

A MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR GRADES 6 - 8

**BROOKLYN URBAN GARDEN** CHARTER **SCHOOL**  
BUGSbrooklyn.org

Celebrating TEN **10** YEARS of educating for sustainability

# WELCOME TO THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR!

## BUGS FAMILY VIRTUAL INFO SESSION

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AUGUST 17, 2022

We will begin shortly!

# Family Information Session 2022-23 School Year




**Mute Mics & Turn Off Camera!**

**Silencie el micrófono y apague la cámara**



**Questions will be answered during Q&A sections**

So that you can focus on the presentation, we will not turn on chat until the Q&A after Part I and then again after Part II. During the Q&A, you can ask your question in chat or indicate you have a question with the hand symbol  at bottom of screen and the moderator will call on you.



**Have a personalized inquiry?**

Email questions to BUGS family coordinator Kevin Peñalosa at [kevin.penalosa@BUGSbrooklyn.org](mailto:kevin.penalosa@BUGSbrooklyn.org)

**Si desea hacer una pregunta en español, email [kevin.penalosa@BUGSbrooklyn.org](mailto:kevin.penalosa@BUGSbrooklyn.org) , o mensaje de texto 347-684-2176**



A MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR GRADES 6-8

**BROOKLYN URBAN GARDEN SCHOOL**

BUGSbrooklyn.org

# Session Overview

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## PART I

- Teaching and Learning
  - Orientation (class assignment announcements)
  - Curriculum
  - Intervention
  - Student supports & school culture

## PART II

- Nuts and Bolts
  - COVID Policies
  - School day overview
    - Arrival, lunch, dismissal, afterschool, homework
  - Technology (cell phones, laptops)
  - Events! Picnic, Curriculum Night

## PART III Questions and Answers

# BUGS Vision for 2022-23

We will use our

- ▣ **sustainability approach**
- ▣ **co-teaching models**, and
- ▣ launch of school wide **Standards Based Grading**

to address students' academic and social emotional needs following the pandemic:

- ▣ We will continue to build **our in-person school culture** and **students' sense of place and belonging** by focusing on relationships, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), social sustainability curriculum, schoolwide events, and student clubs.
- ▣ Our teachers will be focusing on **communicating with students about their academic performance** around Next Generation Standards and Sustainability Standards



**BROOKLYN**  
**URBAN GARDEN**  
**SCHOOL**  
CHARTER  
A Middle School for Grades 6-8  
[www.BUGSbrooklyn.org](http://www.BUGSbrooklyn.org)



# MEET THE BUGS TEAM!

# First Week of School: Orientation

**Week of August 29,  
8:05 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

- **Monday 8/29: first day for 6th grade**
- **Tuesday 8/30: all students**
- **Breakfast & lunch provided by SchoolFood (DOE meal provider)**

# Orientation Preview



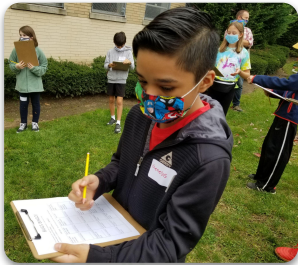
## Team Building!

Opportunities for small group work, Field Trips, and experiencing the BUGS gardens



## Students Get to Know Our Team and School

Connect with teachers and staff. Begin to establish consistent, daily routines.



## Strategies for Success in Middle School

Emphasis in advisory on executive functioning and organizational skills, team building, and intro to Quiet Time



## We Get to Know Your Children!

We want to meet our students where they are and better understand how to support their learning

# Quick Notes About Orientation

- Students' class/cohort assignment information will be available in TeacherEase on **Thursday, August 25.**
- Students will also receive **cohort and advisory information on their first day of school.**
- Students should **wear BUGS uniform.** If uniforms are on backorder, loaner shirts will be available
- Students should **bring community supplies** (supply list on website)
- **Breakfast and lunch will be provided** or bring lunch from home. More info about meals in Part II.
- **Our team will be outside** BUGS to welcome and help direct students to their classrooms.





# Teaching & Learning

# 2022-23 Curriculum Overview

## 6th Grade

Advisory+Quiet Time\*  
Writing  
Reading  
Social Studies  
Math  
Science

## Enrichment

Sustainability 101  
Physical Education  
Tech 101  
Spanish  
Studio Art

## 7th Grade

Advisory+Quiet Time  
Writing  
Reading  
Social Studies  
Math  
Science

## Enrichment

Sustainability 102  
Physical Education  
Tech 102  
Spanish  
Studio Art

## 8th Grade

Advisory+Quiet Time  
Writing  
Reading  
Social Studies  
Math\*\*  
Living Environment\*\*

## Enrichment

Sustainability 103  
Physical Education  
Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA)  
Spanish  
Studio Art

\* Quiet Time is a time for students to practice Mindfulness Skills

\*\*Opportunities to take Regents Exam

# Teaching and Learning

- We are launching **standards-based grading** schoolwide in 2022-23!
- Focus on **co-teaching** in all core content classes (differentiation).
- Teacher **professional development** & curriculum planning (teachers back this week!). Students have “Asynch” days
- Time for teacher collaboration focused on student outcomes **built into schedule**
- Strategic use of **technology** (addressing pandemic effects & opportunities)
- More **push in services** for students

## More Info...

- **Homework expectations**
- **SHSAT preparation** for 8th grade in the fall & 7th graders in spring
- **English Language Learning specialist**
- On-site **learning specialist**
- More to come at Curriculum Night!



