

After School: Community Counseling and Mediation (CCM)

CCM After School at Bridges allows students the opportunity to enjoy fun enrichment activities after school free of cost. After School runs Monday to Friday from 2:40 PM to 5:15 PM with room for student schedule flexibility. We focus on project-based learning, youth engagement, social-emotional learning, literacy, and leadership development. We value above all student safety (all CCM staff are CPR and First Aid certified).

Programming includes snacks, homework help, tutoring, and enrichment clubs. Throughout the year, we also bring in outside subcontractors like the Cultured Kids Cuisine, Girl Scouts, and Concorde. In the past, Concorde has taught classes such 3D printing, Robotics, Video Editing, and Video Game Design. Enrichment clubs range from Culinary, Art, Theater, Step/Dance, Basketball, Sports, STEM, Music, SEL, to DIY. On select holidays we take students on trips free of cost. Examples include Dave & Busters, Sky Zone, & Bowling.



Sports

Current sports include:

- Boys and Girls Basketball
- Co-ed Soccer
- Running Club

The Bridges Soccer Team has won the 2021 and 2022 Brooklyn MSAL Varsity Championships!



High School Admissions

Bridges students have been admitted to some of the finest high schools in New York City. Some are listed below.

Art and Design	Frank Sinatra School of Arts
Bard	La Guardia
Beacon	Millennium Brooklyn
Bedford Academy	Midwood
Benjamin Banneker HS	NEST + m
Brooklyn HS of the Arts	NYC iSchool
Brooklyn Latin	New York Harbor School
Brooklyn Tech	Professional Performing Arts
City Polytechnic HS	Stuyvesant
Edward R. Murrow	Williamsburg HS of
Essex Street Academy	Architecture & Design

Academic Support

We are committed to supporting all learners. We have a wide array of Special Education Services:

- Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) inclusion program
- SETSS
- Speech and PT
- English Language Learner Services
- Academic Intervention
- 12:1:1 Classes
- District 75 Partnership (Shared Instruction Program)

Additionally, all 6th graders take a class called Learning Support where they learn Executive Function skills and study skills needed for middle school success.

The Bridges Community

Community and Celebration are very important to all of us at Bridges. We begin every year with Welcome Days where we engage students in team-building activities. We celebrate 915 Day on September 15th and the 15th of every month with karaoke at lunch and other fun activities. Our school loves dressing up for Halloween and dancing at the Monster Mash! We all look forward to our Cultural Potluck where we eat fabulous food from around the world. Every winter we go on a schoolwide trip. From dances to special trips to ice cream socials, we aim to make our community FUN!

LEARN MORE ABOUT BRIDGES
ON OUR WEBSITE!



MS 915 is a learning community dedicated to honoring the potential of middle school students and to supporting each student's growth, to exploration and creativity, to academic and personal excellence, and to social progress, engagement and justice. We are committed to the intellectual, artistic, moral, emotional, social and physical development of each student and we value each other as thoughtful co-creators of a vibrant, interdependent community.



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Danielle Scott, Principal
Emily Phillips, Assistant Principal

Progressive, Culturally Responsive Curriculum



Committed to the diversity of our student body, we ensure that all classrooms, curricula, and school-wide programs acknowledge, validate, and incorporate the cultural backgrounds of all our students. We work hard to create an inclusive school culture and employ a practice of restorative justice that emphasizes empathy, accountability, and amends to resolve any conflicts that may arise.

Math

Committed to a progressive approach to mathematics instruction that favors conceptual understanding over rote computational work, our math classes are conducted with the main objective of deep conceptual understanding achieved via hands-on projects and Illustrative Mathematics lessons that are engaging and empowering to all students. At the end of 8th Grade, students may sit for the Algebra Regents exam.

Science

Our state-of-the-art science laboratory supports our commitment to hands-on learning and allows us to accommodate robust science programming through the Amplify Science curriculum. Students are exposed to increasingly sophisticated scientific concepts they are able to uncover through student-designed experiments and projects. All students participate in our annual science fair. Finally, students may take the Living Environment Regents exam in 8th Grade.

English language arts (ELA)

Our focus is to develop life-long readers and strong writers who can communicate their ideas clearly. We use culturally relevant texts and strive to achieve a balance between student-selected texts and writing topics and the challenge of exploring unfamiliar genres and subjects. Our students write personal narratives, editorials, informational books, articles, short stories, analytical and argumentative essays. Our students read a wide variety of genres: dystopia, realistic and historical fiction, memoirs, and graphic novels.

Social studies

Grade 6: Students engage with questions of identity, values, geography, and society through their studies of Ancient Civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and a culture of their choice. Grade 7: Students study the first half of U.S. history, Exploration through Westward Expansion. A highlight of the year is the Constitution Works Mock Trial where they argue a first amendment case. Grade 8: Students study the second half of U.S. history thematically: Civil War, Reconstruction and the Civil Rights Movement; WWI, WWII, the Cold War; Progressive Era & Modern Rights Movements. We are always asking: Who has the power? Whose perspective is included and excluded?



Explorations

Twice each year, students break from their regular academic routines to engage in a deep, two-week study of one essential question. During this time, students take field trips, hear from guest speakers, and engage in research. Current explorations are:

- Can art change the world?
- What is courage?
- Is our relationship to animals ethical?
- How does food connect and divide us?
- How can we create a more sustainable community at MS 915 and in NYC?



Parents are invited to view their child's culminating project at a special celebration. The students choose the way they want to express their answer to the essential question in the way that taps into their talents and interests, from dance, to writing, to hands-on creations.

Arts & Electives



Music

Music class consists of Ensemble/Community Building, Music Literacy, Ear Training, and Vocal Music & Vocal Health. Other units of study include Bucket Drumming, Multicultural Music, Music Production, and Social Justice Songwriting.

Studio Art

Students have a three-year course of study in art which includes techniques and historical context. Students meet in our beautiful art studio at least twice a week and optional lunch clubs.

Spanish Language

Students in grades 7 and 8 participate in Immersion Spanish three to four days per week. They focus on developing oral language skills, reading and writing in Spanish, and analyzing authentic literature.

Physical education (PE) & Health

Students meet at least two times a week for Physical Education class, both in MS 915's indoor fitness studio as well as on outdoor fields adjacent to our school. Students engage in physical exercise through team sports, cooperative games, and developing personal fitness. Students enjoy multi-year study in Health & Wellness, following the HealthSmart curriculum. As part of their course of study, 7th and 8th grade students enjoy residencies with a health & sexuality educator, as well as workshops with drug and alcohol use prevention experts.

Advisory

Students meet in smaller circles once a week. The program is designed to support students with the social challenges of middle school. Advisory is where we teach the foundation of restorative practices such as communication, active listening, and conflict resolution.