



DEPARTMENT OF



GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

NEWSLETTER



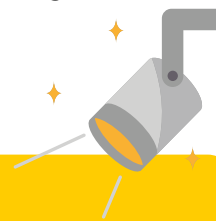
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Welcome back!

Welcome Back to the Department of Guidance & Counseling Newsletter. Included in this edition you will find information about High School Ahead, PSAT's, scholarship links, mental hygiene tips, and much more!

QUICK LINKS

- [Department of Guidance and Counseling Website](#)
- [SCOIR!](#)
Students may also login through [Clever](#).
- [Scholarships](#)



FEATURED SCHOLARSHIP

As the year gets going, more and more scholarships will be announced. There are already some great scholarships available. The websites below contains helpful resources for starting or continuing your scholarship search!

1. [WNY School Counselor Association - Scholarship Search](#)
2. [Studentscholarships.org](#)

[Bridge to Justice Essay Contest](#)

Click the link above to find out more about the Bridge to Justice Scholarship Essay Contest. Essays are due by 11:59pm on October 6, 2023.

WHO IS MY SCHOOL COUNSELOR?



Not sure who your counselor is?
No problem. [Check here!](#)





K-8 UPDATES



PARENTS OF 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Your child's 8th Grade Year is truly a milestone year! As you and your child get ready to navigate this process known as High School Ahead, please consider the tips below.

- Before you embark on choosing a high school, speak to your child about their goals after high school. Ask: what is your dream career and what steps will you take need to take to get there? Do they see yourself going to college, joining the military, becoming an apprentice, or entering the world of work? These are important questions to ask.
- Learn as much as you can about high school options in BPS. We have almost 40 innovative programs to choose from! There are a number of ways for you to learn about them:
 - Attend the high school showcase with your child.
 - Check out video links with more information.
 - Attend High School Open Houses
 - Speak to YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR.
- Be mindful of important deadlines and special acceptance criteria, like tests, auditions or interviews. Be sure to check out the [Admissions and Testing website](#).
- The application window is scheduled to open in early October. Completed applications will need to be returned to your child's school counselor no later than November 17, 2023.
- Remember that the application is a legal document; it MUST be completed in BLACK or BLUE INK.
- Encourage your child to put their best effort into their attendance, schoolwork, and building relationships with teachers. High schools are looking for students who are committed to their own success!

FEATURED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

BURGARD HIGH SCHOOL: AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR TECHNOLOGY

Students explore engine, brakes, chassis, and transmission repair on a variety of late model vehicles. In a state-of-the-art auto shop, aspiring mechanics learn the technical skills needed to diagnose and repair problems with today's sophisticated automobiles and perform NYS Inspections.



Careers:

Auto Mechanic, Auto Designer, Part Specialist, Mechanic, Technician, Detailer, Tire Service/Repairman

Colleges:

SUNY Erie
Alfred State College
Apex Technical School
NY Automotive & Diesel Institute
Morrisville State College



HIGH SCHOOL AHEAD



HIGH SCHOOL AHEAD APPLICATION PROCESS



Applications for the 24/25
School year must be
returned no later than
November 17, 2023!

HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE

Buffalo Public Schools is home to 18 high schools that offer a wide variety of innovative programs to meet the academic interests of students. We want all of our students to attend a school that best fits their needs and long-range goals. Families have the option to apply to a career technical (CTE), general education, or a specialized program. Be sure to visit the [Admissions and Testing website](#)

Use this [link](#) to view the following:

- School & Program Code Listing
- School Addresses
- School Start & End Times
- School Requirements



2024/2025 HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION

The 2024/2025 High School Application will be available in the beginning of October!



- Have questions about completing the application for your 8th grade student?
 - Reach out to your child's school counselor! They can walk you through the process.
 - In addition, if your child receives special education services, you may want to talk to the special education teacher or CTE team at your child's school.

