

New Voices

School of Academic & Creative Arts



M.S. 443

330- 18th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11215
(718) 965-0390

Frank Giordano
Principal

Laurie Cianciotta/Angela Lopez
Assistant Principals

MISSION STATEMENT

Strengthened by the diversity of our school community, we believe that each child has the potential to meet high standards. With a deep commitment to the arts, New Voices strives to provide quality, academically rigorous, and developmentally appropriate standards-based instruction through integrated teaching practices that are experiential, child-centered, and project-based. With the support of strong parent involvement and community partnerships, we create an environment that nurtures the soul artistically and academically. An ongoing, teacher-driven professional development program inspires a commitment to learning and ensures a sustainable future for all our students.

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

New Voices School of Academic & Creative Arts was created as an academy through a grant from the Annenberg Foundation. New Voices started with a small staff and equally small student body. The intent was to establish a small middle school that was committed to the teaching of humanities and the arts in a nurturing, intimate environment. Since that time, New Voices has grown in staff, student body, and educational philosophy. New Voices continues to provide a challenging educational environment in which instruction in all the core academic subjects are infused and enhanced by the integration of the visual, performing, and literary arts. New Voices provides an arts education together with a comprehensive, academically rigorous curriculum. We work to nurture and develop the intellectual potential as well as the creative potential of each student. Our arts program is designed to not only develop the talent and knowledge of our students, but to also rouse their artistic and intellectual passions. Children who are exposed to standards-based instruction in the arts become more intelligent, disciplined, and well-rounded human beings.

Our goals for all students center on: High Standards, Personal Expectations, Discipline, and Creative Risk-taking. These are the elements needed for success in learning and in life.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

School Phone

(718) 965-0390

Frank Giordano, Principal ----- Room 317

Laurie Cianciotta, Assistant Principal ----- Room 310

Angela Lopez, Assistant Principal-----Room 310

Dina Miller, Guidance Counselor-----Room 310

School Based Support Team-----Room 217

Enid Parra, Parent Coordinator -----Room 310

Liz Gifford, School Secretary-----Main Office

Special Events

Our school hosts a variety of special events throughout the school year including the following:

School Pictures - Pictures are taken annually during the early fall. Information about these occasions will be sent home in advance.

Other Special Events and Activities - As our school continues to grow, so do the frequency and types of special events. Special events may include PTA fundraising activities (i.e. Candy Sales, Bake Sales, etc...), Book Fairs, Arts Showcases, and Art Exhibits. These events are important because they help our families get to know each other and build school community.

Administration

Frank Giordano, Principal Rm 317

fgiorda@schools.nyc.gov

Laurie Cianciotta, Assistant Principal Rm 310

lcianci@schools.nyc.gov

Angela Lopez, Assistant Principal Rm 310

alopez8@schools.nyc.gov

Main Office

School Secretary

Liz Gifford

Main Office

Parent Coordinator

Enid Parra Rm 310

eparra2@schools.nyc.gov

School Aide, Olga Nunez Rm 310

onunez@schools.nyc.gov

Guidance

Dina Miller Rm 310

dmiller16@schools.nyc.gov

Support Services

Maria Germino

Speech

Ghazi Albuliwi

ESL/Gym

Teachers

Subject

Grade

Catherine Tappitake

Humanities

6th

Missy Hart

Humanities

6th

Patricia Tanzosh

Humanities

6th

Miriam Holmes

Humanities

6th

Traci Piscopia

Humanities

6th

Lauren Hermann

Humanities

6th

Megan Man

Humanities

7th

Francesca Gomes

Humanities

7th

New Voices Dress Code Policy

Michael Freese	Mathematics	6 th
Victor Mejia	Mathematics	6 th
Allison Klein	Mathematics	7 th
James McDonagh	Mathematics	7 th
Steven Koutsavlis	Mathematics	7 th
Layla Kraus	Mathematics	8 th
Joseph Baffuto	Mathematics	8 th
Joshua Kahn	Mathematics	8 th
Susan Rose	Science	6 th
Cherise Windbish	Science	7 th
Michael Brocco	Science	8 th
Tim O'Neal	Science	8 th
Sarah Kahn	Chorus	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Michael Kerr	Dance	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Adele DiRenzo	Theater	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Kelsey Herrity	Visual Arts	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Keri Eisenberg	Graphic Arts	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Jeremy Burnworth	STEM	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Sean Nason	French	8 th

The following guidelines are for school and all school activities and events:

Pants must be worn at the waist.

