



Brooklyn North High Schools Newsletter

September 2026

Superintendent's message

We are excited to welcome everyone back for another school year filled with opportunity, growth, and achievement. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer and are returning refreshed and ready for the year ahead. As we begin this new chapter together, we look forward to building on our successes, strengthening our community, and supporting one another in creating meaningful experiences for all students. Here's to a productive, inspiring, and successful year!

Student affirmations

Congratulations to our August Graduates!

On Thursday 9/3, we celebrated more than 200 graduates who persevered through summer coursework and regents exams to complete their graduation requirements. Deputy Borough **President Rev. Kim Council** and Brooklyn High School Presidents Council Representative **Tamara Stern** offered inspiring remarks, along with

Superintendent representatives from Brooklyn high schools. Thank you to Principals Harrison and Anderson and the BGHS team for their love and support for this festive occasion!



Academy for Urban Planning & Engineering's rising senior **Blanca Rivera** was recently

featured in the New York Post for her work as one of the Mayor's chefs during her Career Ready / Modern Youth Apprenticeship summer internship at Gracie Mansion, where she serves as a professional *Student Chef*. Blanca is at the far right in this photo.



Good News & celebration

KUDOS to our schools honored in the newly published [U.S. News and World Report Best High Schools of 2026!](#)



Top 100 in NYC

- 1 *The Brooklyn Latin School*
- 12 Brooklyn Technical High School
- 32 Bedford Academy
- 33 Millenium Brooklyn
- 65 Science Skills Center High School
- 78 Benjamin Banneker Academy
- 89 Williamsburg HS for Architecture & Design

Top 200 in NYC

- 115 All-City Leadership Secondary School
- 128 Cypress Hills Collegiate Preparatory School
- 137 Williamsburg Preparatory School
- 140 Brooklyn Preparatory High School
- 149 Digital Arts and Cinema Technology HS
- 175 Williamsburg HS of Art And Technology
- 179 Performing Arts & Technology High School
- 183 Brooklyn High School of the Arts
- 197 Maxwell CTE High School

Congratulations to **PATHS** and **FDNY HS** on receiving \$1 million in RESO-A funds from Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso for a cafeteria upgrade! This is in addition to \$2.5 million previously awarded for a renovation of their auditorium.

On September 2, 2026, we **welcomed new teachers to Brooklyn North!** Thank you Principal Vecchiano and the Brooklyn High School of the Arts team for hosting us. Thank you Andrada Frunza - Teacher Development Specialist and Math Instructional Lead for organizing an informative and engaging afternoon.



Click [here](#) to view more photos and videos.

NYCPS Priorities Promising Practices

Priority 1 - Literacy/NYC Reads

Literacy Updates and Resources

- NYC Reads [Family Engagement Toolbox](#)
- NYC Reads ["All Eyes on Text" Instructional Focus](#)
- BKNHS July PL on [Literature Circles](#)
- Updated [Brooklyn North Reads Book List](#)- now 200 Books!
- Upcoming PL and Partnerships:
 - The Writing Revolution
 - AP College Board
- Find more information here in the BKNHS [ELA Family Newsletter](#)

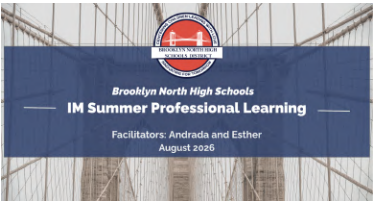
Supporting MLLs in Brooklyn North High Schools - Engaging ML/ELLs in Grade Level Content

This summer, educators from across Brooklyn North High Schools came together for a day of professional learning focused on supporting Multilingual Learners and English Language Learners in achieving academic success. Participants explored practical ways to help students engage with challenging grade-level texts and assignments while building their language skills and confidence. The session highlighted strategies that build on students' strengths, including their home languages, prior knowledge, and opportunities to learn collaboratively with their peers. Educators left with new resources and tools to help ensure that every student has access to rigorous learning opportunities and the support needed to thrive. A special thank you to Principal Henry and the staff of Transit Tech High School for graciously hosting this day of professional learning and supporting collaboration across our district



Priority 2 - NYC Solves & Special Student Populations

NYC Solves

August Session: Feedback Share-Out

= August 2026 =

DISTRICT MATH PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SESSION

Reflect. Collaborate. Elevate.