BUFFALO SCHOOLS HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE

FOR ALL CURRENT 6TH, 7TH, & 8TH
GRADE STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 30TH 9:00AM - NOON

**BUFFALO ACADEMY FOR VISUAL
& PERFORMING ARTS**

450 MASTEN AVE. BUFFALO, NY 14209

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL THINGS HIGH SCHOOL

- Meet with representatives from all BPS high schools to learn about programs available to students, including our Career & Technical Education program
- Understand entrance requirements and the application process
- Gather information and ask questions about Say Yes Buffalo scholarships, grants, and other programs





COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS



HOW TO FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

A complete listing of CURRENT scholarships can be found on the [BPS Website](#).



APPLYING TO COLLEGE

Attention SENIORS:

Fall is the time of year to start applying for college. Below are some steps you can take to get started:

1. Talk to your school counselor about your ideas.
2. Login to SCOIR for TONS of help.
3. Do some research on potential colleges (you can use SCOIR, Google, or even visit the school(s)).
4. Login to the Common Application to start applying: commonapp.org.
5. Talk to trusted adults (parents, teachers, coaches, etc.) about what schools they think might be good fits for you!



What is SCOIR ?

Did you know that all BPS high school students now have access to [SCOIR](#)?

- Scoir is an online College and Career Readiness tool that provides students, counselors, and parents with the resources they need to navigate the college search, choice, and application processes. It also includes a mobile app, career exploration tools, as well as a college application processing portal. It simplifies the college process for students and staff alike.

PSAT

The PSAT is coming to a school near you!

Did you know?

- The PSAT will take place in October. Check with your school counselor to find out your specific date!
- All 10th & 11th grade BPS students take the PSAT for free!
- The PSAT will be offered electronically to all 10th and 11th grade students this fall.
- This is the first year that the PSAT is being offered exclusively online. Please make sure to talk to your child to ensure that they have a working BPS laptop and charger.



11 REASONS WHY BPS STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE THE SAT & PSAT



IT'S FREE!

Taking the test for free grants BPS students an opportunity to participate in an exam that students nationwide take every year.

Open doors to college

While some colleges considered SAT scores optional during COVID, many schools still require them and the future of "test optional" admissions is uncertain.

Stand out from the crowd

Even if your scores aren't above average for the college, if they're high for your school or neighborhood, they'll help you make a great impression.

Scores on transcripts are optional

If you aren't happy with your score, it does not have to appear on your transcript and you don't have to send it to colleges.

Earn merit scholarships

If you do well on the SAT, you can get scholarships! Some colleges use a combination of SAT (or ACT) scores and your GPA to award merit-based scholarships.

Earn more scholarships!

Many outside scholarships require an SAT or ACT score as part of the application process. Check out [these scholarships](#) right now!

Earn a spot in an H/EOP program

Even when the college doesn't require the SAT, some H/EOP Programs still require the SAT as part of their admissions process.

Avoid placement exams

Some colleges may allow you to submit your SAT scores instead of having to take a placement exam in order to determine your classes during your first year in college.

Offset a low GPA

If you have a low GPA but do well on the SAT, you're letting colleges know you have potential to succeed in college.

Discover your AP potential

Taking the PSAT & SAT provides schools with info about how successful a student is likely to be in certain AP courses. Strong AP test scores can be used for college credit.

Qualify for application fee waivers

The College Board offers fee waivers to qualifying students for SAT score reports and college applications.



GET STUDYING! Students may connect their College Board accounts to Khan Academy at <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat> where they have access to free tutorials to build skills over time. Targeted practice can strengthen academic skills and improve test scores over time.



STAYING MENTALLY HEALTHY



TIPS FOR SUPPORTING A SMOOTH BACK TO SCHOOL TRANSITION

Do you or your child need help but you're not sure where to start?

Your child's school counselor can help! Counselors are great resources who can listen and discuss ideas about potential options.



- Make sure your child has a daily, predictable routine, with regular times for healthy meals, naps, and night sleep at home. Having a rested body and knowing what to expect at home helps children cope.



- Connect with other parents who have children in the same school.
- Talk with teachers about the best way to separate from their child at the start of the day—brief goodbyes are often best.



