Smart Start Program.

Through the Yonkers Public Schools Library System website, thousands of electronic and media resources are available to the learning community on various topics and platforms.

### For further information:

**Library Services**  
**(914) 376-8181**

## Literacy

### English Language Arts & Literacy

In developing literacy in reading, writing, listening and speaking, the District promotes initiatives that enhance student, staff and parent supports across all content areas in all our schools. The Language Arts curriculum we have designed empowers students to become independent readers and critical thinkers in preparation for post-secondary studies and the workforce. The language arts curriculum aligns with the Next Generation Learning Standards (NGLS) so that our students are well prepared for the expectations of State Testing Program and graduation requirements. The goal is that our students develop their literacy skills for information and understanding, response and expression, critical analysis and evaluation, and social interaction.

In order to achieve our goals and support a fluid and systemic approach to teaching literacy, the district adopted Benchmark Advance/Benchmark Adelante, a Core Literacy Series for the next six years. This comprehensive Language Arts/ Language Development series takes an interdisciplinary approach addressing the needs of all students and prepares them for success in the globally, competitive economy of the 21st century. It provides a differentiated approach to literacy learning that ensures growth for all learners, at-risk and advanced. Benchmark Advance/Adelante provides access to the rigorous learning standards and is equipped with a multitude of culturally responsive resources that support differentiated instruction addressing the specific reading levels of our students and their specific learning styles.



Throughout the school year, all elementary language arts and reading teachers engage in comprehensive professional learning opportunities to support them with the instructional tools while simultaneously building their capacity with the Next Generation Learning Standards. This will ensure that we are fully prepared for the full implementation of the NGLS starting in September 2022 in alignment with the roadmap provided by the NYS Education Department.

We have proudly implemented a standards based curriculum PK-12 with a strong focus on student achievement. In grades PK-6, it is a balanced literacy approach and at the secondary level, our students engage with rich novels, texts and required literature to support the curriculum while also meeting the varied literacy needs of our students. Advanced English language arts instruction is offered at selected high schools through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, College Link and career and college readiness classes.

Our goal is to develop a love for reading and to read for enjoyment!

**For further information:**  
**English Language Arts & Literacy**  
**(914) 721-8815**

## **Middle Years Intramural Sports Program for Grades 7 and 8**

Students in grades seven (7) and eight (8) will have an opportunity to participate in the Yonkers Public Schools Middle Years Intramural Sports Program.

Middle years students from every school may participate in athletic competition as members of school-based or multi-school teams. Young athletes will learn the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary to support an active, productive and healthy lifestyle. The program extends the District's physical education instruction and the updated New York State Physical Education standards (see standards under Athletics and Physical Education on the district website) while also providing the opportunity, regardless of athletic skill, to participate in a team and leisure-time activity. Intramural sports are not part of the District's interscholastic sports program.

Participation in team sports:

- Provides an opportunity to participate in athletic competition without regard for high performance skill or ability.
- Provides physical activities in a safe and professionally supervised environment.
- Nurtures healthy competition, enjoyment, fair play, and teamwork.
- Enhances social interaction among students from neighboring schools.

Intramural sports seasons will be 6 to 8 weeks and include:

- Fall - Boys and Girls Soccer
- Winter - Boys and Girls Basketball
- Spring - Boys Baseball and Girls Softball

**For further information:**  
**(914) 376-8118**

## **Mathematics**

The 21st century takes us into a new era in the world of mathematics education. Changes in technology have made mathematics an alive and dynamic science in itself, as well as an integral part of our daily lives. Now, more than ever, educating students for life requires that we provide all students with a strong mathematical background.

District mathematics instruction aligns to the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards and the State Testing Program. In accordance with the New York State Education Department timeline, the state assessments for mathematics currently reflect the Next Generation Learning Standards (NGLS) for grades 3-8. The high school level Regents exams will align to NGLS over the next 3 years: Algebra 1 in June of 2024, Geometry in June of 2025 and Algebra II in June of 2026.

Mathematics instruction at YPS is aligned to the vision, G.A.M.E., which was developed with teachers and school leaders. G.A.M.E. stands for Growth Mindset, Access, Math Talk and Experiential (learning). The mathematics instructional program cultivates a growth mindset by engaging students in critical thinking and developing the belief that everyone can solve mathematical problems, even if they solve them differently. At all levels, students are able to access mathematics by engaging in problem solving with supports from teachers. Teachers facilitate math discourse and provide students opportunities to articulate their mathematical ideas to their peers. Planning occurs with experiential learning in mind so that students can solve mathematical problems within the context of real-world scenarios.

Beginning in elementary school, the mathematics program focuses on the development of skills in the following areas: Numbers and Operations, Algebraic Thinking, Measurement and Data and Geometry.

At the middle school level, students build on their mathematical foundation from elementary school and begin to explore concepts in: The Number System, Ratios and Proportions, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, Statistics and Probability and Functions.

High school mathematics instruction follows the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. Students completing the required sequence of courses are offered electives where applicable. Advanced mathematics instruction is offered at selected schools through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, College-link and Career and Technical Education classes.

**For further information:**  
**Mathematics**  
**(914) 376-8068**

## **Science**

Aligned to the New York State PK-12 Science Learning Standards, which are based off the Next Generation Science Standards, Yonkers science instruction engages students in scientific inquiry beginning in prekindergarten. Students in the elementary grades are introduced to science and engineering practices and use crosscutting concepts

to develop inter-disciplinary connections. Hands-on activities and student-centered instruction invite students to think like a scientist by developing their own observations and explanations for phenomena. Additionally, engineering scenarios develop students' ability to problem solve, collaborate with peers, and develop solutions to real world situations.

At the secondary level, students in grades 7 through 12 continue to use science and engineering practices and receive more specialized instruction in Earth Science, Living Environment, Chemistry, and Physics. Advanced science instruction is offered at selected high schools through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, College Link, and Career and Technical Education coursework. Completion of any combination of these courses prepares students to meet graduation requirements and the demands of a 21st century post-secondary education and workplace.

**For further information:**  
**Science**  
**(914) 376-4772**

## **Instructional Technology and Innovations**

The Yonkers Public Schools provides a technologically rich learning environment and infrastructure designed to meet the growing technological needs of classroom instruction and communication. Integration of technology in all aspects of instruction supports a creative learning environment to prepare students for the challenges of post-secondary education and the 21st century workplace.