All participants agreed the content and materials were relevant and helpful to their practice.

<i>What Educators Most Appreciated</i> - Collaboration with peers - Support from experienced teachers - Meaningful conversations and practical planning - Inspiring and helpful teachers - Dedicated collaboration time	<i>The Impact</i> - Stronger partnerships - Greater confidence in planning and instruction - Focused, practical planning with IM - Better for students - A strong start to the school year
---	--

Together, we reflect. Together, we grow. Together, we elevate math for every student.

August Session: District PL A Quick Recap

IM Summer PL August 2026

This professional learning session prepared Brooklyn North High School math educators for a strong start to SY26-27 by building their understanding of district priorities, NYC Solves updates, and instructional resources designed to strengthen mathematics teaching and learning.

- Exploring free math resources for students and families to support continued learning at home.
- Reviewing NYC Solves updates and instructional priorities for the new school year, including instructional time and the new focus on fluency.
- Collaboratively planning high-quality IM math lessons for Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2.
- Strengthening lessons with strategies that support student discussion, collaboration, students with disabilities, multilingual learners, and Regents readiness.
- Providing peer feedback and revising lessons to strengthen instruction before the start of the school year.

Access Math District Newsletter - September Edition:

Math/IM Family Newsletter 9/2026



Brooklyn North High Schools

Family Newsletter on Math/IM

Edition: September 2026



With Gratitude and Best Wishes to Our School Families

As we welcome the month of September, we are delighted to begin a new school year filled with fresh opportunities, new experiences, and endless possibilities for learning and growth. The start of a new year is an exciting time to set goals, build meaningful relationships, and establish routines that will support every student throughout the months ahead.

Across our school community, we are committed to creating safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environments where every child feels valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. Together, we will celebrate successes, embrace challenges as opportunities to grow, and continue building a strong partnership between home and school.

As students settle into their classrooms, we encourage families to stay connected by talking with your child about their school day, celebrating their efforts, and maintaining routines that support attendance, learning, and well-being. Your partnership plays an essential role in helping every student thrive.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We look forward to an incredible year of learning, discovery, and achievement together. Wishing you and your family a joyful, successful, and inspiring start to the 2026-2027 school year!

With appreciation and warm regards,

SIGNATURE OF SCHOOL

What is Illustrative Math (IM)?

IM (Illustrative Mathematics) is a problem-based math program that helps students think, reason, and communicate mathematically. Instead of memorizing steps, students explore problems, discuss strategies, and build deep understanding of concepts. In an IM classroom, students:

- Work collaboratively to solve real-world problems
- Explain their thinking using words, numbers, and visuals
- Learn multiple ways to approach a problem
- Build confidence in reasoning and sharing ideas

Where can I find useful resources?

Get familiar with NYC Solves HQIM: [NYS Solves Official Website](#)

Imagine Learning Family Support: The Family Support Hub ([Imagine IM K-8 \(v.360\)](#) | [IM K-12](#)) has links to resources including family support materials for each grade and course.

'26-'27 NYC DOE School Calendar & More:

September 10 Thursday	First Day of School Welcome Back!
September 21 Monday	Yom Kippur School Closed
October 12 Monday	Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day School Closed

National Literacy Month - Celebrating the importance of reading and fostering a lifelong love of learning.

National Suicide Prevention Month - Promoting kindness, connection, mental well-being, and the importance of supporting one another.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month - Honoring the strength of children and families affected by childhood cancer while raising awareness and hope.

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (September 17) - Recognizing the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the importance of civic engagement.

The First Day of Fall (September 22) - Welcoming a new season of growth, learning, and new opportunities.



