

## **Our Community**

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It is our goal at PS 117 to ensure all parents and guardians become involved in their child's education. There are many opportunities throughout the school year in which we will work in close collaboration with parents and guardians to ensure continued success for our students. In addition, students can also become involved.

Public School 117Q is located in the Briarwood section of Queens. Our lovely community is comprised of beautiful homes and apartment buildings. Our pre – kindergarten through sixth grade serves a population of approximately 1200 students from culturally diverse backgrounds. Over thirty one languages are spoken by many of the students attending this school. Our rich cultural diversity is incorporated into our curriculum through reading and writing assignments and special social studies arts projects. Through this interdisciplinary approach, we celebrate our diversity.

## **Parent Involvement**

### **Learning Leaders**

This school year we are pleased to announce we have twenty certified NYC Learning Leaders who were trained. Parents will have an opportunity to volunteer their time in a variety of ways. In particular, parents will help us foster a love for reading as they read literature to students.

### **School Leadership Team**

The School Leadership Team is comprised of parents, staff and community members. Its purpose is to plan and assess the educational initiatives of the school. Members meet for thirty hours throughout the school year to “Achieve Excellence Together”.

### **Parent Teacher Association**

The Parent Teacher Association is dedicated to improving the learning environment and providing opportunities for students and parents to grow and learn.

### **Title I School-Wide Project Representative**

This parent representative ensures that a proposal is prepared and presented to the entire parent community in regards to Title-I funding.

### **Clubs and Workshops**

There are many opportunities to get involved. Throughout the school year we will offer a variety of parent workshops. In addition, we look forward to starting a parent book club and a writing club. Contact the Parent Coordinator for more information.

### **Parents as Reading Partners**

We look forward to inviting parents into the school building to participate in wonderful school events such as Writing Celebrations, Pajama Day, Curriculum Open House, and during Open School Week.

### **Parent Handbook**

In an effort to clearly define school procedures, policies and protocols we have prepared a parent handbook this school year. Parents will be able to read about the newly implemented school-wide grading policy.

### **ARIS Parent Link**

All parents and guardians have access to their child's attendance and academic related data through ARIS Parent Link. Through individualized user names and passwords, parents can access information about their child's performance. You can access it by clicking here: <https://arisparentlink.org/parentlink>

### **Notify NYC**

If parents and guardians want to receive important updates about their child's school sent to their home phone, cell phone, or e-mail they can now sign up for this service. To sign up go to [www.nyc.gov/notifynyc](http://www.nyc.gov/notifynyc) or call 311.

### **Junior Achievement**

Aspiring future educators from Hillcrest High School are given an opportunity to teach lessons under the guidance of certified classroom teachers. They receive a firsthand experience of what it is like to be a classroom teacher.