The Yonkers Public Schools supports students through opportunities to participate in diverse technology rich learning experiences. An array of technology tools and digital resources are available in classrooms, computer labs, and library media centers. Resources include desktop computers, Chromebooks, laptops, tablets, projectors, Response Systems, network and wireless connections, as well as an extensive collection of online resources. A broad selection of high quality online resources extends access and exploration over weekends, holidays, and throughout the summer. Technology is incorporated throughout all subject areas, encouraging 21st century learning from prekindergarten through grade 12, providing opportunity and preparing our students for both college and careers.

Each school has a website that is accessible at [yonkerspublicschools.org](http://yonkerspublicschools.org). All students have access to student-friendly web resources in Clever. These web-based communication and resource networks connect students, teachers, parents and administrators within the school and throughout the District.

Whether robotics, video production, logical design, video conferencing, or the many creative projects developed by students, technology supports learning in our schools every day. Visit the District and school websites to see announcements, view information on events, and learn more about the exciting things happening in our schools.

**For further information:**  
**Instructional Technology and Innovations**  
**(914) 376-4773**



# Educational Programs

## Academically Talented Programs

Our Academically Talented Programs provide identified academically talented students with a high quality, appropriate education that meets their special needs. Academically talented children are those who have demonstrated superior intellectual abilities with the potential to perform at levels that exceed Yonkers general academic standards. In addition, they have the potential to use abstract, creative, and productive thinking skills. These self-motivated children are also able to sustain high academic performance. Their unique abilities and characteristics require special social and emotional support from family, community, and school to maximize their multiple talents.

The Yonkers Public Schools provides advanced academic programs which ensure a learning continuum and address the strengths, needs, and interests of academically talented students. The programs also support the unique needs of academically talented English Language Learners. The Yonkers Public Schools has adopted the following guidelines to ensure the programs and services offered are consistent with applicable New York State Standards and guidelines.

## Elementary/Middle Years Program Grades Prekindergarten – 8

The Program for Early and Rapid Learning Students (PEARLS) at the PEARLS Hawthorne School is designed to meet the educational needs of academically talented students through an enriched academic core curriculum with an emphasis on creativity, high-level thinking skills and experiential learning.

## Selection Process for the PEARLS, Academically Talented Program

Students entering prekindergarten and kindergarten are individually evaluated using a nationally normed standardized aptitude test (I.Q.).

Students entering grades 1 through 8 are assessed using multiple criteria: a nationally normed standardized test of school ability, the New York State Testing Program, teacher evaluations and report card grades. In the event of a school closure, there will be a modified testing program. Guidance regarding the program will be posted on the District website.

**For students entering prekindergarten through grade 8** for the following year, parents **MUST** apply and complete an application on the Student Enrollment tab, on the District website.

**To Apply:** Parents **MUST** submit an application. Your child **MUST** be registered in the Yonkers Public Schools. Applications for the 2024-2025 school year will be available as of October 16, 2023 on the District website. For information regarding registration go to: [yonkerspublicschools.org](http://yonkerspublicschools.org) or email [pcelona@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:pcelona@yonkerspublicschools.org).

**For further information:**  
**Pupil Support - PEARLS Program**  
**(914) 376-8189**

## High School Programs - Grades 9-12 Century Honors Program

The Century Honors Program is offered at Gorton, Lincoln, Barack Obama School for Social Justice (formerly Palisade Preparatory School), Riverside, Roosevelt, and Saunders high schools. Students attend Century Honor classes in each academic discipline and are expected to take available Advanced Placement, College Link, Smart Scholar, P-tech or Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses in 10th-12th grades. Additionally, students are enrolled in magnet specific courses. CTE Programs at Saunders, Roosevelt, Gorton and Lincoln high schools may lead to industry certifications.

The College Board Advanced Placement Program (AP) is offered at select high schools and is subject to budgetary constraints. Students are expected to sit for an AP Examination annually in May to determine college credit 3-5 score on the exam that may be awarded by their college/university of choice.

Smart Scholar, P-tech and College Link courses are designed in conjunction with a local college or university and is often aligned with the high school magnet program. Teachers are vetted by each college, syllabi are approved, and student credit is awarded by the local college/university aligned with their respective grading policy. These credits may or may not be awarded by the college/university of choice.

**To Apply: For students entering grades 9 through 12**, applications are available at all schools in November annually and are due in December 2023. Applications may be submitted to 8th grade school administrators or high school counselors, or the District Guidance Department. For 8th grade students, scores on NWEA tests and report cards are reviewed. Additional information is available by contacting District Guidance.

**For further information:**  
**District Guidance - Century Honors Program**  
**(914) 376-8454**

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Yonkers Middle High School - Grades 9-12

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB) for high school students at Yonkers Middle High School (grades 9-12) provides students with an opportunity to pursue a liberal arts curriculum while meeting the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma requirements. Students who have performed satisfactorily on IB exams may be granted credit, advanced placement, or both by colleges and universities throughout the world.

Students are expected to maintain high academic standards, a strong grade point average in core subject areas (English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies), completing Regents Examinations, adhere to the District's Code of Conduct and comply with the District's dress code.

## Selection Process

**Students entering grades 9 through 12 are placed in Yonkers Middle High School based on the following criteria:**

- Parents must select Yonkers Middle High School as their first choice during the School Choice Process
- Students must demonstrate strong academic performance at (85 or higher) in four core subject areas—English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies as well as mastery on the Algebra, Living Environment and or Earth Science Regents Examination in 8th grade.

**For further information:**  
**Student Enrollment**  
**(914) 376-8050**  
[studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:studentenrollment@yonkerspublicschools.org)



Madison McCain, Grade 6, School 23



# School Breakfast and Lunch Program

## All Yonkers Public Schools children receive FREE Breakfast and Lunch

In July 2018, the District received notification from the NYSED Child Nutrition Program that the District was approved to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) which enables school districts to serve all children breakfast and lunch at no charge. The CEP is a three-year program and must be recertified, every three years. YPS renewal year is 2022 and we are currently in a renewal year. We are enlisting support of all YPS families and schools to make our renewal a success for all stakeholders. This approval coordinates excellently with the New York State Breakfast After the Bell legislation.

One of the most important ways the Board of Education helps to ensure that our children achieve more in their classes is by providing them with nutritious foods. The daily availability to a healthy wholesome breakfast and lunch for every student has a significant, positive impact on

children's academic, social/emotional and physical development.

