

What's Happening in NYC Public Schools

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October 2026

This update from New York City Public Schools (NYCPS) includes important dates on the 2026–27 school year calendar, upcoming admissions information, parent-teacher conferences, preparing for remote learning, vaccination requirements, and the electronic device policy.

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Important Upcoming Dates

- **October 12:** Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day, schools closed
 - **November 3:** Election Day, school will be in session remotely for all students
 - **November 5:** Afternoon/Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences (PTCs) for elementary schools*
 - **November 11:** Veterans Day, schools closed
 - **November 12:** Afternoon/Evening PTCs for middle schools and D75 schools*
 - **November 19:** Evening PTCs for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools
 - **November 20:** Afternoon PTCs for high schools, K–12, and 6–12 schools*
- *(students will be dismissed three hours early)

2027 High School Admissions

Starting **October 6**, current eighth graders and first-time ninth graders can participate in this year's NYCPS **high school application process**. Fall 2027 high school applications will close on **Friday, December 4**. Learn more at schools.nyc.gov/HS.

Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT)

Students interested in attending one of the eight testing Specialized High Schools must register to take the SHSAT entrance exam between **October 6** and **October 30**. The SHSAT will be administered in November. Learn more and access practice materials at schools.nyc.gov/SHSAT. For information about specialized high schools, visit schools.nyc.gov/SHS.

2027 Middle School Admissions

Starting **Wednesday, October 14**, students currently in fifth grade (or sixth grade, for students in K–6 elementary schools) can participate in fall 2027 middle school admissions. Fall 2027 middle school applications will close on **Friday, December 11**. Learn more at schools.nyc.gov/MS.

Mark Twain-District 21 Talent Test

Students interested in attending Mark Twain I.S. 239 for the Gifted & Talented (21K239) or the six screened middle schools in District 21 must register to take the Mark Twain Talent Test by **November 2**. Learn more at schools.nyc.gov/MSAuditions.

Preparing for Remote Learning on Election Day

Students will participate in remote learning on **Tuesday, November 3**. Ensure your child has a working, internet-enabled device at home and that they know how to access their NYCPS Student Account (schools.nyc.gov/StudentAccounts). Visit selfservice.schools.nyc or ask your school for help.

If you need a NYCPS-loaned device, contact your school directly **now**. Learn how to start using your loaned device at schools.nyc.gov/NYCPSDevices. Learn more at schools.nyc.gov/DigitalLearning.

November 2027 Parent-Teacher Conferences

This year's second round of parent-teacher conferences (PTCs) begins on **Thursday, November 5**. PTCs will be conducted remotely. However, schools may arrange an in-person conference upon request. Dates and times can vary depending on school and grade level—speak with your child's school to confirm their PTC schedule and to set up your meeting. Visit schools.nyc.gov/PTC for tips and guidance.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Per New York State law, students may not use their cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices during the school day. Make sure you are familiar with and following your school's policy on device storage. Visit schools.nyc.gov/DevicePolicy to learn more.

Stay Up to Date with Your Child's Vaccinations

All NYCPS students who are 2 months to 18 years old must meet both State and City immunization requirements to attend school. Review requirements by grade at schools.nyc.gov/Immunizations. Talk to your child's health provider to learn more. Find a provider at pndslookup.health.ny.gov.

Keep Up with NYC Public Schools

Bookmark *The Morning Bell* blog at schools.nyc.gov/MorningBell and be sure to follow @NYCSchools on Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube for the latest news and resources for NYC families!