Special Education:

We extend our sincere appreciation to all participants in this summer's IEP Meeting Basics and Building Strong Special Education Programs for Administrators professional learning sessions. Your commitment to continuous learning and high-quality support for students with disabilities helps strengthen special education programs across Brooklyn North High Schools.

Thank you for your active engagement, thoughtful collaboration, and partnership. We look forward to building upon this important work throughout the 2026-2027 school year as we continue to strengthen inclusive practices, enhance the quality of IEP implementation, and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.



Priorities 3 & 5 - Culture & Climate + Attendance

School Year 2026-2027 is upon us and as we welcome the return of staff and students, we strive to make every day count starting this month with September. The blueprint for success is a school that is safe and inclusive, with classrooms where it is expected for students to be curious as they connect ideas to their own experience.

Be intentional every day to effectively engage students from Day 1:



#Salute School for Classics! Lastly, let's now wait until later in the year to establish habits that impact student outcomes. Start now with daily habits that can easily be incorporated within your day to day practice:

Start Here: Six Daily Habits

You do not need a new program. This is what P3 and P5 look like in a first-year classroom.

PRIORITY 3 Safe & Inclusive Schools	PRIORITY 5 Attendance & Chronically Present
Greet every student at the door. Name, eye contact, ten seconds. You catch the rough morning before it becomes a Level 3 incident.	Take attendance every period, on time. Your entry is what triggers outreach. Guessed or late attendance means a student goes unnoticed.
Handle the small stuff in the room. A quiet redirect keeps a student in your class. Every removal is instructional time you cannot get back.	Notice the second absence, not the tenth. One text or call home after two absences does more than any letter sent home in March.
Give them something to own. A classroom job, a choice in how they show mastery, a question you actually act on. Belonging gets built, not announced.	Make the first five minutes worth arriving for. Open with something they miss if they walk in late — and welcome returners back without an interrogation.

We look forward to a great school year!

Mark Your Calendars: Required Designated Liaison Training is Coming!

Brooklyn North is partnering with the Office of School Youth Development (OSYD) and Community School District 16 to bring a dedicated Designated Liaison Training to our schools this fall. The full day in-person session is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, September 24** at **Boys & Girls High School**.

This is a **required training** for designated liaisons, fulfilling compliance obligations under several NYCPS Chancellor's Regulations – including A-750 (Students in Temporary Housing), A-780 (Foster Care), and A-750.1 (Child Abuse Reporting). Schools must ensure their liaisons complete both parts of this two-part series.

- Part 1 is a self-paced, asynchronous course available on WeLearnNYC covering child abuse and human trafficking, foster care, and students in temporary housing (STH). Liaisons are strongly encouraged to complete this course **before** the in-person date.
- Part 2 is the in-person day, where participants will engage in Q&A, collaborative problem solving, and trauma-informed practices with colleagues across the district.

Liaisons will be automatically registered for the in-person session and will receive a calendar invite from the OSYD team. Attendance will be uploaded to the OSYD portal after each session.

Principals, please ensure your designated liaisons are aware of this requirement and prepared to participate in both parts of the series. More details to come – reach out with any questions!

Family Engagement Updates

As we welcome back families, Parent Coordinators will be working with their **Parent Association** Executive Board to calendar monthly meetings so parents & guardians can have the year's dates at a glance. We are deeply grateful for all the parent leaders across our 49 schools and look forward to welcoming you in person this fall. Parents and Guardians should ensure that the school has the most current contact information, including emergency contacts (best practice is to have several!). Parent Coordinators are ready to welcome newly enrolled families and will have access to computers for parents to access NYCSA if they need assistance.

If your Parent Association was not able to complete elections in June, expedited elections must be completed and certified no later than 10/15. 10/1 is recommended. Any parent who is not running for office can chair the election for. [PTA Link](#) has valuable guidance and resources. Remind your election committee to include the Title 1 PAC Chair in the process. This is especially important as [Chancellor Regulation A-655](#) has been updated to include the Title 1 PAC Chair as a mandatory member of the School Leadership Team. Parents Coordinators or PC-designees can reach out to our district team for support.