# Standards-Based Grading Snapshot



We are launching **standards-based grading** for 2022–23.

Standards-based grading:

- is a system of assessing and reporting that describes students' progress in relation to specific learning targets (skills and concepts)
- separates what students know (concepts) and are able to do (skills) from how they behave and other non-achievement measures
- allows teachers to provide specific and individualized feedback to students on their mastery of learning standards

## FOR MORE INFO!

Check out the spring Standards-Based Grading family session presentation, recording, and more resources at [BUGSbrooklyn.org/family-corner](https://BUGSbrooklyn.org/family-corner)

# Field Study and Outdoor Learning!

- ▣ Field Study is scheduled once a month (dates are included on the school calendar)
- ▣ Outdoor learning happens in sustainability classes and core content classes too!



# Student Supports & School Culture

Our goal is to foster a learning environment the allow students to:

- Believe they are **valued** for who they are and the **unique voice** they bring to our community
- Share a **sense of school pride & belongingness** to the BUGS community.
- Feel **safe** (emotionally & physically) for **risk-taking** and **exploration** with learning & socialization
- **Learn & growth** as they journey through middle school as they **reach** for high school & beyond

## Programs & Supports for Student Culture & Development

- Student Orientation
- Counselor Workshops
- Counselor Check-ins
- Advisory Program
- Restorative Practices
- House System
- Mindfulness Techniques
- Student Leadership
- Student Clubs
- Schoolwide Celebrations
- Incentives & Trips



# Part 1: Q&A

Use the chat or raise your hand with the icon at the bottom of the screen

# Health & Safety



# BUGS COVID Safety Policies

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We have just received new guidance from the [NYC DOE for 22-23](#), but there are not major changes. We are confident that continuing our testing and other safety measures will continue to keep our community safe.

- **BUGS Vaccination:** all staff are vaccinated, and we expect student vax % to be high (21-22SY was ~90%)
- **COVID testing:** weekly at BUGS, kits sent home for classroom exposure
- **Ventilation, air purification, good hand hygiene** will all continue!
- **Masks** available to all students, staff & visitors.
- Cay Tolson is the BUGS COVID Safety officer at [covid@bugsbrooklyn.org](mailto:covid@bugsbrooklyn.org)

# Quarantine & Isolation

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- Individuals do not need to quarantine after exposure, unless they have symptoms
- We hope to be able to have home test kits available to be sent home as needed
- If a person is infected with COVID (whether vaxed or not), they must isolate for 5 days
- We will notify the DOH as required of positive cases and follow their guidance about quarantine and isolation

# Strategies to Stay Healthy

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- Stay up to date on all vaccinations
  - 6th: TDaP
  - 7th: Meningococcal
- Stay home when you're feeling sick
- Wash your hands properly and cough into your elbow
- Wear a mask if you're not feeling well, have a cough or sniffles, or if someone in your family is sick
- If you even think you might have COVID, test at home!  
We can send home a kit if you need one.

# BUGS School Safety Policies

- BUGS works with the Diocese to ensure we have our own security guard at all times, in addition to School Safety Officers working with our DOE neighbors.
- The **General Response Protocol (GRP)** is designed to provide direction that schools will take when an emergency incident occurs. **BUGS works in unison with our neighboring schools, M.S. 442 and K280, as well as with our landlord the Brooklyn Diocese to coordinate efforts and emergency responses.**
- **The Bishop Ford Campus will conduct 12 drills a year.** BUGS students and staff receive training on the GRP and the schools specific responses.
- In the event our school needs to take a legitimate GRP response, families will be notified in a timely manner. In the event of an emergency, lockdown or shelter in, absolutely no one will be allowed in or out of the building for any reason. **Do not** attempt to pick up your child during this time.
- More information on the GRP can be found on the DOE site [here](#).



# Your COVID “Do Nows”:

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1. Share your student’s most updated COVID vaccination status using this short **Vaccination Status Form**.
2. If you haven’t done so previously, give consent for your student to participate in COVID testing at BUGS using the **Consent Form**.
  - a. *If you are not sure whether you have completed the consent form, or if you only need to update information (contact, insurance), please complete this Google Form instead.*
3. **COVID ENTRY TESTING:** All students should be tested within 3 days prior to their first day onsite at BUGS. See COVID email for more details. Home test kits will be available at the PTA picnic on 8/25!
  - a. *Students are not required to show proof of negative test prior to school.*