Breakfast is available every morning in the cafeteria or at Grab & Go locations prior to the beginning of the school day. Lunch is served every day in the school cafeteria. All food choices are fully compliant with USDA and NYS regulations for nutrient standards. Yonkers Breakfast After the Bell – Grab And Go Breakfast Service is available to children who arrive at school after the school day has begun. Time spent by students consuming breakfast may be considered instructional time when students eat in their classrooms and are provided instruction.

School lunch menus are available at every school, from the Food Services Department, on WDMC-TV -Optimum 75, Verizon Fios 38, Student Enrollment and [yonkerspublicschools.org](http://yonkerspublicschools.org).

**For further information:  
Food Services  
(914) 376-8166**

# School Facilities

## Use of School Facilities

Select features of the facilities of the Yonkers Public Schools are available for rent to resident organizations (one in which the majority of the members reside or are employed within the district) for the pursuit of social, cultural, educational and recreational activities.

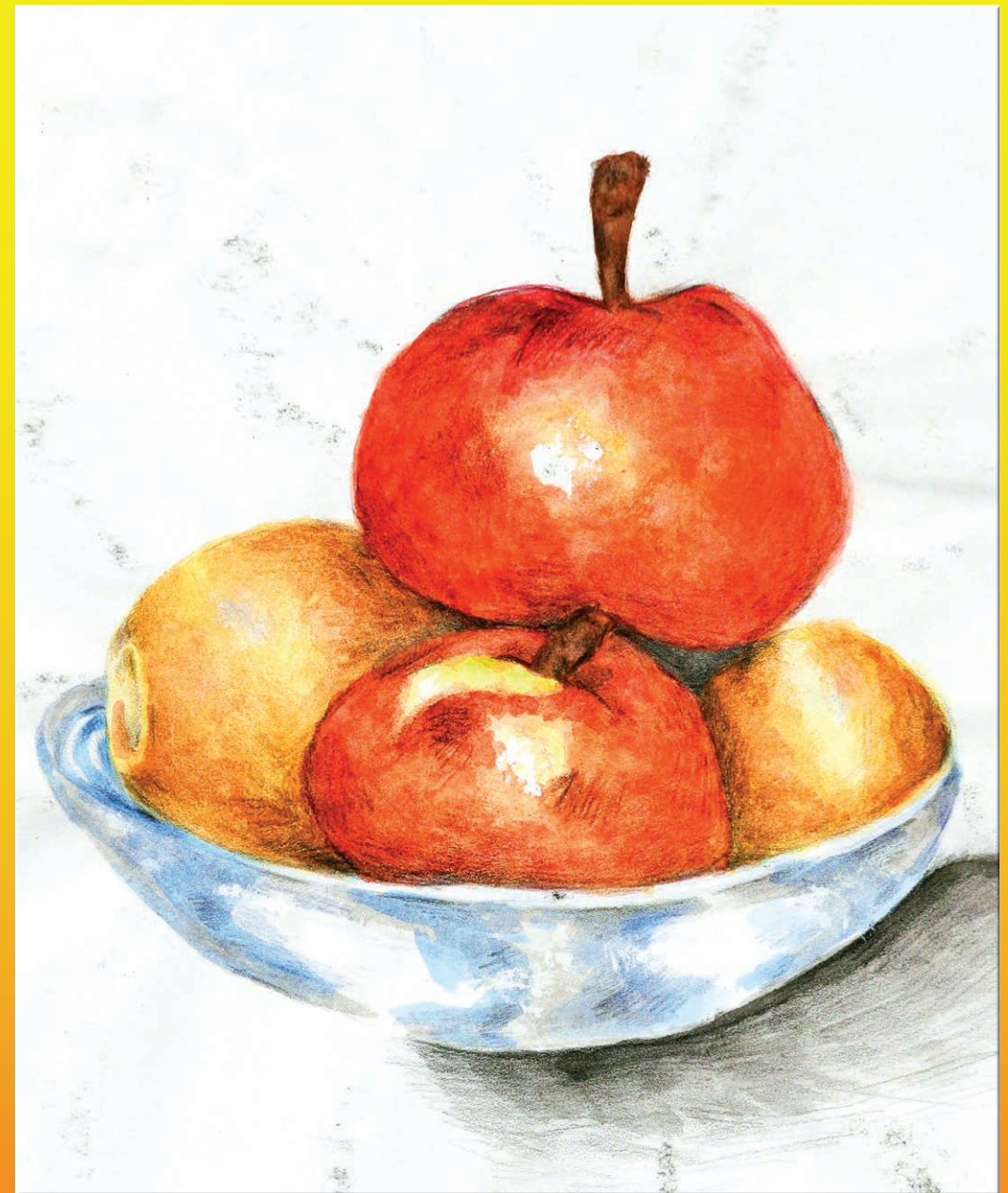
Parties interested in using the school buildings and facilities must complete an "Application for the use of School Facilities" which is available in the School Facilities department.

All schools are equipped with functioning Automated External Defibrillators (AED). It is required that all school sponsored events and activities provide a person trained in the proper use of AED's and be present for all permitted events. For outside and other permit holders this precaution is strongly recommended, but not required.

**For further information:  
School Facilities Management/  
Building Permits  
(914) 376-8060**

## AHERA Notice

In accordance with 40 CRF, 763.84c all school personnel and students (as well as their legal guardians) are notified of the District's continuing efforts to implement comprehensive Asbestos Management Plan (AMP) which documents all performed or planned asbestos related inspections, projects and response actions. The goal is to continue to maintain a healthy environment in our schools. A copy of the AMP for each school is available for public view in the respective main office as well as the District's Central Office in the School Facilities Management Department.



Amari Derry, Grade 10, Barack Obama School for Social Justice



# Interscholastic Athletics



Vismairely Fernandez Perez, Grade 11, Gorton High School

## General Information

A dynamic Interscholastic Athletic Program is vital to the educational and social development of students. The Yonkers Public Schools athletic program provides an environment where students develop sports skills, physical fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship and respect for others that will prepare them for success in their adult life. As team members, students are encouraged to face challenges, strive for excellence and become leaders.

Every effort is made to support the athletic program with the best facilities, uniforms, equipment and the most qualified coaching staff available. Coaches provide a sound, positive philosophy taught in a safe and healthy environment.