Priority 4: College & Career Readiness

Advanced Coursework

As per NYSED guidelines, advanced coursework encompasses honors, gifted, and accelerated programs across middle and high school levels. This also includes Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and dual-enrollment opportunities. Any classes that allow students to obtain college credits or earn a recognized industry credential fall under this classification.

Science Education

September District Science Newsletter ([Live Link](#))

Your School Name Science Newsletter September 2026

A Message from our Team
Welcome Back, Brooklyn North Science Community!
Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! We are excited to welcome our students and families back for another year of curiosity, discovery, and scientific learning across Brooklyn North.

This year, students will continue deepening their scientific thinking and getting hands-on with the science happening all around us! Across their science courses, students will grow from making observations and asking questions to analyzing increasingly complex evidence, developing explanations, evaluating ideas, and using evidence to communicate and defend their thinking. In other words, students are not just learning about science—they'll be engaging in the experiences and thought processes that allow them to work like scientists.

September is a perfect month to begin. From the science students encounter in their classrooms to **Climate Week NYC** happening right here in our city, there are opportunities all around us to ask questions, investigate phenomena, and connect classroom learning to real-world challenges.

In this month's newsletter, you'll find resources to support learning, opportunities to experience science beyond the classroom, and ways for students and families to engage with science throughout New York City.

Here's to a year of asking great questions, following the evidence, and discovering where science can take us!

Science in our Community
Customize this space with a photo from your school. Consider: students engaging in a lab or lesson, student work models or posters, or an image of a science classroom or lab space.

Bringing Science Home
Celebrate Climate Week NYC 2026
Energy. Impact. Action.
Energy
The sun delivers the energy. What happens next depends on where it lands.
Why can asphalt become scorching hot while nearby grass stays relatively cool? Investigate how different materials absorb, reflect, store, and release solar energy.
Impact
When Heat Gets Trapped in the City
Concrete, asphalt, buildings, and other urban surfaces can absorb and retain the Sun's energy. Areas with trees and vegetation tend to stay cooler because of shade and the cooling effects of plants. These differences contribute to the **urban heat island effect**, which can make cities warmer than surrounding areas—and even make one neighborhood feel different from another.
Action
Can you design a cooler block?
Imagine you were responsible for making your block cooler. What would you change? More trees? A green roof? Different playground or pavement materials? More shaded spaces? **What evidence from your home investigation supports your solution?**

Curriculum Connection
This family investigation connects energy transfer, climate, Earth systems, and human impact while building scientific thinking through observation, evidence, explanation, and design.

Planning Today for Tomorrow's Scientists
This summer, Brooklyn North science educators worked together to strengthen classroom learning and help students become more confident, independent scientific thinkers.

Educator & Classroom Highlights
Introduce your science instructional team: consider including teachers' pics, hobby, or something they are excited to incorporate in their classroom this year.
Professional learning updates: Share what the department is focusing on during this month.

Announcements

- Have an after school climate or video gaming club? Consider adding meeting times and a registration form [here](#).
- Promote your school's CTE program or science pathways course by highlighting something exciting they will be learning in class or project they will work on this month!

We Value your Feedback
Your engagement and input are important to us as we strive to improve and serve you and your child better. If you have suggestions, questions, issues with access or noticed something that could be enhanced, we'd love to hear from you!
ADD SCHOOL DESIGNATED CONTACT INFO HERE (name, email, time to connect)
THANK YOU

Upcoming Science Dates

Birding: Urban Birds & Fall Migration Join Urban Park Rangers at Orest Scott Bird Sanctuary in the Bronx to observe fall migration & explore how birds use urban habitats. 1-2:30 PM; free.

Seining: Explore NYC's Waterways At Lemon Creek Park in Staten Island. Families can use real seining equipment alongside Urban Park Rangers to discover organisms living in NYC waters and learn about aquatic ecology. 10-11:30 AM; free.

