



Office of the Superintendent

**Jersey City Public Schools**  
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**Dr. Marcia V. Lyles**  
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Eighth Grade Student,

This booklet, prepared especially for you and your parents/caregivers, offers valuable information for you to read and think about as you plan your high school experience. I encourage you and your parents/guardians/caretakers to carefully read and discuss this information. It will assist you in making the appropriate choices to support your interests and talents.

Every eighth grade student who currently resides in Jersey City and plans to attend the Jersey City Public Schools in September 2019, is required to complete the enclosed application. One component of the application process requires you to write three persuasive essays explaining why you should be accepted into the small learning community of your choice. This will be your opportunity to demonstrate how well you can organize and express your ideas. Please remember that the essay space provided on the application is for your final copy. All prewriting, revising, and editing should be done on a rough draft before you write the final essay on the application. Your school counselor will be assisting you with the application process. It is important that your application be complete and submitted on-time, in order to be considered for your choices. **Please note that while you are required to make three selections, your last small learning community choice must be located in your home high school.**

A letter inviting you to join one of our Jersey City Public School academies, will be sent in March. An acceptance/permission form must be signed by your parent/ guardian/caretaker and returned to your school counselor. Registration information will follow upon letter of intention.

I wish you much success through this application process. Remember, the application reflects you as a student. Be sure to give this task the time and diligence that is needed to represent you in the most positive way!

Sincerely,

Dr. Marcia Lyles  
Superintendent of Schools

**THE JERSEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**  
Envision Excellence and Equity Everywhere