The opportunity to participate in our sports program is afforded to eligible secondary students in grades 7-12, as the budget allows. More than 2,000 students participate in the interscholastic athletic program under the direction and supervision of approximately 100 qualified and certified coaches.

## Eligibility Standards For Interscholastic Athletics

Before being permitted to try out, practice or participate in any interscholastic athletic activity, students must be enrolled in a Yonkers secondary school and fulfill each of the following requirements:

According to the Commissioner's Regulations, a pupil shall be eligible for inter-school competition in a sport during a semester provided that he/she is a bona fide pupil, enrolled during the first 15 days of the semester, is registered in the equivalent of four regular courses, and meets the physical education requirement.

### Practice Sessions

All student-athletes must participate in the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. required number of practices for that sport to be able to play in any athletic contest. Coaches are responsible for reviewing practice rules and for conducting practice sessions five or six days per week excluding game days.

## Interscholastic Athletic Start Dates and Registration

Fall Sports .....August 21, 2023  
Winter Sports .....November 13, 2023  
Spring Sports .....March 11, 2024

Registration for all interscholastic athletics will begin 30 days prior to the start of each season and must be completed by a parent/ guardian. Registration is now completed in digital format through FinalForms (<https://yonkers-ny.finalforms.com>) and must be completed prior to the start of each individual season. Student-athletes may only register to participate in one sport per season, for a total of three sports throughout the year.

## Medical Examination

Each student must have a medical examination from a New York State licensed physician or nurse practitioner and must obtain district medical approval to participate. All approvals for participation must indicate the sport or activity in which the student may participate.

## Health Status Review

Students must have a Health Status Review performed by the school nurse. The school nurse conducts an interview to update the student's health history unless a full medical examination has been given within the preceding thirty (30) days. Based on the results of the Health Status Review, a pre-physical and/or complete physical will be conducted whenever required. All information and questions related to this review are completed through FinalForms registration and must be updated prior to each season.

## Medical Disqualification

If a student is medically disqualified for participation in a given sport or activity, the examining physician must indicate the reasons for disqualification on the Physical Examination Form.

## Insurance

The school district's accident insurance coverage provides a fixed benefit schedule based on the nature of the injury. This coverage applies to all pupils engaged in school sponsored activities. This plan is a secondary, non-duplicating policy. If you have medical or dental insurance that covers your child, charges must be submitted to your primary insurance first. Submit the explanation of benefits or rejection from your carrier along with itemized bills to Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. The school office will give you information about the claim form, benefits, time limits and instructions.





Elira Rugova, Grade 7, Patricia A. DiChiaro School

### Attendance Requirements

Students absent from school may not practice or participate in athletics that day. Absences, cutting and lateness to class can result in the student being dropped from the team.

### Academic Eligibility Policy

Students must meet the following criteria to participate in interscholastic athletics:

1. Must have a 70% average on his or her report card for the previous marking period
2. Must maintain 90% attendance in all classes
3. Must adhere to the District's Code of Conduct for students
4. Must pass physical education

A student falling below in any of the above areas during the previous marking period will be placed on probation and may practice and play.

A bi-weekly review of their progress will be conducted by the Athletic Director and/or building administrator to determine participation status. The administrative liaison for athletics will review, verify and make the final determination with regard to playing status. If no improvement is evident, the student will be prohibited from playing until he or she meets the minimum requirements noted above.

Responsibility for maintaining academic achievement, attendance and conduct rests primarily with the student-athlete and the parent/guardian; coaches, teachers, guidance counselors and administrators all play important roles in the process.

Coaches periodically check and monitor the academic status of student-athletes and work cooperatively with teachers to improve academic performance. If coaches have concerns about any aspect of the student-athlete's academic commitment, they immediately collaborate with teachers and administrators.

The importance of academic achievement is stressed during team meetings and in individual sessions with student-athletes.

### Alcohol and Drug Policy

No student-athlete shall possess, use, transmit or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance, including anabolic steroids, or any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage or fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor, or possess, use or transmit drug paraphernalia or counterfeit drugs or possess, use, transmit or be under the influence of any other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior.

This policy shall apply to all student-athletes before, during and after school hours at the school, in any school building and on any school premises; on any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school sports activities, off school property at any school-sponsored activity, event or function; or during any period of time when student-athletes are subject to the authority of school personnel.

This policy shall not apply to the proper possession and use of prescription medication.

**For further information:**  
**Health, Physical Education & Athletics**  
**(914) 376-8292**



# Special Education

The Special Education Department offices are located at One Larkin Center, Yonkers, New York, 10701.

The Yonkers Public Schools provide a continuum of special education supports, services and programs to assist students with their unique needs.

**For further information:  
Special Education/Pupil Support Services  
(914) 376-8489**

## Knowing about Special Education

### Part 200 of the Commissioner's Regulations

These regulations inform parents and school districts of procedures that must be followed for students who may be identified, or who are already classified, as having an educational disability. They also include the definitions of the thirteen educational disabilities recognized under federal law, responsibilities of the District, school and Committee on Special Education, the continuum of services, and parents due process rights.

### Part 100 of the Commissioner's Regulations

These regulations focus on elementary and secondary general education programs. According to Section 100.2(s), "Each student with a disability ... shall have access to the full range of programs and services set forth in this Part to the extent that such programs and

services are appropriate to such student's special educational needs."

### Steps in the Special Education Process

If your preschool or school-age child is having difficulties in school, first talk to his or her teachers. Our schools offer a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for students within general education which include, but are not limited to: counseling, academic intervention services and instructional accommodations.

If you, the teacher and principal have not been able to help your child, despite multiple tiered interventions implemented over a reasonable period of time, your child may have a disability which affects his/her learning. You can make a referral to the Committee on Special Education or the Committee on Preschool Special Education.

A referral is a written statement asking for the school district to evaluate your child to determine if he/she needs special services. The written statement should be addressed to the Committee on Special Education, or Committee on Pre-School Special Education, including your child's name, current school and grade, date of birth, and a daytime phone number so that you may be contacted.

The referral also requires an original signature by you, the parent or guardian. This referral can also be made by your child's teacher, principal, or the Pupil Support Team at your child's school. Those referrals also require your written consent to evaluate. The completed referral should be mailed to: Committee on Special Education (or the Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as appropriate), Yonkers Public Schools, One Larkin Center, Yonkers, New York, 10701.