Raptor Feat Get an up-close look at eagles, falcons, owls, hawks, and other birds of prey at Baisley Pond Park in Queens. Park Rangers introduce families to these predators and the adaptations that help them survive. 12-3 PM; free.

Climate Fest Celebrate Climate Week NYC at the American Museum of Natural History with hands-on activities, live demonstrations, climate science presentations, & the Climate Learning Lab. 11 AM-4 PM; included with Museum admission.

Opportunities for students

Vote of Teens

<https://vote-of-teens.org/>

Founded by two Bronx Science students with a passion for politics and American history. Inspired by the success of their school's voter registration drive, they set out to expand their initiative citywide, empowering students across New York City schools to participate in voting - the keystone of American democracy. VOTE is a student-led, non-partisan movement dedicated to amplifying young voices and ensuring they play a crucial role in

shaping the future of their communities and the nation. Visit their website to learn more about starting a chapter at your school - <https://vote-of-teens.org/get-involved>.

Brooklyn Museum Apprenticeship Program

Apply by 9/28/2026 via this link: [Museum Apprentice Program • Brooklyn Museum](#)

Guest star as a museum educator! In this paid internship (\$17/hour), New York City teens immerse themselves in art, art history, and museum education. Guided by Museum educators and curators, you'll create lesson plans and gain experience teaching to audiences of all ages.

NASA Space Apps Challenge

Website & Application: [NASA Space Apps Challenge](#)

The annual NASA Space Apps Challenge provides the opportunity to engage directly with NASA's data, along with Space Agency Partner data. During the two-day hackathon, teams use this data to address challenges written by NASA Subject Matter Experts, featuring topics including storytelling, software development, astrophysics, space exploration, agriculture, and more. Schools that are interested in collaborating should contact Science Lead Yousra Abdelhadi - YAbdelhadi@schools.nyc.gov.

Oyate Group - Beyond Rising (for undocumented youth in NYC)

Deadline 9/20/26 | Apply [via this link](#)

A paid internship program for undocumented youth in New York City, Beyond Rising aims to combat cycles of underemployment and poverty in immigrant communities. Launched in 2022, Beyond Rising places participating high schoolers in administrative offices at local colleges and universities and offers them additional enrichment activities at Oyate Group's offices including art projects, mentoring, skills training, resume prep, college visits and field trips and more. Participants receive a stipend from Oyate Group for the entirety of the program. The program runs throughout the year, with summer and school-year cohorts.

The O'Connor Institute Ambassadors Civics & Debate Club

Website: [O'Connor Institute Ambassadors Civics & Debate Club](#)

A free, online program for 9th through 12th-grade students presented by the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute. The O'Connor Institute Ambassadors promotes the Institute's three

pillars: civil discourse, civics education, and civic engagement. Each month, September through May, students meet online via Zoom to discuss civics-related topics as they apply to "real-world" issues. They have an opportunity to share their viewpoints and learn from peers across the country. Outside of the meetings, O'Connor Institute Ambassadors have access to a private, free app where they can continue the conversations, find additional resources, and more. Through the O'Connor Institute Ambassadors, high school students have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of our government, history, and our roles as citizens of the United States. Seniors in the program have the opportunity to compete for a \$5000 scholarship.

For more opportunities:

[NYCPS Student Opportunities](#)

<https://www.seedsoffortune.org/programs>

upcoming events

- **09-02** BKNHS Welcomes New Teachers
- **09-03** Summer Graduation at Boys & Girls Campus
- **09-08** BKNHS Schools Welcome School Staff
- **09-10** BKNHS Schools Welcome Students !!!
- **09-21** Yom Kippur / Schools Closed
- **09-22** BKNHS Principals Conference

until next month! Stay in Touch

Visit our website - <https://www.brooklynnorthhighschools.org/>

Follow us on Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/brooklynnorthhs/>

Email us - BKNHSinfo@gmail.com