# Day to Day

# Nuts and Bolts

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- ❑ School day starts at 8:05 a.m. and ends at 2:50 p.m. Doors open at 7:45 a.m.
- ❑ Lockers (yes, but not right away)
- ❑ Uniforms are expected for all students Day 1
- ❑ Bring supplies week of student orientation
- ❑ Chromebooks will be assigned in September
- ❑ Metrocards first week of school
- ❑ Off-campus lunch privileges (Sept/Oct)
- ❑ Rosters will be finalized & published in TeacherEase on August 25.
- ❑ Full-time nurse in the school building

More information is available at [www.BUGSbrooklyn.org](http://www.BUGSbrooklyn.org)

- **FAMILY INFO:**  
[bugsbrooklyn.org/family-corner](http://bugsbrooklyn.org/family-corner) for information on who to contact when, link to family newsletter, calendar, and more
- **POLICIES:**  
[bugsbrooklyn.org/bugs-family-handbook](http://bugsbrooklyn.org/bugs-family-handbook) for the BUGS Family Handbook, Code of Conduct, and other policies

# Technology: Cell Phones & Chromebooks

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## Cell Phones

- Student cell phones will be collected during advisory by a staff member
- Phones will be locked and stored until end of day (even during lunch and recess)
- **Families should contact main office if they need to reach students during the school day**
- Phones will be returned end of day & prior to dismissal

## Chromebooks

- Students will be provided with a BUGS Chromebook for their use during the school day only.
- Personal laptops/tablets are not allowed in class for any reason.

Families are notified through TeacherEase email and texts of any same day schedule changes or other time sensitive information.



# Meals

- During Orientation, students will eat in advisory groups; they will be taken outside for lunch by advisors
- Starting in September, we will begin our off campus lunch privileges. We will implement a grade level roll out starting with 8th grade. 7th and 6th will join by the end of October. ***Exact dates to be determined***
- Breakfast and lunch grab and go option always available
- Cafeteria/recess yard



# Action Items

- Complete the [School Meal Form](#)
- Buy [uniforms](#)
- Pay Field Study/Tech fee on [TeacherEase](#) (*waived if fill out meal form and qualify for free/reduced meals*)
- Buy [communal supply list](#) items
- Download or print [the BUGS calendar](#)
- Complete [COVID Vaccination Form](#) & give [COVID Test Consent](#) for your student



Help Us Start the Year Off Strong

# After-School

- FREE program funded by NYC DYCD
- Past activities included: **Art, Cooking, Creative Writing, Film, Journalism, Track, Cheer, & Basketball.** (Green Girls will be offered again this fall!)
- Incorporates SEL, STEM & Leadership
- Academic Support
- M-F (2:50-5:45 p.m.) & select half days and Holidays

**Questions?** Email

[afterschool@BUGSbrooklyn.org](mailto:afterschool@BUGSbrooklyn.org) or call

Ms. Velasco at 917-254-2534

## Registration Info

- **100** slots available on first-come, first-served basis to students who have submitted completed applications. Must commit to attend at least 75% of the time.
- Completed Application includes:
  - Online [DYCD Connect form](#),
  - Copy of birth certificate, medical form, and supplemental application (sent through TeacherEase by After-School Director).

## Program Start Timeline

- **Week of Aug 29:** After-school director at BUGS
- **Weeks of Sept 5 and 12:** Virtual and in-person info/orientation sessions
- **Week of Sept 19:** After-School begins

# September Events Preview

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- **Summer reading** assignments due Sept 9
- **PTA Meeting** (date TBA)
- **After-School Program** begins week of September 19 (more info to come)
- **Curriculum Night** (Sept 28)
- Start of monthly **“Coffee & Conversation”** morning sessions with school leadership



Look out for the **BUGS family newsletter** and check the family calendar for updates too!

# JOIN THE BUGS PTA!

- ▣ **Who we are**

BUGS parents, guardians & teachers/staff

- ▣ **What we do**

We fundraise and create events to support BUGS families and the school community.

- ▣ **How to join**

Attend a meeting!

Email

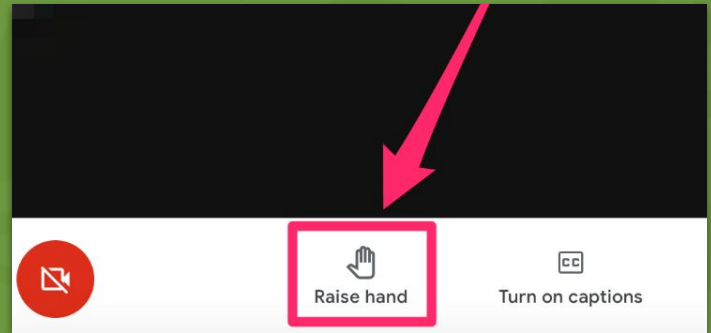
[BUGSPTA@gmail.com](mailto:BUGSPTA@gmail.com) or [taralindiscorbell@gmail.com](mailto:taralindiscorbell@gmail.com)

***We would love to have you join us!***



# QUESTIONS?

Use the chat or raise your hand with the icon at the bottom of the screen



# Thanks!

**We are here for you.**

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**Send questions to:**

Kevin Peñaloza, Family Coordinator at  
[kevin.penaloza@BUGSbrooklyn.org](mailto:kevin.penaloza@BUGSbrooklyn.org)