

# SCHOOL OPENING NEWSLETTER

*A newsletter to keep parents and students affected by closures, relocations and mergers up-to-date in preparation for the first day of school*



## District and City Partners work to ensure Safe Corridors for students

In conjunction with the City of Philadelphia, Town Watch Integrated Services (TWIS), an organization dedicated to making Philadelphia a safer place to live and work, has assembled a group of partners committed to increasing safe corridors for students during the upcoming school year.

WalkSafePHL will support parents and residents of a community to determine a route by which students should travel to and from school by providing training and equipment. Adult volunteers will then monitor the route during the school year, and help to ensure that students arrive safely at their destination.

The District's Office of School Safety has been working closely with TWIS to engage families and communities with the WalkSafePHL program over the summer. "Our office is committed to providing a safe environment for students," said Chief Dorsey, Chief Inspector for The School District of Philadelphia, "and establishing safe corridors is a vital step towards accomplishing that goal."

In addition to TWIS, partners of the Safe Corridor Program include the Bicycle Coalition, BuildON, EducationWorks, the Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service, the Mayor's Office of Education, the Philadelphia Police Department, the PhillyRising Collaborative, the Office of Public Safety, the School District of Philadelphia and SEPTA Police.

Parents and community members interested in getting involved with WalkSafePHL should contact Anthony Murphy by email at [Anthony.murphy@phila.gov](mailto:Anthony.murphy@phila.gov).



### How are we doing?

A snapshot of the District's progress in preparing receiving schools for the new school year:

#### Percentage of...

Facility upgrades completed in receiving schools	68%
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Receiving schools with a confirmed principal for next year	98%
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#### Number of...

Receiving schools with confirmed Out-of-School Time programming for next year	20
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## Special Registration and Assessment for New Immigrant Students to begin in August

The Office of Multilingual Curriculum and Programs will help children new to the country to complete the new student registration process with the support of translation and interpretation services in August.

The services will be provided from August 5 to August 30 at the District's Multilingual Assessment Center (MAC) located at 440 North Broad Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Suite 1195. Staff will be available to walk parents through the registration process, screen children for ESOL, and provide resources and information about The School District of Philadelphia.

Last year, the MAC assessed and registered over 800 students speaking 40 different languages from more than 70 countries.

Please contact the Multilingual Assessment Center at 215-400-4240, and select option one for more information and/or to schedule an appointment.

- WHAT:** Registration assistance for families with children new to the country
- WHERE:** 440 North Broad Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Suite 1195
- WHEN:** August 5 - August 30, 2013  
Monday-Friday, 8:30am-6:00pm



## Frequently Called Numbers

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT...	CONTACT
<b>Academic Enrichment and Support</b> Provides guidance and professional development for teachers in the areas of music, art, dance, theater, phys. ed., out of school time, athletics, libraries and world languages	215-400-5902
<b>Attendance and Truancy</b> Provides supportive services to schools to improve student attendance and reduce truancy	215-400-4220
<b>Career and Technical Education</b> Provides programs and services for students engaged in Career and Technical Education	215-400-2331
<b>Early Childhood</b> Provides programs and services for children from birth to age six and their families	215-400-4270
<b>Family &amp; Community Engagement</b> Enables families and communities to access and engage in District programs and services	215-400-4180
<b>Multilingual Education</b> Provides multilingual services and supports to students and families	215-400-4240
<b>Student Placement</b> Evaluates student transfer requests and determines student placement in schools	215-400-4290
<b>Student Records</b> Maintains and processes requests for student records (transcripts, verifications, subpoenas, disability records, etc.)	215-400-4780
<b>Specialized Services</b> Provides special education, specialized support, and student health services	215-400-4170
<b>School Safety</b> Engages with school administrators, police, students, parents and community members to enhance student safety in and around schools	215-400-4710
<b>Transportation</b> Provides safe transportation to students in the Philadelphia area who attend public, non-public, charter, parochial and private schools	215-400-4350

## United Way grants \$50,000 to support Transition

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey (UWGPSNJ) awarded a \$50,000 grant to The School District of Philadelphia last week to help support students from closed schools make a smooth transition into their new classrooms in September.

The grant, a collaboration between UWGPSNJ and Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), will enable principals from approximately 40 schools to host low-cost programs to welcome and integrate students and parents new to the school.



## General Student Registration to begin on Monday, August 19

Registration will open at neighborhood schools on Monday, August 19, 2013. The hours for registration are as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Wednesday: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Parents can use the School Finder tool on the District's website to determine the elementary, middle and high school options available for students in the area in which they reside:  
[www.philasd.org/schoolfinder](http://www.philasd.org/schoolfinder).

Parents should also review the list of required documents for registration on the School Opening website before reporting to their neighborhood school to complete registration: