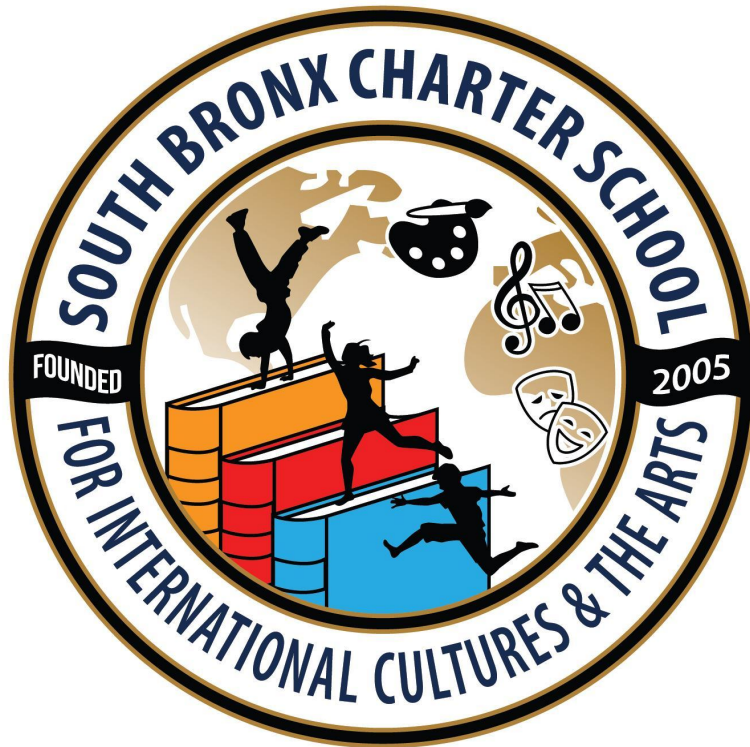




Family Handbook



Principal Nick Marinacci

South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts
164 Bruckner Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10455
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2022-2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We welcome to the 2022-2023 school year at our Dual Language Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts community. We are so proud of our hard working, enthusiastic learners, amazing families and our dedicated staff! This year will be unlike any other year. The upcoming school year promises to be an exciting one for us all, from students to teachers to administrators, and we hope it will be for you as well.

We are pleased to present you our 2022– 2023 Family Handbook. We hope this will be a useful guide as we begin a year of working and learning together. By way of introduction, the purpose of this handbook is to provide you with helpful information about day-to-day procedures at your child’s school, and to inform you about the core educational programs and philosophies.

SBCSICA is committed to providing a learning environment founded on cutting-edge research and exemplary methods of teaching and learning. The handbook provides information that explains how to measure your child’s progress, and what to expect from conferences and report cards throughout the school year. Being familiar with these concepts will help you develop a better understanding of schoolwork and homework as well as Progress Report.

In this handbook, you will also find the following:

- Our Mission
- School Calendar
- Information about regulations regarding student records
- Attendance and Punctuality
- Progress Reports
- Promotion Policy
- Special Education Services
- Measures for student Safety and Conduct
- Dress Code
- Transportation to and from School
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and Meetings
- Technology Policy

You, the parents, play an important role in making this school great. We simply cannot achieve our goals without you. Please know that we encourage parent participation in all class programs and extracurricular activities. As specific questions arise over the course of the year, please refer to this Handbook to address your questions or concerns. Please feel free to call the school office, or your child’s teacher with any additional questions you may have.

We all share the highest expectations for the upcoming school year. We look forward to working together with you to make 2022–2023 a successful year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elvira Maresca & Mr. Nick Marinacci, Principal
Principal K-5/ Principal 6-12

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2022-2023 School Year Calendar