Shirts may not have inappropriate messages or words.

Clothes must sufficiently conceal undergarments at all times. Students are prohibited from wearing fabric that is sheer such as see-through lace and fishnet. They also may not wear low cut tops or clothes that bare midriffs such as tube tops.

Excessively short skirts or shorts are prohibited. (The length of the skirts or shorts should reach a student's fingertips when their arms are resting straight down by their side).

Clothes with holes in inappropriate areas are prohibited.

No hats are to be worn in school.

Homework - Most teachers will assign homework on a daily basis. Homework is intended to reinforce and extend the instruction of the day. It is the responsibility of the parent to monitor and assist where and when necessary. Questions about homework should be directed to your child's teacher.

Food and Nutrition - All students eat lunch in the school cafeteria. Lunch applications are sent home every year and it is important that you complete these forms and return them. The school offers both free breakfast and free lunch with a variety of choices. Students who eat breakfast at school may enter the building at 8:00 am.

Field Trips - Field trips are planned to enhance and support the school curriculum. All students and parents will be notified well in advance of a planned trip. Students must have written consent from a parent/legal

prescription, must be administered in the nurse's office. Medication must be brought to school by a parent and labeled for the intended student. All medications must be in the original containers. Students are not permitted to maintain prescription and non-prescription medications.

Metro cards - Metro cards are issued twice a year in September and February. Eligibility for a full or half fare card is based on the student's traveling distance to and from school and home. If a Metro card is lost or damaged, students must come to Room 310 to complete the form and will be issued a new card on Friday of that week.

Lost and Found - Students should first check all their classrooms and the box located in the cafeteria before going to Room 310. Please be sure to have your name written on your items so that they can be returned.

Rules and Regulations

School Rules - Our students will follow the guidelines outlined below:

- Treat everyone with respect.
- Do all your work to the best of your ability.
- Walk and act appropriately in the halls, stairwells and lunchroom
- Respect school property and equipment.
- Keep all areas of the school neat and clean.
- No candy or gum chewing in the **school building and yards**.
- Sports equipment, electrical devices and other valuable personal items should not be brought to school.

Cell phones must be off (not vibrate or silent) and not visible for the duration of the school day except in the cafeteria during lunchtime. Students may lis-

School Leadership Team

School Leadership Team is made up of school administrators, PTA officers, parents, teachers, and school staff. The team meets monthly to look at school concerns such as parent involvement, building maintenance, security, and other school issues as they arise.

Parent Association (PA)

The PA encourages all parents to actively participate in the school community activities. The PA serves as a vital liaison between the home and school by providing information and communication. The PA also supports the school in many other ways through the funding of support services and resources. The work of the PA is accomplished through parent committees organized around specific needs to improve, develop and support the education of our students. All parents are invited to join and become active partners in the education of their children.

Supporting Our Students

In order to meet the needs of the "whole child" we support our students emotionally, socially, and academically. By providing the service of a full-time guidance counselor, the emotional needs of our students are addressed.

Addressing the Specific Needs of English Language Learners

To assist our second language learners, our ENL program provides both push-in and pull-out services. Working with classroom teachers and teaching artists, the ENL staff develops programs that develop English language skills throughout the grades.

Communication

General Information -

School and PA newsletters, New Voices' Facebook page, school website (newvoicesbrooklyn.org), calendar of events, and special event notices are sent home on a regular basis via **Pupil Path** as well as hard copies in student backpacks. You will be able to email individual teachers using Pupil Path as well as administration.