Alberta Bedeley, Grade 5, Cross Hill Academy





Alberta Bedeley, Grade 5, Cross Hill Academy

### **Committee on Special Education (CSE)**

The Committee on Special Education (CSE) is a team that includes a representative of the school district and the student's parent/guardian. Additional members may include a psychologist, a general education teacher and a special education teacher, and others as requested by the parent/guardian or the school district, depending on the type of meeting. Evaluations are reviewed by the team to determine if a student has an educational disability and is eligible for Special Education services. Should a student be found eligible, an Individual Education Program (IEP) is developed and services in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) are recommended.

### **Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE)**

Similar in composition to the CSE for school-age children, the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) is a multi-disciplinary team that determines whether a 3 or 4 year-old child is a "pre-school student with a disability (PWD)" and is eligible for Special Education services.

**For further information:**  
**CPSE Unit**  
**(914) 376-8173**

### **Parent Members of the Committee on Preschool or School Age Special Education**

Parents of students with disabilities are always needed to serve on the CPSE/CSE as parent members. They monitor the rights of children and serve as advocates for their interests. Please volunteer your services, especially if you are bilingual. Training is provided.

**For further information:**  
**CPSE Unit**  
**(914) 376-8173**

### **Individual Education Program (IEP)**

If the CSE determines that a student is eligible for Special Education services, the CSE members develop an Individual Education Program known as an IEP. This IEP must include the following:

- Present levels of performance and individual needs in four areas: Academic, Social, Physical Development, and Management Needs
- IDEA Disability Classification
- Measurable Annual Goals for assessing grade-level academic content standards
- Transition goals for students turning 15 years of age and older
- Recommended service(s)
- Projected date for initiation of Special Education services
- Testing Accommodations
- Special Transportation and other needs

**For further information:**  
**CSE Unit**  
**(914) 376-8209**

### **Student Program Recommendations Unit**

Children receive program recommendations for the least restrictive environment. Each child's IEP is reviewed annually to determine the need for continuation of services. As a result, some children may be declassified, but all children are assigned to the recommended class for the following school year.

**For further information:**  
**Student Program Recommendations**  
**(914) 376-8205**



# Pupil Support Services

Pupil Support Services assists students and parents by providing health, medical, psychological, social work, guidance, tutoring, and in-hospital services often in collaboration with community providers.

## Districtwide Screening Program

New York State law mandates that all newly enrolled students be screened to determine if they are potentially disabled, potentially gifted and/or Limited English Proficient. The Screening Program is designed to obtain preliminary information regarding a child's physical development (including vision, hearing and scoliosis); cognitive development; receptive and expressive language development; speech articulation skills; motor development (gross and fine motor skills); and assessment of English Proficiency for Limited English Proficient students.

Parents will be informed before this screening procedure takes place, generally by December 1st or within 15 days of enrolling in the Yonkers Public Schools.

## Section 504 Rehabilitation Act

Section 504 is a Federal Civil Rights Law ("the Act") that prohibits discrimination against persons with impairments. The Act protects individuals with a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activity. Major life activities include things such as caring for oneself, performing a manual task, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning and working. An individual must have a documented record of such impairment. Students in the general education population may be found eligible for accommodations under Section 504 if a major life activity is substantially limited by their physical or mental impairment. Examples of such impairments are: medical problems (asthma, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, etc.), Attention Deficit Disorder, behavioral difficulties not associated with emotional disturbance, temporary conditions such as a broken leg, arm, surgery or problems related to an accident or drug and/or alcohol dependency with certain exceptions. If parents feel their child is eligible for a Section 504 Accommodation they must submit a referral letter to the 504 Compliance Office. It must contain necessary identifying data related to the disability, as well as the nature of the request.

Procedures also are available for adult employees of the District who may be identified as disabled and may require appropriate accommodations in the workplace under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The ADA Compliance Officer will review the referral/request for accommodations and a meeting will be held. The request for reasonable workplace accommodations under ADA should be mailed to: Human Resources Department, ADA Compliance, Yonkers Public Schools, One Larkin Center, Yonkers, New York 10701.

## Home and Hospital

Home and Hospital instruction is available for all students who are homebound because of temporary disabilities/circumstances. Instruction requirements: elementary school - two (2) hours per day, each school day; secondary level - three (3) hours per day, each school day.

The parent must notify the Division of Pupil Support Services in writing, when a student needs home instruction. A completed application including physician statement, where indicated, must be filed for this service. The parent/guardian, or other responsible adult must be present during instruction.

**Pregnancy** - Students who are pregnant may attend school if the school nurse has on file a note from a private doctor or clinic which indicates the condition, the estimated due date, and that the student is well with an uncomplicated pregnancy. She may attend school until the end of her 8th month; alternative schooling arrangements will be made at that time.

Contact the Yonkers Public Schools Health Services Unit at (914) 376-8226 for an appointment, including review of medical documentation.

## Homeschooling

Parents may exercise their right to provide required instruction at home. Part 100.10 of the New York State Commissioner of Education's Regulations provides details as to both the parents' and District's responsibilities in this regard. Procedures and Guidelines for Homeschooling your child may be found on the District website [www.yonkerspublicschools.org](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org) under Pupil Support Services.

## Medication

In New York State, medicine (including over-the-counter medications) can be given in school only with a written physician's order. The order must include the patient's name, medication name, dose, and time(s) to be administered. The parent or guardian must also provide a written request and deliver medicine to the school in a pharmacy labeled container. Medication will not be administered in school if the physician's order indicates it can be administered during other than school hours.