September	5	Monday	Labor Day (Schools Closed)
September	6	Tuesday	First Day of School for all Students.
October	10	Monday	Columbus Day/Indigenous People Day (Schools Closed)
November	8	Tuesday	Election Day Professional Development for Teachers (Remote Learning for Students)
November	11	Friday	Veterans Day (Schools Closed)
November	14	Monday	Parent Teacher conferences- All Grades (No School for Students)
November	23-25	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Recess (Schools Closed)
December January	23-4	Friday-Wednesday	Winter Recess December 23 – January 4, 2023 (School Closed) Students return to school on Thursday January 5, 2023
January	16	Wednesday	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observed (Schools Closed)
February	20-24	Monday-Friday	Midwinter Recess (Schools Closed) Students return to school on Monday, February 27, 2023
March	15	Wednesday	Parent Teacher Conference-All Grades (Remote Day for ALL Students)
April	6-11	Thursday Tuesday	Good Friday & Easter Observance Students return to school on Wednesday April 12, 2023
April	19-21	Wednesday- Friday	NYS ELA EXAM Grades 3-8
May	24-31	Tuesday Thursday	NYS MATH EXAM Grade 3-8
May	25-31	Thursday Wednesday	Memorial Day Observed (School Closed) Students return to school on Thursday June 1, 2023
June	5	Monday	NYS SCIENCE EXAM- Grade 8
June	8	Thursday	Chancellor's Day Professional Development for Teachers (Remote Learning for Students)
June	9	Friday	Clerical Day Half Day for Students
June	19	Monday	Juneteenth Observed (School Closed)
June	23	Friday	Last Day of School (For Students) Half Day

Please be advised that there is a half day on the 3rd Friday of every month.

Philosophy:

Dual Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts is a dual language elementary school with an inquiry based, social studies core. In our Elementary grades K-5th each grade level features an interdisciplinary curriculum, which greatly facilitates learning in two languages. The dual language aspect of our program effectively develops skills in Spanish for both native speakers and students learning a new language, alternating one week of instruction in Spanish and the following in English. Our class studies allow students to acquire academic content through interactive, age-appropriate experiences, ensuring that learning is both engaging and meaningful. Student investigations and tasks are designed to reflect the Next Generation Learning standards and prepare students to be exemplary 21st century citizens.

Curriculum Overview:

SBCSICA has adopted scientifically research-proven and standards-based instructional materials and strategies to ensure high levels of student learning and achievement. The school program has an extended day (8:00am to 4:00pm) and focuses on core content and skills development. Each of the basic instructional strategies for reading, writing, math, social studies and science has been extensively researched and field-tested, resulting in multiple revisions and improvements. The school's instructional strategies and materials are fully aligned with New York State's Next Generation Learning Standards to ensure that students acquire the required knowledge and skills at the end of each grade level. In addition, the school places a significant emphasis on technology.

Enrichment is an integral part of every aspect of our instructional program. Children are engaged in group projects, as well as individual tasks that require higher-level thinking and creative problem solving. Students will take meaningful trips, learn from authentic presenters and model their practices in curriculum related tasks. School-wide activities such as Class Celebrations are planned to build a sense of community, making teaching and learning an enriching experience for our entire school family. We look forward to sharing these experiences with all our families.

We believe that there are students born with unique gifts and talents and that there are students who develop gifts and talents as they learn and grow. Thus, our instructional program is geared to always being responsive to the gifts and talents of our student's body. Our students are divided into instructional groups in reading and mathematics so that they may pursue their learning at their own pace. Enrichment is provided in all aspects of the curriculum. Teachers received professional development to differentiate their instruction. In a differentiated classroom, teachers as diagnosticians prescribe the best possible instruction for their students. The instruction is intended to make certain that all students improve their knowledge and skills, moving well beyond where they began.

Special Education:

As soon as you enroll your child, you should inform us of all the services your child has received or expects to receive as described in the most recent IEP. It is essential that your child's IEP (Individual Educational Plan) be updated by the school or agency consultant to indicate what services are needed for the current school year. All students will fully participate in all activities and field trips.

Title 1 Supports and other funded programs:

Federal funds are allocated in Title I to provide needed support services to students experiencing difficulty in reading/writing and/or mathematics skill acquisition. Research-based resource and professional development will be used in our Title I program to enable staff to appropriately target each child's individual needs. These students are selected because they require additional intervention to meet the benchmarks for ELA and Math Testing. There will be a major emphasis on using student data to inform our instructional practices throughout the curriculum.

English Language Learners:

We are proud of the diversity represented in our school family. If English is a second language for your child, at registration we will administer a test to determine the specific appropriate plan to assure his/her success at school.

Parent Teacher Conferences:

Parent Teacher Conferences are held twice yearly, in November and in March. This is an opportunity for families to meet with their child's teacher to discuss their social and academic growth. At this time Progress Reports are disseminated to parents regarding their child's academic and social development. Parents may also schedule individual meetings to discuss their child's progress by calling the school and setting up an appointment with the teacher.