Student Progress - Communication regarding your child's progress is extremely important to both the home and the school. We provide a formal report card four times during the course of the academic year. Teachers also use **Pupil Path** Online grading system in which you will have access to your child's progress on a daily basis. Please make every effort to attend parent-teacher conferences and be sure to sign all report cards and return them to school in a timely manner.

Arrival and Dismissal

School Hours - School will be in session from 8:15 am until 2:35 pm. We operate on an eight period day with the instructional schedule as follows:

Homeroom	8:15- 2:35
Period 1	8:30 - 9:15
Period 2	9:15 - 10:00
Period 3	10:00- 10:45
Period 4	10:45 - 11:30
Period 5	11:30 - 12:15
Period 6	12:15 - 1:00
Period 7	1:00 -1:45
Period 8	1:45 -2:30
Homeroom	2:30- 2:35

Attendance - Regular attendance is critical for student success. However, we do recognize that there are times when an absence from school cannot be avoided. If your child is absent, please send a note to your child's teacher, explaining their absence, upon their return.

Lateness - Students should report to homeroom by 8:15 am. Teachers begin to take attendance once the class is settled into homeroom. Students who arrive late must sign the late book. Signing the late book ensures that the student's attendance will be corrected. Any student late more than 6 times during a marking period will not be eligible for honor roll.

Emergency Procedure Cards - Each student must have an emergency procedure card (blue card) on file in the main office. Please complete this card and return it to school as soon as possible at the beginning of each school year. It is also important that you update this card in the event of any address or telephone number changes. It is our policy to notify you in

***THIS LOG CAN BE DOWNLOADED ON
SCHOOL WEBSITE***

**NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY
New Voices NJHS Service Log**

Name: _____

Students: Use this log to keep track of your service hours completed. Please use a different sheet for each service activity. If you do multiple days with the same organization/group, you can use the same sheet and list multiple days.

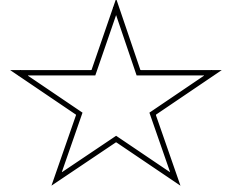
Please fill out the following log to track your service hours

Activity/Organization	Date	Hours	Supervisor signature

Total Hours: _____

Describe your service activity below:

Honor Roll Criteria



Gold Honor Roll

Overall 90% Average;

Each subject grade 90% or above

(87% for Algebra and/or Living Environment Regents Class)

Satisfactory Conduct

Less than 7 times late

Silver Honor Roll

Overall 85% Average

Each subject grade 80% or above

Criteria for the National Junior Honor Society

Scholarship: 1st Quarter Gold or Silver Honor Roll
2nd Quarter Gold Honor Roll
3rd Quarter Gold Honor Roll

Service: This quality is defined as the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community.

Leadership: Student leaders are often viewed as those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, involved in and promoters of school activities, idea contributors, dependable, and persons who are both organized and good organizers.

Citizenship: The student who demonstrates citizenship understands the importance of civic involvement. Students show participation and responsibility through involvement in community organizations.

Character: The student of good character can be said to be one who upholds principles of morality and ethics; is cooperative and responsible; demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability; shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others; and maintains a positive outlook.

To be nominated in the National Junior Honor Society students must meet the academic requirements. Acceptance is then based upon the successful fulfillment of the community service requirement and the essay. Students must perform at least 12 hours of voluntary services with a community service organization (not for profit) with no monetary compensation and/or approved school activity. This may include volunteer work at:

Examples of Community organizations

nursing homes, animal shelters, soup kitchens, hospitals, religious organizations, volunteer work in local elementary schools, meals on wheels, Boy/Girl Scouts

Examples of School Activities

NV tech team, school musical, auditions/interviews, assisting NV teachers (before/after school or lunch), Green Team, helping with food/clothing drives, yearbook staff

Academic Requirement to be nominated:

1st Quarter – Silver or Gold Honor Roll

2nd Quarter – Gold Honor Roll

3rd Quarter – Gold Honor Roll

Community Service requirement: Minimum of 2 hours per month. (November through April). See attached.

Essay: Completion of essay to be read by a committee of staff and parents.