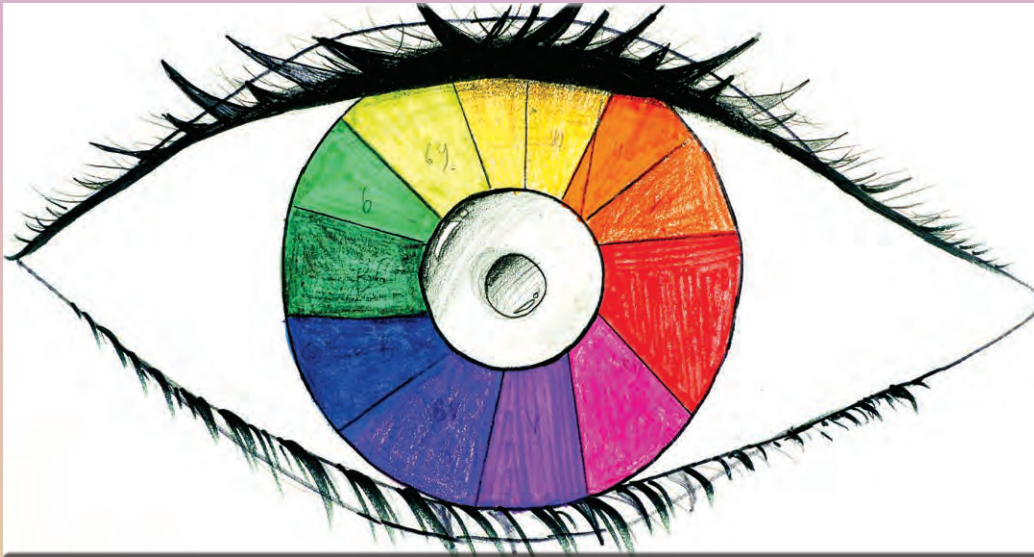
## Student Records Access

Parents of students under the age of 18, students 18 years or older, and legally emancipated minors, have the right to inspect and review their education records, including all material incorporated into their student folder. This right is assured under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).



Amy Sanchez Lopez, Grade 11, Gorton High School





Faith Bernice Sinco, Grade 6, Casimir Pulaski School

## New York State Required Student Immunizations PK-12

NYS Public Health law 2164 requires all students to be up-to-date with their immunizations within 2 weeks of the start of school. The following immunizations are required for school attendance:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus toxoid with Pertussis vaccine (DTP, DTaP, Tdap, Td), 4 or more doses for PreK-5th grade. At least 3 doses Grades 6-12.
- Tdap Vaccine is one dose for students in grades 6-12
- Trivalent Polio vaccine (IPV, OPV), 3 or more doses for PreK and above
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella, (MMR) 1 dose by PreK, a second dose must be administered to students in grades Kindergarten-12.
- Haemophilus Influenza Type B vaccine (Hib), 1-4 doses prior to entering PreK
- Pneumococcal vaccine (PCV), 1-4 doses prior to entering PreK
- Hepatitis B, 3 doses prior to entering PreK and 2 or 3 doses for students between the ages of 11 - 15
- Varicella Vaccine 1 dose for PreK, a second dose must be administered to students in grades Kindergarten - Grade 12.
- Meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) 1 dose for students in grades 7-11 and a second dose by 12th grade.

If you have an appointment scheduled for a vaccine it must be within the specific intervals outlined by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, (ACIP). You must show your appointment card to your school nurse.

Within 2 weeks of missing a NYS required vaccination your child will be excluded from school. There are no religious exemptions in NYS.

## Health Services

NYS Law requires health examinations for public school students entering the district for the first time, and in grades: Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 and at any grade level determined by school administration or school nurse, at their discretion to promote the educational and health interests of the student to participate in strenuous activity (for example including athletics, gym, recess and field trips), for working papers, and to conduct an initial evaluation or reevaluation of a student suspected or having a disability. All physicals must be documented on the NYS Required Form by the appropriate healthcare provider licensed in NYS.

All athletes must have a physical examination dated within 12 months of the start of the first month of practice. Registration is mandatory through the Final Forms website with required completion of a Health Status Questionnaire. All questions related to Final Forms should be directed to the Athletic Department. All student's health status will be reviewed and

cleared through the YPS Health Services office. Limited availability of sports examinations will be offered and students should always have a physical conducted by their own healthcare provider.

NYS Screenings for vision and hearing will be conducted for new entrants and grades: PreK or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11. Scoliosis screenings for grade 9 for boys and 5 and 7 for girls. Dental certificates will be requested annually.

## Working Papers

The Yonkers Public Schools issues working papers and replacement cards via an online process to youths 14 to 17 years of age. All information is available at the Yonkers Public Schools website, type "working papers" in search bar. Requirements include: the application signed by parent/legal guardian, proof of age, physical exam dated within 12 months, and all required vaccinations are in compliance with New York State. All are uploaded and submitted online to [workingpapers@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:workingpapers@yonkerspublicschools.org). Any questions may be directed to Health Services at (914) 376-8226.

## Pupil Support Services

Pupil Support services are available in all schools. The school-based Pupil Support Team is comprised of the psychologist, nurse, social worker, administrator(s), teacher(s) and school counselors, as appropriate. Pupil Support provides a variety of services to assist students, parents and staff. These include counseling, consultation, assessment, assistance with academic and social adjustment, prevention of attendance problems, liaison between the home, school and community and parent workshops. They deal with problems related to child neglect and/or abuse, substance abuse, pregnancy and emergency or crisis situations. The team members also conduct student risk assessments, consult with parents and teachers, and participate in Pupil Support Team meetings where indicated.

## Community Agency Involvement in Schools

The Yonkers Public Schools has established cooperative and collaborative working relationships with a number of community agencies. These provide a specialty service to the school district and address the multiple personal, social, emotional and physical needs of the student body and families.

Agencies working in the schools include:

- My Sister's Place - education and counseling on issues of domestic violence
- Spectrum - primary health care services and prevention education provided by St. Joseph's Medical Center.
- Spectrum offices are located in nurse's offices at Siragusa, Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, Jr. and de Hostos Schools
- Montefiore also provides primary care at Museum School 25 & Riverside High School
- Community Planning Council - employment opportunities for youth work program; school-based parent/family centers
- JCY-Westchester Community Partners - Reading Buddies; Students and Mature Adults Reading Together (SMART) Mentoring/Tutoring Program
- Andrus - The S.E.E.D. Program (Social and Emotional Enrichment and Development) provides screenings to all referred children; assesses the need for mental health treatment and appropriateness for services if indicated
- Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) - school-based comprehensive mental health services
- Student Assistance Services - Bullying Prevention Programs in the secondary schools
- Feeding Westchester provides nutritional resources to families
- The Guidance Center of Westchester - mental health assessments and treatments to students in schools
- CLUSTER, Inc. - Restorative Practices, peer mentor, peer to peer counseling training for students and staff

## Drug Prevention Programs

- Student Assistance Services - education, prevention and intervention services related to alcohol and other drug use/abuse in the secondary schools
- Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) also provide intervention services
- Health Education (K-12) - combining health education, drug and alcohol prevention education and AIDS education

**For further information:  
Special Education and Pupil Support Services  
(914) 376-8489**



# Yonkers Pathways to Success



Alejandra Alvarez, Grade 1, Ella Fitzgerald Academy

Designated as a New York State Education Department Literacy Zone, Yonkers Pathways to Success is located at:

**Vive School**  
**75 Riverdale Avenue**  
**Yonkers, New York 10701**

Comprehensive services for adult education students are provided at no cost. The components listed are integrated into a specialized program developed to meet the goals of individual participants.

