



# Newsletter

**The Floyd Bennett School, P.S. 203 K**

**Yocasta Miller,**  
Principal I.A.  
**Brian Sadowski,**  
Asst. Principal

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### School Hours:

- ☉ Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. via the ramp entrance on Avenue M
- ☉ Pre-K: 8:00 a.m.-2:10 p.m.
- ☉ K-5: 8:00 a.m.-2:20 p.m.

**Please arrive on time for drop-off and dismissal!**

All late pick-ups must show I.D. at the Front Desk.



## Homework Help

Are you struggling to help your child with their homework? Try visiting these websites to gain information that will make it easier for you to work with your child and assist them with their school work.

**[www.khanacademy.com](http://www.khanacademy.com)**

A personalized learning resource for all ages. Offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empowers learners to study at their own pace, inside and outside the classroom.

**[www.superteacherworksheets.com](http://www.superteacherworksheets.com)**

Worksheets and printable activities available for all subject areas, including math, reading, writing, phonics, grammar, science, social studies, and much more!

**[www.commoncoreconversation.com](http://www.commoncoreconversation.com)**

Includes Parent's Backpack Guide to Common Core State Standards, free resources, lessons and teaching strategies.

**Dial-A-Teacher: 1-212-777-3380**

Homework helpline for elementary and middle school students, run by classroom teachers. Available Monday-Thursday, from 4:30-6:30, on school days.

Remember, when your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers. Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do their homework. And be positive about homework. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.

**APPLY TO PRE-K!**  
for the 2016-2017  
School Year from  
January 25th through  
March 4th!

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## From Principal Miller ...

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It's hard to believe we will be celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> day of the school year in only a few weeks. The year is certainly going by very quickly and there are still so many enjoyable and educational opportunities ahead. Our teachers have been preparing Progress reports that will go out on February 12th. The purpose of these reports is to make you aware of your child's strengths and needs with enough time before our March report cards to provide additional support at home in the areas noted. Once again, I am encouraging you to make sure your child is accessing Dream Box at home for personalized online programs. Please let your child's teacher know if you are having trouble accessing the program.

Promotion in Doubt letters are also being sent home this month indicating a scheduled appointment for you to meet with your child's teacher. I urge you to attend so that together you can plan for ways to assist your child and ensure that he/she will make the progress necessary to move on to the next grade.

Our students continue to be given performance tasks and/or benchmark assessments in literacy and math as part of citywide initiatives. Your children have been working very hard with the great guidance and support of their teachers on units of study in writing as well.

Report cards will be given out

at conferences in March, and the work your child does this month will certainly have an impact on his/her grades. Many students are working towards grades that will place them on the Principal's Honor Roll (only 3's and 4's). Please work with your child on reading every night and being prepared for school each day with his/her homework, supplies, and a good night's rest. Students in Gr. 3-5 are continuing to prepare for their State exams that will take place in April. Please help your child/children complete any work they may be assigned. Consider joining us for our ELA and Math workshops coming in March.

In addition to focusing on the required academics this month, our students will be preparing for and celebrating historical and cultural events that make this month so special. Please review the calendar for events that may pertain to your child's grade. You are welcome to join us at the grade assemblies and a Core Knowledge performance where our students will share their talents and knowledge. Our Student Government will once again be selling carnations as a fundraiser for Valentine's Day. Please support them in their endeavors. Our PTA has planned several events this month. Please consider buying a Valentines

candy gram and support our Multicultural Celebration. Check for flyers about these exciting events.

Please be reminded that Photo ID is necessary when signing in. Visitors are given an orange pass to bring to the main office. Once in the main office, staff will assist you there. If necessary, you will be given a colorful pass to go to your destination. Please return the colorful pass to our Safety Agent's desk when you leave the building so you can be signed out. In the interest of maintaining a safe environment, please do not go anywhere in the building other than the destination on your pass.

Please be reminded that our school day begins at 8 a.m. for all students. The school day ends at 2:20 p.m. for all students. Our Pre-K and Kindergarten students arrive at their dismissal locations about 10 minutes earlier to allow them to dismiss before our older students exit. Kindly remember to legally park your cars to keep our neighborhood streets clear for traffic and safely crossing our children.

Thank you for everything you have done to make the first half of the year such a positive one. I look forward to exciting, productive months ahead with you and your children.

*"Consider joining us for our ELA and Math workshops coming in March."*

## Show Some Love

The month of February holds many traditional holidays, including Valentine's Day. Throughout the month, there will be many opportunities to show your love to family and friends. Mark your calendars for Friday, February 12th, when our PTA will host the annual **Valentine's Day Dance**. Enjoy as the school cafeteria is transformed into a lively dance floor with refreshments and desserts. All children must be accompanied by a paid guardian. Throughout January, our PTA hosted a **Candy Gram Sale**, which allows students to purchase candy grams for the ones they care about, both in and outside the school. Candy Grams will be delivered to students on Thursday, February 11th.