Homework Policy and Parent Support:

Homework is a student responsibility and must be completed every night. It provides students the opportunity to reinforce and extend learning that takes place in the classroom. Parents however can and should assist their children with homework assignments in the following ways:

Create a Home Environment that Supports Learning:

- ✓ Make sure your child has a quiet study space separate from where he or she plays or Sleeps.
- ✓ Talk with your child about what they are being asked to do with the assignment.
- ✓ Talk with your child about what's happening in school and what he or she is learning in school through their class study and other content areas such as reading or mathematics.
- ✓ If you find your child is having difficulty with an assignment, and ask his or her teacher for suggestions to address the difficulties.
- ✓ Keep a folder of your child's work.

Remember, your actions indicate that education is important, and students should recognize the connection between home and school.

Make Learning Fun:

If you have small children, read aloud and ask them to discuss the story you have read together. Talk about the problem the characters face and how they solve their problem.

- ✓ If you have older children, keep a journal with them, write letters to one another and read novels, historical biographies, poetry, and other literature with them and discuss what you've read.
- ✓ Go on field trips to the Zoo, take a ride on the bus, or go to the park and have your children take notes and write about the experience.
- ✓ Have your child help calculate the grocery bill, prepare a room organization chart with space and furniture dimensions, or prepare a vacation schedule with travel time and spending budget.
- ✓ Play games that require thinking.
- ✓ Go to the library to research and read.
- ✓ Give them pleasure-reading materials that they enjoy and that won't frustrate them.

SBCSICA Grading Guidelines:

- Grades will be collected based on grading SBCSICA policy.
- All online assignments must be submitted by the due date. Due dates will provide ample time due to varied schedules and needs of individual families.
- Every effort should be made to submit assignments in Google Classroom. Incomplete work will be reflected in final grades. Please stay in communication with your child's teacher if there are technology concerns or difficulty submitting assignments.
- Communicate with school any technology issues that may arise.
- Students must have a 95% attendance to fulfill the promotion school requirement.
- Student's submission of classwork will also count to fulfill the attendance requirement.

Grading System:

The following grading system will be used by all teachers in class:

Middle / High School Grading System

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Final Unit Assessment | 10% |
| • Unit Writing Project | 10% |
| • Classroom tests and quizzes | 10% |
| • Homework | 10% |
| • Class Assignments (Including participation) | 60% |

Students will receive a final numerical grade between 55-100 at the end of each trimester, based on their work in these categories. The dates of each trimester are as follows:

- Trimester 1 9/6/2022 - 12/2/2022
- Trimester 2 12/5/2022 -3/17/2022
- Trimester 3 3/20/2022 - 6/23/2022

High school students will receive credits after each course that they successfully pass.

Elementary Grading System:

K-5 = 90 - 100

3 = 75 - 89

2 = 65 - 74

1 = 0 - 64

Academic Integrity:

It is important that as SBCSICA students our academic integrity isn't compromised. The ARTIST values still hold true. When you are participating in a google classroom you are officially acknowledging that you are a proud student of SBCSICA. This being clear, there is absolutely no cheating or plagiarism allowed in an SBCSICA classroom. Cheating is considered an unacceptable behavior when it comes to academic integrity. The following outlines what cheating, and plagiarism are, as well as the potential consequences that exist when it is found that a student has committed an act of academic dishonesty via the google classroom.

What is cheating?

Cheat: "To violate rules and regulations. To act in a dishonest way".

Some examples of cheating include:

- Giving or receiving answers during a test.
- Directly copying assignments from other students (including homework).
- Turning in classwork or homework as your work that is actually the work of others.
- Giving your work to another student that will be copied or used.
- Parents/Sibling completing assignments for students.

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism: representing someone else's work, words, images, data or ideas as your own without properly citing the source.

Some examples of plagiarism include:

- Copying or paraphrasing someone else's words or ideas from the internet, books, magazine articles or directly from a person.
- Copying or presenting someone else's work as if it were your own.
- Giving your work to another student whether or not you believe it will be copied.

Consequences for cheating and plagiarism?

Some consequences may include but are not limited to:

- Reviewing the definitions of cheating and plagiarism
- Parent notification
- Requiring students to complete an alternative assignment
- Meeting with principal, teacher and parent
- Receiving no credit or grade for the assignment, project, test or quiz
- Possibility of repeating the current grade and promotion affected

IV. Academic Intervention Services, English Learners, 504 Plans, Students with Disabilities:

- Students that would typically receive any services, will continue to receive these same services. Schedules will be developed around service times so that students are able to participate in classroom instruction and receive services.
- Teachers will maintain ongoing communication with students in the form of email, phone check-ins, and other means of communication weekly.
- Services delivered should be logged daily and/or weekly.
- The opportunity for students to make appointments for related services that cannot be provided remotely is available at our school.

