

2021-2022 Virtual Open House Thursday January 27th, 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and students,
Welcome to I.S. 303- A place where children come first, There Are No Excuses! This is the platform on which our entire school community operates. I hope that these 10 pages will provide a glimpse of all that we have to offer; all that class of 2025 (Your children) will get to experience in the next 3 years. We are so excited to welcome you into that I.S. 303 family of teachers and learners. The diversity of our families is second to none, and it is what makes us so rich. Your voice, as parents, is as important to us as the voices of all our students and teachers. We invite you to join/ support the PTA, and collaborate with your teachers as we create a strong, cohesive working unit together.

Sincerely,
Carmen N. Amador

I.S. 303 Mission

We exist to benefit students, staff, parents and the outside members of our community. The administration and teachers in our school are committed to providing the best possible education for all our students, meeting individual needs so that we can all succeed to the best of our abilities. We are devoted as a school community to fully realize our ability to think critically, problem solve and make good decisions to be successful in our school community, society and the world beyond. Our students have always made us proud and we are invested in seeing high standards of excellence continue through leadership and service.

It is our firm belief that all students can reach their full academic and social potential with the support of school, family and friends. By displaying the 7 habits and by becoming one working cohesive unit, our students will be successful in school and in life.

I.S. 303 Administrative Team

Principal: Carmen N. Amador

Assistant Principals: Audrey Houston & Evan Rabinowitz

CURRICULUM AT A GLANCE



SCIENCE - Here at I.S. 303, students investigate concepts in Earth, Life and Physical Sciences. Students engage in "hands on" investigations through our partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Students are asked to solve challenges that have real life impact involving environmental elements and the world around them.

SOCIAL STUDIES - The Arts Engage Initiative provides a unique opportunity for our school to enrich arts and academic teaching & learning in the social studies content. The program follows a cohort of sixth grade students as they move through their middle school years. Additionally, it will track the progress of future sixth grade classes. The arts support the comprehensive and rigorous social studies standards to ensure that our students are developing a deep understanding of key concepts in the NYS Social Studies Scope and Sequence.

ELA - myPerspectives is a blended print and digital integrated curriculum that promotes student ownership of their learning through goal-setting, student choice, and reflection. The program encourages social collaboration and links together knowledge, skills and learning behaviors. The curriculum is designed to support defined learning outcomes with activities, instruction, and assessments—always feeding back to the Performance Tasks and Performance-Based Assessment.

In **myPerspectives** students:

- read classic and contemporary texts that span time periods and cultures;
- engage in meaningful activities that inspire thoughtful conversation, discussion, and debate;
- share ideas and collaborate on projects;
- develop important lifelong skills to help them think critically, build knowledge, effectively communicate, and strategically use technology in order to formulate and defend their own perspectives.

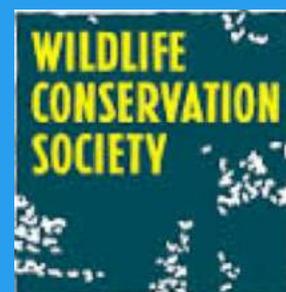
MATH - This year we are excited to be utilizing Go Math! in conjunction with EngageNY and other Common Core aligned resources in order to deliver instruction that meets the needs of our diverse learners. GO Math! at both the elementary and middle school levels combines 21st-century educational technology with modern content, dynamic interactivities, and a variety of instructional videos to engage today's digital natives. Every student is supported through the universal access features of the program as they learn to think critically and apply their math knowledge. Our lessons are designed to build procedural and conceptual fluency through the application of the Mathematical Practice Standards. Each lesson is crafted to help students make connections between the concepts they are learning and how they are applied in the real world. By adding Go Math! to our curriculum, both students and parents will have access to online materials including instructional videos, guided practice and additional problems. In addition to online materials students will also receive a consumable, soft cover textbook.

CURRICULUM AT A GLANCE continued

LAW COURT - The Herbert S Eisenberg Law Court Program is unique to District 21. Students learn Civics, Government Structure, and the legal process, with a practical application toward mediation. Students actively engage in a fully functioning courtroom by preparing briefs, interviewing witnesses and rendering decisions. This is an excellent introduction for those considering or aspiring to a career in Law Studies.

MUSIC - Our Music Program serves as a resource for the development of musical knowledge, musical skills, aesthetic exploration, attitude development, and provides for the personal growth of each individual student. Our students learn music theory, music history and perform in the I.S. 303 JAZZ BAND. They serve as the opening act for our annual drama performances, and they perform at the Annual Brooklyn Borough President's Showcase.

DANCE - Our curriculum focuses on the study of the Elements of Dance, Ballet, and Tap Dance. Students learn basic skills and techniques to begin their dance education, as well as dance history and theory. Students participate in a several dance productions, both inside and outside of the school.



CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

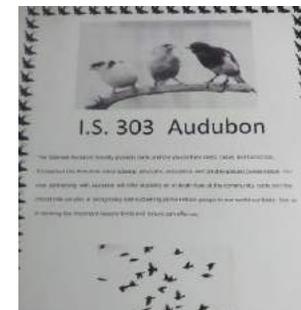


Adolescents who participated in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities were reported to have higher grades, more positive attitudes toward school, and higher academic aspirations. Here at I.S. 303, we are proud to have a wide variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular programs designed to provide our students with added opportunities to develop their social-emotional skills. They are encouraged to manage their own experiences by exerting personal control over their environment and acting autonomously in a safe and supervised environment. In addition to a Jazz Band, and Law Court, we invite our incoming 6th graders (the Class of 2023) to join in the following clubs and activities.

Social Studies through News Broadcasting



Unity Understanding New Ideas Through Your Voices



Welcome to the Going Green Club!

I'm excited to have you join me on the journey of exploring different ways to sustain the environment. In the Going Green Club, we share commonalities in that we love science and we're passionate about looking after our planet. We believe everyone has right to enjoy the beauty of Earth.

We all know about the pressures that human activity places on the climate, but many of us feel insignificant in the grand scheme of things. The Going Green Club gives us the opportunity to contribute our thoughts and ideas toward making a change for the better while having fun!

Together, we will plan and design activities, utilize data, and implement a hands-on approach towards sustainability. So, if saving our planet is up your alley then the Going Green Club is the place for you!

Sincerely,
Ms. Scanlon



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AT I.S. 303

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Students engage in "hands on" investigations through our partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). They work collaboratively to solve challenges that have real life impact involving environmental elements and the world around them.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Through our partnership with Stony Brook University, at I.S. 303 we believe that children have the ability to use critical thinking skills to judge the reliability and credibility of news reports and information sources. Through our News Literacy Program we immerse the students in current news and events happening in and around their community and allow the students to understand how to read and evaluate the ideas critically.

SEAPERCH

Our students are also involved in a partnership with the NAVY. The work done with the NAVY supports our STEM initiative through SEAPERCH. Students are utilizing their engineering and mathematical skills to build an underwater ROV that can meet challenges and compete in obstacles courses. Students come together to form their blueprint and design their robot to meet the challenges set by the NAVY in the annual SEAPERCH competition. Our SEAPERCH team has won first and second prizes every year since.

CENTER FOR ARTS ENGAGE

One Social Studies program that is offered at I.S. 303 is through the Center for Arts Engage. The Arts Engage Initiative provides a unique opportunity for our school to enrich arts and academic teaching and learning. The program follows a cohort of sixth grade students as they move through their middle school years, as well as track the progress of future sixth grade classes. The arts support the rigorous and comprehensive social studies standards we follow to ensure the students are developing a deep understanding of key concepts in the Scope and Sequence of NYS.

CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION (CEI)

CEI is a nonprofit education organization located in New York City whose mission is to make the school the center and driving force of public education reform and innovation. Our partnership with CEI allows us to design student-centered environments that bring the wealth of NYC's cultural life to our students. This year our students and parents were able to experience a variety of cultures through food, by visiting different ethnic restaurants. Additionally, again in family units of student and a parent, many of our students got a chance to experience Broadway, as we saw Get On Your Feet.

MOLLOY COLLEGE - SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE

Our teachers participate and share critical information with our students that they learn at the The Molloy College Sustainability Institute. This partnership prepares our teachers to engage our students in sustaining our planet. One of the projects our students took on this year was school-wide recycling. As the GoGreen Club, they acquired and set up three bin recycling stations on each floor, and this effort won them National Recognition.

CURRICULUM AT A GLANCE continued from page 3

DRAMA DEPARTMENT



Welcome!

Welcome to the Department of Theatre Arts at I.S. 303. We are a vibrant, thriving, and energetic department that focuses on the creative energies of our students. Our main stage season provides opportunities for you to act, learn about all aspects of design, and explore the skills required by technical theatre. We provide opportunities for students to enjoy the rich cultural offerings of the Big Apple, from Broadway to Off-Off-Broadway through our program.



Recent studies show that a theatre education prepares your child not only for a career in the arts, but also many other professions that are currently hiring. Employers are looking for leaders, who are creative, know how to collaborate, solve problems, and communicate effectively. Our project-based curriculum gives you ample opportunity to develop these skills in a safe and nurturing environment. Please join us! See Mr. Young for your application and details.

DIGITAL ART MEDIA -

This is a truly innovative program at I.S. 303 where students use several professional layout and design programs, including Final Cut Pro, and Adobe Photoshop to create and edit professional quality photo and video. Students use their creative and technological knowledge to assemble a paper and digital school yearbook. This program provides a great opportunity for students interested in pursuing media arts and/or film production as a hobby or career in the future.

ART - This program is designed to develop artistic and academic excellence. The curriculum provides hands-on experience, and promotes the creative, aesthetic and intellectual growth through drawing, painting, studio art, print making, crafts collage creations, calligraphy, color design, illustration and the study of art history. Students will be immersed in extensive studies focusing on the elements of design, perspective and theory. The varied menu of course offerings provides a curriculum that integrates high standards, "real-world" learning, interdisciplinary experiences, and academic applications.

