

P.S./I.S. 187
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Dear "Grade 8" Families,

We hope that you can spend some time this summer thinking about high school choices. Today we distributed the specialized high school directories. The non-specialized high school directories have not yet arrived. We anticipate having the directories in the fall. You can use the link on the back of this page to research schools.

Please feel free to email us during the summer with any questions or concerns. We hope to see you in September during our high school information session on parent teacher night.

Enjoy the break!

Ms. McCullough & Ms. Chen

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Useful Materials:

- HS Directory link- <https://www.myschools.nyc/en/schools/high-school/>
- Specialized HS Booklet – ideas and information to discuss with your child about the specialized high schools

Things to Keep in Mind about Private/Catholic Schools:

- Test for Admissions to Catholic High Schools (**TACHS**) will be administered in NYC on Friday, November 8, 2019. Beginning August 26, you may register via the internet or by telephone for a \$65.00 fee.
- Student Sponsorship Program (**SSP**) – offers financial aid to defray costs for certain catholic schools and private schools. Application consists of several sections to be filled out by parent(s), child, and school. This application should be printed online and filled out as soon as possible as the funds are on a first come, first serve basis. <http://sspny.org/>
- Our school does not receive any information about other Private or Boarding Schools. However, we have a few students who have in the past been accepted into schools such as Horace Mann, Riverdale Country School, Calhoun, and Blair Academy. Admissions information these and other non-public schools can be found on each individual school's website.

What you should be doing this summer:

1. Look through the HS directory online search tool and make a list of the schools your child would like to attend. Make sure you check the criteria for both admissions method and admissions priorities for eligibility. *High Schools will be examining final grades and attendance from grade 7, as well as standardized test scores from the 2018-2019 school year.
2. Sign up for Open Houses if possible and make a list of schools to contact in the fall.
3. Keep a calendar of appointments, including testing dates, so that you know your child's schedule and can plan accordingly.
4. Keep your child's grade 7 report card in a safe spot. It will come in handy and often needed when going on interviews!
5. Visit the neighborhood of schools your child is interested and note the travel time.

Things to do in September:

- Compile a portfolio of your child's best work in Grade 7 or Grade 8
- Attend the City Wide High School Fair usually in September or October.
- Attend HS night at 187 in September to learn additional information about the HS application process.
- Plan to visit lots of schools. 😊