- Try to stay calm and reassuring during transition—using a calm voice, with a relaxed face and body to let their child know that they wouldn't leave them if the child were not safe and protected.
- Talk with your child about what to expect and help them with strategies to manage stress and cope with worries, and review positive parenting tips to help children with feelings and behavior.
- Talk to your child daily about school. A good practice is to ask your child for 3 things that made them happy today.





BPS PARENT CENTERS



Free programming is offered at each of our 4 locations and on Facebook @BPSParentCenters

NORTHEAST ZONE PARENT CENTER (LOCATED IN THE BENNETT CAMPUS)

MON/WED: 2-7:30PM
TUES/THURS: NOON-4PM
FRI: 10-2PM

WEST ZONE PARENT CENTER (LOCATED IN LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY HS)

MON/WED: 2-7:30PM
TUES/THURS: NOON-4PM
FRI: 10-2PM

EAST ZONE PARENT CENTER (LOCATED IN EAST COMMUNITY HS)

MON/WED: NOON-4PM
TUES/THURS: 2-7:30PM
FRI: 10-2PM

SOUTH ZONE PARENT CENTER (LOCATED IN SOUTH PARK COMMUNITY HS)

MON/WED: NOON-4PM
TUES/THURS: 2-7:30PM
FRI: 10-2PM

Parent Centers are open during Saturday Academies at their locations.

Find the full list of programming at buffaloschools.org/events



SATURDAY ACADEMIES



PRESENTED BY: BPS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 2023/2024 SCHOOL YEAR SCHEDULE

SEE BELOW FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF PROGRAMS
AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



School	TIME	2023 - 2024 DATES
3 D'Youville Porter	9:30am-12:30pm	Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 9, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 4
30 Frank Sedita	10am-1pm	Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 16, Feb 10, Mar 9, Apr 20, May 4, May 18
37 Marva J Daniels	10am-1pm	Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 9, Jan 6, Feb 10, Mar 9, Mar 23, Apr 13,
43 Lovejoy Discovery	9am-12pm	Oct 14, Oct 28, Dec 16, Feb 3, Mar 2, Mar 16, Apr 27, May 18
50 North Park	9am-12pm	Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 2, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 20, May 11, Jun 8
59 Charles Drew	10am-1pm	Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 9, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 13, Apr 20, May 18
74 Hamlin Park	10am-1pm	Oct 28, Nov 4, Dec 16, Jan 6, Mar 9, Mar 23, May 4, Jun 8
76 Herman Badillo	10am-1pm	Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 16, Feb 10, Mar 23, Apr 20, May 11, Jun 8
80 Highgate Heights	10am-1pm	Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 27, May 11
89 Lydia T Wright	10am-1pm	Oct 14, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 9, Apr 27, May 11
92 BUILD Academy	10am-1pm	Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 9, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 23, Apr 13, Jun 8
93 Southside	9am-12pm	Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 9, Jan 20, Feb 3, Mar 9, Mar 16, May 11
94 West Hertel	10am-1pm	Nov 4, Dec 9, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 13, May 18, Jun 8
97 Harvey Austin	9am-12pm	Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 27, May 11, Jun 8
99 Makowski	10am-1pm	Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18
198 I-Prep	9am-12pm	Oct 14, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 20, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 20, May 4
206 South Park	9am-12pm	Oct 21, Nov 4, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 2, Apr 20, May 18
207 Lafayette	10am-1pm	Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 2, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 23, Apr 20, Jun 8
208 Riverside	10am-1pm	Oct 28, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 27, May 11, Jun 8
301 Burgard	10am-1pm	Oct 14, Nov 4, Dec 16, Jan 6, Feb 10, Mar 16, Apr 27, May 11
309 East High	10am-1pm	Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 23, Apr 13, May
363 Bennett High	9am-12pm	Oct 14, Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 2, Jan 20, Mar 2, Apr 20, May 18



Saturday Academies are FREE and open to EVERYONE, regardless of whether you have a student attending a Buffalo Public School.

Saturday Academies includes educational, recreational, cultural, social, and wellness programs for the whole family. FREE breakfast and lunch are provided.

Dates and times of Saturday Academies are subject to change. You can check the live schedules by using the QR code at the corner of this page.

Students in 8th grade and under must be accompanied by an adult chaperone.

