



Successful Terrific Achieving Remarkable Students

December 1, 2020

Dear Fifth Grade Parent/Guardian:

We would like to thank you for your support here at P.S. 85. We understand that this fall has presented many challenges, which has resulted in changes in how we now approach the middle school admission's process. To ensure ample time for families to explore schools and apply once the application launches, the Middle School Enrollment department has updated their timeline. Below is some initial information about this year's admissions process:

- **This year's application deadline will be later than the traditional early December 4th deadline.** At present, the middle school application is not open. **This will ensure that** families have enough time to learn about school options.
 - Families can explore options through the [MySchools Directory](https://www.myschools.nyc/en/schools/middle-school/). **See URL link below:** <https://www.myschools.nyc/en/schools/middle-school/>
- **Later this fall, Welcome Letters will be available before the application opens.**
 - Each Welcome Letter has instructions on creating a **MySchools account**, and the account creation code that lets parents link their child to their account.
 - Welcome Letters will be mailed directly to all families; elementary school staff may also provide them to families.
- **After Welcome Letters are distributed to families, the application will then open.**
 - At that time, families will then be able to access their personalized application, rank up to 12 program choices, and submit their application up until the application deadline.
 - As in past years, families may also elect to submit their application through their elementary school.
- **This year, due to budget priorities, the [middle school directory](#) and admissions guide will exist exclusively in a virtual format, and will not be printed.**
 - The [MySchools Directory](#) contains all the information about middle schools that was previously in printed admissions guides.



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- As the application opens, families may learn about the admissions process on the [Middle School Admission's website](#). See URL below:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/middle-school>

On the website families can both read an admissions guide and watch videos explaining the admissions process.

- Additional resources will be developed and distributed digitally, as well as through elementary schools.
- **Open Houses and Fairs**
 - We know that open houses and fairs have served as a key way for families to learn about school options and the admissions process, and the Middle School Enrollment Team is committed to continuing this tradition even while many families are remote. They're developing resources for middle schools to hold virtual open houses so that families can learn about school options.

If you have additional questions, we encourage families to do the following:

- [Sign up for the middle school admissions email list](#) by using the URL link below:
<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/sign-up>
- Explore school options online in the [MySchools middle school directory](#)
- Visit the [middle school website](#) where families can find the latest updates

As always, we thank you for your partnership, and we will continue to be in touch with additional resources and updates. Please feel free to respond to this information with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
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