STATE OF THE ART LIBRARY -- Welcome to our brand new, state of the art library where students will have access to a print and digital collection of resources covering a wide array of topics and subjects to support both curricular and co-curricular projects and endeavors. The new space is designed to promote collaboration, where students come together to create and collaborate, in many configurations. The library also provides a classroom style space for workshops and presentations.



Procedures for School Closings in the Case of Emergency Conditions

September 2014

The New York City Department of Education will continue to make every effort to keep schools open on days of inclement weather. Parents should use their own discretion as to whether they will permit their children to travel to school on days with Citywide emergency conditions or on major storm days when schools remain open, recognizing that travel time will necessarily be longer and that there may be delays traveling to and from school. A Citywide policy on procedures for school closings is necessary in the case of Citywide emergency conditions or major storm days. These procedures outlined below are intended to serve as a guide to students, parents and staff. The reissuance of this memorandum reaffirms the authority of the Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor of Operations to announce the Citywide closing of schools, and outlines the requirements and expectations that pertain to the dissemination of information, the impact on pupil transportation, and the responsibilities of central offices. All schools must adhere to the Citywide announcement to close schools. No school may open late, dismiss students early, or close for the day without the authorization from the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations.

Citywide Announcement to Close Schools

The Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations will announce the Citywide decision to close schools (including the cancellation of after-school activities) on days of inclement weather or other Citywide emergency conditions after consultation with the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, the Weather Bureau, the City Sanitation Department, the City Transit Authority and other appropriate agencies. The Citywide decision will be made as early as possible prior to 5:00 a.m. on the affected day.

The Department of Education's (DOE's) Office of Communications and Media Relations will notify the Associated Press news wire service and radio and television stations as soon as possible prior to 5:00 a.m. All relevant information will also be posted on the DOE website (<http://schools.nyc.gov>), in addition to DOE social media outlets <https://twitter.com/nycschools> and <https://facebook.com/NYCSchools>. School staff and parents are advised to check the DOE website listen to information broadcasts by local radio and television stations, or call 311.

In all instances when the announcement by the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations is made to close schools, the Office of Pupil Transportation will advise the bus companies of any related activity cancellation. While the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations does not have authority to close nonpublic schools, nonpublic school transportation provided by the City adheres to the decision made by the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations.

In all instances of an authorized Citywide closing, the following will be cancelled and staff whose after-school services are funded by the public school system will not be made available for after-school activities, unless the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations makes an announcement to the contrary: all field trips, all after-school programs (including Community-Based Organization after-school programs on public school sites and after-school program transportation, including transportation to after-school programs at Community-Based Organization sites), all Public School Athletic League (PSAL) and Small School Athletic League (SSAL) programs, all Adult and Continuing Education classes, all Young Adult Borough Centers, and all evening High-School Equivalency (HSE) programs.

Central Offices: Unless the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations instructs otherwise (which may be the case during severe emergencies), all central offices, and the offices of District 75 and 79 must remain open for regular hours on days when schools are authorized to close due to Citywide emergency conditions or major storm days, as staff must be in a position to provide essential information to parents and others.

Cancellation of Afterschool Activities In the event of Citywide inclement weather conditions, or if a storm worsens during a regularly scheduled school day, the Chancellor or Deputy Chancellor of Operations may decide to cancel all afterschool activities, PSAL, and SSAL.

Questions Parents and staff should direct all questions regarding implementation of these procedures to their principal. Principals can contact their Superintendent for additional support

2021-2022 Virtual Open House

SUPPLY LIST

- 1 Three Ring Binder with tab dividers
- 4 marble notebooks
- Index cards
- Post it notes
- Loose-leaf paper (preferably wide ruled)
- Highlighters
- Colored pens
- Colored pencils
- #2 pencils
- Blue or black pens
- Crayons
- Markers (Not Permanent)
- Glue/Glue sticks
- Metric Ruler
- Safety scissors
- 5 folders with two pockets
- Erasers
- Construction paper
- Dictionary
- Dry Erase Markers

VOLUNTARY ITEMS

- Tissue Box
- Disinfectant Wipes

6TH GRADE SUMMER ACHIEVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Summer is a time to read books that are of interest to your child, not dictated by their teachers. However, they should be books at your child's Independent Reading Level. Numerous studies have shown, that students that don't read over the summer experience the Summer Slide. What is the Summer Slide you ask? The Summer Slide occurs when kids fall behind in reading and math over the summer, due to lack of practice. It is well documented and cumulative. About two thirds of the 9th grade achievement gap in reading has been attributed to the cumulative affect of summer learning loss. Math skills decline even more.

To that end, you will have reading activities you can apply to your "choice" reading. Just in case, here are some suggested books you might like. You are to read three books and complete one selected activity for each book.

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Freedom Walkers by Russell Freedman

The 100 Year Old Secret by Tracy Barrett

Captain Nobody by Dean Pitchford

Summer Before Boys by Nora Raleigh Baskin

Doll Bones by Holly Black

Additionally, there will be a Math Practice Packet to be completed over the summer and returned the first day of school in September.

