

YOU ARE INVITED TO APPLY TO THE BRONX PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH GRADE FOR 2009-2010

Location – 3872 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY

Kind of School – Public charter school authorized by the State University of New York Charter School Institute

Students Served – The school currently serves 632-middle and high school students in grades 5-12

Length of school year – Bronx Prep operates on an extended-day and extended-year schedule. Students attend school from mid August through June, and school days are longer than traditional school days.

School Uniforms are required.

Characteristics of the Bronx Preparatory Charter School

- Bronx Prep has a clear mission that guides everything that happens in the school: prepare every scholar for college!
- Bronx Prep requires a classical, college-preparatory curriculum for all students: higher standards lead to higher education, a successful career and a fulfilling life.
- Bronx Prep has high academic and behavioral expectations for all students: PREPARATION + FOCUS = SUCCESS.
- Bronx Prep focuses heavily on reading, writing and mathematics skills: scholars must master these tools as the bases for critical thinking and creativity.
- Bronx Prep genuinely cares about students as both learners and complete human beings: academic excellence, artistic merit, leadership development, and extracurricular activities position every student to be his/her best in school, at home, in the community, and in life.
- Bronx Prep has structure and discipline that supports student learning and personal growth: students develop effective habits of mind and grow into independence without the option to fail.
- Bronx Prep has leaders who listen to, and collaborate with, parents and teachers: teamwork makes the dream work.
- Bronx Prep hires great teachers, supports them as professionals, and directs resources to their classrooms: active, academically demanding teaching in every classroom, every period, every day.
- Bronx Prep continually assesses how much students are learning and provides supplementary programs in order to help make students more successful: Learning Enhancement Programs and services support all learners including students with special education needs, English Language development needs and as well as honors and advanced placement needs .
- Bronx Prep has a school culture that reflects our seven core values, the Seven Cs: Curiosity, Commitment, Competence, Character, Confidence, Caring and Community.

Contact: Mrs. Almonte, Executive Administrative Assistant, 718-294-0841, ext. 2263
Please visit our website at www.bronxprep.org for more information about Bronx Prep.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Bronx Preparatory Charter School

1. What is a charter school?

A charter school is a public school in New York, which enjoys more freedom over the kinds of programs it runs and the people it hires, and in exchange is more accountable for the achievement of students. Charter schools are schools of choice, which admit students by lottery.

2. Do parents have to pay tuition?

No. Charter schools are public schools and do not charge tuition.

3. What is special about Bronx Prep?

Bronx Prep is an exciting place with an extended year & extended day. It is a place where people care about each other and about learning. The educational program prepares all students to succeed at the best colleges. The educational program will also, however, be very demanding and will require more time, more work and more commitment from students, teachers and parents. In addition to its rigorous academic program, Bronx Prep has broad offerings in the arts, including music, visual arts, and drama. Community service is an integral part of the program, and Bronx Prep's speech and debate program has achieved national prominence. College counseling services are provided to all prospective graduates of Bronx Prep.

4. Does Bronx Prep serve students with special needs?

As the Charter School law requires, Bronx Prep offers a range of specialized services to accommodate our diverse learning population. The supports we offer are documented in the form of an Individualized Education Program (IEP). We honor each plan as a promise to the family to deliver a free and appropriate public education for all scholars. The special education coordinator consults with Bronx Prep staff to provide a link to the IEP team at the regional Committee on Special Education (CSE) office, works with parents regarding support systems, and teachers through the Learning Enhancement Team. Bronx Prep currently does not offer a self-contained special education placement; however we honor Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS or Resource Room) and other related services including speech and language development services. We also support students who are English Language Learners (ELL). Students who do not speak English as a first language receive mandated English as a Second Language (ESL) services on both a pull out and push in basis. Students receive the full Bronx Prep curriculum in all areas in addition to ESL services so that they progress toward meeting all standards as well as progressing toward full English proficiency on the NYSESLAT exam.

5. Who is eligible to apply?

Any student eligible to attend public school in New York who will successfully complete the 4th grade this June may apply. The school shall not discriminate against any student on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender or disability.

6. How will students be chosen?

All applications from eligible students will be accepted as long the application is postmarked by April 1, 2009. Entering fifth grade siblings of currently enrolled Bronx Prep students will be given first priority for admission. If there are more non sibling applications than places available, then remaining students will be accepted by a random lottery with weighted preference given to residents of District 9.

7. Will older siblings of entering 5th grade students admitted to Bronx Prep automatically be admitted to the school?

No. Unfortunately, due to capacity issues, we are unable to guarantee that all siblings of entering 5th graders will be automatically admitted to Bronx Prep. If we have space in upper grades, priority will be given to siblings of incoming 5th graders. Only siblings whose names appear on the 5th grade application will be considered for enrollment into our upper grades. If there is a special circumstance such as a change in family units or family composition, then the child will be considered for enrollment. We will notify you if this is the case.

8. What are the student's responsibilities at Bronx Prep?

Students must wear uniforms to school every day. Students must work, think and learn to the best of their ability and complete 1-2 hours of homework per night. Students must behave responsibly at all times.

9. What are the parents'/guardians' responsibilities at Bronx Prep?

Parents and guardians are responsible to make sure that their children come to school on time in their uniforms, and that their children behave appropriately. Parents/guardians are also responsible to ensure that their children attend all school days unless the child is ill. It is also the parents' /guardians' responsibility to stay in touch with the school and to make sure that their children complete all homework assignments. The Bronx Prep school year starts in mid August. If your child is absent for 3 or more days at the start of the school year, then you may forfeit your child's acceptance and his/her seat will be made available to another child.

10. What are the teachers' responsibilities at Bronx Prep?

Teachers are responsible to teach students in the best way they know how, doing whatever it takes to help students learn, and to make themselves available outside of class time to students and parents.

Come Find Out More About the Bronx Preparatory Charter School

Below, please find a list of information sessions for students and parents. It is only necessary to attend one of the information sessions.

All sessions will be held at Bronx Preparatory Charter School, 3872 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY. For directions, please visit our website at www.bronxprep.org.

- Saturday, January 31st from 10:30a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, February 25th from 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
- Saturday, February 28th from 10:30a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, March 12th from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 16th from 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

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If you have any questions and/or are unable to attend any of the above information sessions, please contact Mrs. Almonte and arrangements will be made.