## Program Features

- Literacy and Vocational classes
- Day Sessions at Vive and other district schools
- Evening Sessions at PEARLS/Hawthorne School and Enrico Fermi School
- Flexible Scheduling
- Distance Learning - NEDP
- Assessment/Prescriptive Testing
- Individualized Programming
- Guidance and Educational Services
- Computer Instruction
- Employment Preparation
- Job Placement Assistance
- Civic Readiness
- Newcomers Program
- NYS official GED testing site

## Adult Basic Education

### Basic Skills Instruction

This course of study concentrates on individual student goals, such as reading and mathematics improvement, vocabulary development and employment preparation.

### English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

This program assists adult participants who have difficulty speaking, reading, writing or understanding the English language. In addition to family and community living, there is an increased emphasis on incorporating workplace and vocational English into each participant's program.

## High School Diploma Programs

### Alternative High School Equivalency Preparation, 17 years old, out of school

The Program is designed to offer basic skills, GED (General Educational Development) instruction and career preparation to those students who have recently dropped out of high school. The flexible schedule includes sixteen hours per week of class instruction, counseling and work exploration. Students successfully completing this program are referred to the GED Exam.

### High School Equivalency Program

This program prepares students for the GED exam's testing areas: English language arts, reading and writing, social studies, science and math. The National Test for High School Equivalency GED (General Educational Development) assesses four subject areas, including Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA), Mathematical Reasoning, Science and Social Studies. It measures the examinee's level of achievement and readiness for college and the workforce, as outlined by the NYSED Learning Standards. We are an official NYS Test Site for GED.

### National External High School Diploma Program

This is a Distance Learning (computer-based assessment) program that is flexible and enables participants to apply the skills gained from life and work experiences to demonstrate high school level skills. Successful completion of the program leads to a High School Equivalency Diploma issued by the Board of Regents.

## Additional Services

## Workforce Preparation and Vocational Training

Mock interviews, resume preparation, job search and job placement are part of the employment services offered. Participants also have the opportunity to register on the NYS Department of Labor website "Job Zone." Schedules are adjusted to allow candidates to participate in these programs in addition to their literacy classes. Vocational training programs include Barbering, Computers, Carpentry, Culinary, Facilities Management, Medical Billing and Coding, Retail Trades and Home Health Aide. Programs are offered pending funding.

## Family Welcome Centers

Family Welcome Centers connect students and families with the identified community resources they need to meet the goals of daily living. These resources include social services, medical insurance, housing, food, immigration resources and more.

## MBK + and MSK + Chapter

Yonkers Pathways to Success is a proud site/chapter for My Brother's Keeper + and My Sister's Keeper +. This program is an initiative that supports and promotes men and women of color.

**For further information:**  
**Yonkers Pathways to Success**

**(914) 376-8600**

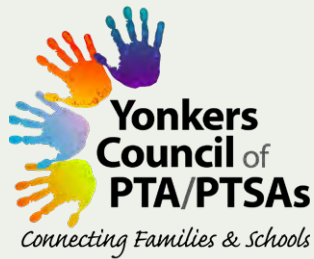
**Monday through Friday**

**8:00 AM – 3:30 PM**

**[pathwaysinfo@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:pathwaysinfo@yonkerspublicschools.org)**

**[www.yonkerspublicschools.org/vive](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/vive)**





### YCPTA Executive Board Meetings

All PTAs must be represented at each meeting. Principals are members of the Executive Board as well.

- 9/18 Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Saunders Trades & Technical H.S. - Library  
183 Palmer Road
- 10/14 School of Instruction  
PTA Training, 9:00 a.m.  
PEARLS Hawthorne School - Cafeteria  
350 Hawthorne Avenue
- 11/13 Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Casimir Pulaski School  
150 Kings Cross
- 12/11 Holiday Dessert Reception  
Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Board of Education - One Larkin Center
- 1/8 Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Barack Obama School for Social Justice  
201 Palisade Avenue
- 3/11 Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Lincoln High School  
375 Kneeland Avenue
- 4/8 Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Westchester Hills School 29  
47 Croydon Road
- 4/25 YCPTA Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner  
6:30 p.m. – TBA
- 5/16 YCPTA Citizenship/Scholarship Awards  
Ceremony/Executive Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Saunders Trades & Technical H.S.  
Angelo E. Paradiso Auditorium  
183 Palmer Road
- 6/10 Year-End Dessert Reception  
Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Board of Education - One Larkin Center

# Yonkers Council of Parent Teacher Associations

The Yonkers Council of Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) are members of the Westchester East Putnam Regional PTA, New York State PTA, and National PTA. All these organizations are dedicated to improving and expanding educational opportunities for children and public education by working with families, the community, and businesses. Individual school PTAs and PTSAs join to form the Yonkers Council of PTA/PTSA, which serves as a forum for exchanging ideas and learning new leadership techniques and is a strong venue for advocacy.

Each of the Yonkers Public Schools is represented by a PTA unit. Meetings are held by each school according to a schedule set by its executive board in conjunction with the board's bylaws.

The mission of PTA:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children.
- To assist parents in developing skills they need to raise and protect their children.
- To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation. PTA is primarily an advocacy group in all areas of our children's education because we always believe, "Our Children Deserve Better."

The Council's Executive Board meetings are held once a month at different schools across Yonkers. YCPTA's "Let's Chat with the Superintendent" was created for the purpose of providing a platform that allows the Superintendent of Schools to update Yonkers families on the state of the schools, as well as provide an opportunity for families to ask questions. Let's Chat with the Superintendent is held during the school year, in both English and Spanish.

The YCPTA executive board is composed of the seven elected officers, the president of each unit, the committee chairs, the council delegate from each unit and the principal from each unit. All meetings are open to the public and each PTA unit must be represented.

**JOIN THE PTA** at your child's school! A membership letter will go home from the school's PTA within the first few weeks of school in September. If you do not receive one, contact your school's office for the name and phone number of the PTA president. There are many ways to get involved, even if you do not have much time. It is statistically proven that when parents are involved in their child's education, the child has a higher achievement level in school.