Additionally, the Student Government will be organizing a **Flower Sale**. One flower is priced at \$1, or you may purchase a small bouquet of flowers for \$5. All orders must be placed by Friday, February 12th, when the flowers will be distributed. If your child is absent on this date, parents must pick up their orders, because there will be no refunds. Thank you for participating in and supporting our school-wide events.



# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Family Engage- ment Session @ 2:20 p.m. (Safety w/ Ms. Charles & ELL w/ Ms. Cohen)	3 CookShop for Families @ 5:30 p.m.	4	5	6
7	<b>8 Lunar New Year School Closed</b>	9 Family Engage- ment Session @ 2:20 p.m. (Pre-K, & K)	10	11 PTA Meeting @ 6:45 p.m.	12 Grades 4 & 5 Assembly @ 9:00 a.m. w/ Grade 5 Core Knowledge performance  Valentine's Day Dance @ 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	13
14 Valentine's Day	<b>15 Mid-Winter Break School Closed  President's Day</b>	<b>16 Mid-Winter Break School Closed</b>	<b>17 Mid-Winter Break School Closed</b>	<b>18 Mid-Winter Break School Closed</b>	<b>19 Mid-Winter Break School Closed</b>	20
21	22	23 Family Engage- ment Session @ 2:20 p.m. (1, 2 & 3)  SLT Meeting @ 3:45 p.m.	24	25 Grades Pre-K, K & 1 Assembly @ 9:00 a.m. with Chorus perfor- mance	26 Grades 2 & 3 Assembly @ 9:00 a.m. with Chorus performance  Multicultural Festival @ 6:30- 9:00 p.m.	27
28	29 Pre-K Open House @ 9:00 a.m.  Emergency Readiness Presentation @ 5:30 p.m.					

## Next Month ...

Wednesday, 3/3: **Parent-Teacher Conferences**; Early Dismissal  
 Thursday, 3/4: Last Day to Apply to Pre-Kindergarten  
 Sunday, 3/13: Daylight Saving Time Begins (Clocks are set forward one hour)  
 Monday-Friday, 3/14-3/18: Scholastic Book Fair  
 Tuesday, 3/15: Understanding Your Child's IEP Workshop @ 5:30 p.m.  
 Friday, 3/25: Good Friday; School Closed



# The Floyd Bennett School, P.S. 203 K

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## SOAR!



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### Parent-Teacher Conferences 2015-2016

**MAR. 3** Afternoon & Evening  
Conference  
**MAY 12** Evening Conference

### LOST & FOUND

Don't forget to look through our lost and found collection, located outside the auditorium. Any items that are not claimed will be donated. Please contact Ms. Moriarty, the Parent Coordinator, for assistance.

## Respect For All

### A Safe and Supportive Environment

Each student and staff member brings to the New York City public school community the richness of our City's cultural diversity and the desire for respect. It is the policy of the Department of Education to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation and/or bullying and from discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, citizenship/immigration status, religion, creed, national origin, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or weight. The citywide Respect For All program encourages staff and students to actively promote a community of inclusion in each of our schools. Respect For All Week will take place in all NYC public schools from February 9-12.

### Understanding the Difference between Bullying and Conflict

Conflict is a struggle between two or more people who perceive they have incompatible goals or desires. Conflict occurs naturally as we interact with one another. It is a normal part of life that we will not always agree with other people about the things we want, what we think, or what we want to do. Most conflicts arise in the moment because people of the same relative amount of power see the same situation from two different points of view. When one or both people have the skills to resolve the dispute so that both sets of needs are met, the same conflict between the same two people most likely will not be repeated.

Bullying behavior is very different from conflict. It is behavior that is intended to cause some kind of harm. The person doing the bullying purposely says or does something to hurt the target of his/her behavior. There is always an imbalance of power (physical or social) or strength between the person doing the bullying and the target of the behavior. The person doing the bullying may be physically bigger or stronger or may be older or have greater social status or social power than the person being targeted. It is aggressive behavior by one individual (or group) that is directed at a particular person (or group). The aggressive behavior is unwanted and negative. It is deliberate and unprovoked. The targeted person is harmed by what is purposely being said or done. Although bullying can occur in a single incident, it is usually a pattern of behavior repeated over time and can take many forms—physical, verbal or social.



### Reporting Bullying

If you are concerned that your child is the target of bullying behavior, please report your concerns to the school. All reports of harassment, discrimination and/or bullying behavior will be investigated. For more information and resources about Respect For All and bullying, visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/RespectforAll/>.

Also, attend our informational presentation on safety, discipline and Respect For All, hosted by Ms. Charles.

**When: Tuesday, February 2nd at 2:20 p.m.**

**Where: P.S. 203 Auditorium**