### 2023-2024 YCPTA/PTSA Officers

*Please look to [yonkerspublicschools.org](http://yonkerspublicschools.org) for the latest updated information on YCPTA officers and meeting dates.*

#### President

Robin Brumfield  
(914) 623-2192  
[rbrumfield@ycpta.org](mailto:rbrumfield@ycpta.org)

#### 1st Vice President

Brenda Cardoza  
(914) 803-9975  
[bcardoza@ycpta.org](mailto:bcardoza@ycpta.org)

#### 2nd Vice President

Amy Vaccaro  
(914) 484-4469  
[avaccaro@ycpta.org](mailto:avaccaro@ycpta.org)

#### 3rd Vice President

Joane Lasky  
(347) 582-7897  
[jlasky@ycpta.org](mailto:jlasky@ycpta.org)

#### Treasurer

Helena Marji  
(914) 512-7401  
[hmarji@ycpta.org](mailto:hmarji@ycpta.org)

#### Corresponding Secretary

Virginia Williams  
(646) 938-9884  
[vwilliams@ycpta.org](mailto:vwilliams@ycpta.org)

#### Recording Secretary

Doreen Campbell  
(914) 629-6814  
[dcampbell@ycpta.org](mailto:dcampbell@ycpta.org)

#### Past President

Carmen Goodstein  
(646) 265-8939  
[cgoodstein@ycpta.org](mailto:cgoodstein@ycpta.org)

### Yonkers Special Education PTA (YSEPTA)

YCPTA email: [YCPTA@ycpta.com](mailto:YCPTA@ycpta.com)

YCPTA website: [yonkerspublicschools.org/ycpta](http://yonkerspublicschools.org/ycpta)

YCPTA phone number: (914) 295-2454

YCPTA Facebook: [YonkersCouncilPTA](https://www.facebook.com/YonkersCouncilPTA)

YCPTA Twitter: [@YonkersCPTA](https://twitter.com/YonkersCPTA)

YCPTA Instagram: [@yonkerscpta](https://www.instagram.com/yonkerscpta)

YSEPTA Email: [ysept.information@gmail.com](mailto:ysept.information@gmail.com)

YSEPTA Facebook: [ysepta2019](https://www.facebook.com/ysept2019)

YSEPTA Instagram: [ysepta2020](https://www.instagram.com/ysept2020)

YSEPTA Twitter: [@YonkersSEPTA](https://twitter.com/YonkersSEPTA)

Please contact the YCPTA to assist you with any PTA questions and/or concerns.





Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE) is a nonprofit organization that partners with students to ensure they are ready for, enroll in, and complete college. YPIE provides students and families with access to the critical tools and services necessary for college success.

More than 1,200 students each year are involved in YPIE from across the Yonkers Public High Schools. Yonkers students can join YPIE as:

- **YPIE Scholars:** Starting in 9th grade, YPIE Scholars receive academic preparation and enrichment, life coaching from adult mentors, college application services, and support from the YPIE community.
- **YPIE Fellows:** Starting in 11th grade, YPIE Fellows receive support with the college application and financial aid process.

YPIE students also have the opportunity to receive support as they transition from high school and navigate college.

YPIE has a large community of more than 250 volunteers that mentor and support our YPIE students throughout high school. To learn more about how you or your family can be involved in YPIE, visit [ypie.org](http://ypie.org).

**Yonkers Partners in Education**  
**92 Main Street, Suite 101**  
**Yonkers, NY 10701**  
**Phone (914) 377-4882**

# Notification of Rights

## Access to, Correction of and Release of Student Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal, or appropriate school official, a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.

Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the Yonkers Public Schools discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

**Family Policy Compliance Office**  
**U.S. Department of Education**  
**400 Maryland Avenue, SW**  
**Washington, DC 20202-5901**



The Yonkers Basics movement is inspired by the fact that 80% of brain development happens in the first three years of life. During this period, skill gaps between socio-economic, racial, and ethnic groups become clearly apparent. This does not need to be!

Everyday interactions between children, their parents, and other caregivers provide abundant opportunities to give children from every background an equal start in life.

Yonkers Basics are powerful ways that every family can give every child a great start in life. The Basics is a set of five easy and nurturing practices that stimulate brain growth in children from birth to age three. These practices help parents and caregivers of young children thrive cognitively, physically, socially and emotionally and enter school ready to learn.

- Maximize Love, Manage Stress
- Talk, Sing, and Point
- Count, Group and Compare
- Explore Through Movement and Play
- Read and Discuss Stories

All children deserve to have a great start in life so they can grow, learn and thrive from birth through adulthood. Everyone who works with families and young children should be involved. There are many excellent, established groups working with Yonkers' families including parents, caregivers, teachers, librarians, clergy, hospitals, health care centers, community centers, community providers and colleges.

**For further information:**  
**Division of Equity and Access,**  
**Curriculum, Instruction, School Supervision**  
**(914) 376-8066**





## Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the United States Department of Education:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parent; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under state law.



Jenifer Cuellar Gaspar, Grade 11, Lincoln High School

The school district has procedures in place regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

**Family Policy Compliance Office**  
**U.S. Department of Education**  
**400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20202-5901**

## Directory Information

The school district may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without prior written consent, unless written notification is on file with the school principal. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the school district to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school and District publications, on the District's website and television station, and in media print, electronic and broadcast outlets. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- School or district programs;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want the school district or your child's school to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify your child's principal in writing by September 30. Your request will be effective throughout the school year and must be renewed annually.

The following is directory information:

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic District mail address
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

**For further information:**  
**Research, Evaluation & Reporting**  
**(914) 376-8232**



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Jeffrey Sanchez, Grade 8, Cesar E. Chavez School

## Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Yonkers City School District does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, age, marital status, partnership status, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, sexual orientation, gender (sex), gender identity, military status, veteran status, domestic violence victim status or political affiliation, and additionally does not discriminate against students on the basis of weight, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, and religious practices or any other basis prohibited by New York state and/or federal non-discrimination laws in employment or its programs and activities. The District provides equal access to community and youth organizations. Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies as well as inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 should be directed to:

**Civil Rights Compliance Officer**  
**One Larkin Center, 2nd Floor**  
**Yonkers, New York 10701**  
**(914) 377-6045**  
**civilrightscompliance@**  
**yonkerspublicschools.org**