VI. Bullying/Cyber-bullying:

BCSICA has **Zero** tolerance for bullying of any type. BCSICA will work hard to maintain a learning and working environment free of bullying. Bullying is considered to be any unwelcome written or verbal expressions, physical acts, or gestures directed at a student or another member of the school community with the purpose to intimidate, ridicule, humiliate, or cause physical acts or emotional harm to that person. The following acts will be regarded as bullying: repetitive taunting, threats of harm, verbal or physical intimidation, cyber-bullying (bullying through chats, electronic emails, cellular phones, instant messages, text messages, social media or websites), pushing, kicking, hitting, spitting, stealing or damaging another person's personal property while on school grounds, after-school hours or engaged in any school activities, on or off campus.

Any reported acts of bullying/cyber-bullying will be investigated by the School Team, including the viewing of any and all cameras. Parents will be contacted immediately at time of investigation. Students and staff will be required to complete incident reports and interviews will be conducted by teacher teams. All related school or personal hardware will be collected until the investigation is completed. A resolution meeting will be held by school leadership team with the student and his/her parents.

Computer Use/Abuse:

The use of the internet and other computer software and hardware is a critical component to BCSICA and is considered a **privilege**. This privilege may be revoked at any time for abusive conduct. Examples of behavior which may result in the temporary or absolute loss of the use of the Chromebook and/or technology privileges:

- Sending hate mail, making discriminatory remarks and any other forms of cyber-bullying
- Accessing or processing pornographic or inappropriate text files, or any files dangerous to the integrity of the network
- Using the internet to harm other people or any other negative behavior
- Interfering with other people's school-computer or logging into other people's accounts
- Using someone's name or picture without their permission
- Using the internet for illegal activities

Student computer files are considered to be school property and are subject to search at any time. We will be utilizing a program called GoGuardian to always monitor student activity, including home usage. Consequences include loss of access to the computer, as well as disciplinary action up to and including suspension. As per the technology agreement, students and parents will be held responsible for the content and usage of school Chromebooks as well as any school related accounts.

Student Code of Conduct:

SBCSICA has high expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the idea that each student reflects the core values of an **ARTIST**. We expect them to be: **A**ccepting, **R**esilient, **T**rustworthy, **I**ngenious, **S**cholarly, and **T**houghtful. Unless otherwise indicated, this code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school event as well as on social media. Please bear in mind the Student Code of Conduct will apply during enrollment at SBCSICA, including school-hours and off-school hours while in school uniform.

SBCSICA believes the best form of discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their poor choices.

SBCSICA will implement disciplinary action, when necessary, with students who violate the Student Code of Conduct. Disciplinary action will be firm, fair and consistent to be the most effective in improving student behavior. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, school personnel authorized to impose disciplinary penalties will consider the following:

1. Student's age
2. Nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense
3. Student's prior disciplinary record
4. Other extenuating circumstances

Students who are found to have violated SBCSICA's Student Code of Conduct may be subject to the following consequences, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified below will be authorized to impose the consequence, consistent with the student's right to due process:

1. Oral warning: *dean, asst. principal*
2. Written warning: *dean, asst. principal*
3. Written notifications to parent(s)/guardian: *dean, asst. principal*
4. Detention: *dean, asst. principal*
5. Suspension from transportation: *principal*
6. Referrals: *dean, principal*
7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities: *principal*
8. Suspension of other privileges: *dean, principal*

9. In-school suspension: *principal*
10. Removal from classroom: *dean, principal*
11. Short-term suspension from school (five days or less): *principal*
12. Long-term suspension from school (more than five days): *principal*
13. Expulsion: *board*

Attendance and Punctuality:

Excellent attendance and punctuality are critical to student success not only for school; it positively affects your child's future. Your role in supporting this process is fundamental and sets the tone for student responsibility. Absence from school is time away from the learning process. As our school holds a standard for student success, we encourage parents to help their children maintain exemplary attendance. Additionally, academic testing, report card grades and entrance into middle school depend on consistent and prompt arrival at school in the morning and full daily attendance. We appreciate your cooperation on your child's behalf.

- Any student not in the classroom by **8:00 am**, unless on the school bus, will be marked late.\
- **3 latenesses** within a calendar month will count as an absence
- **Students will not be allowed in the classroom after first period instruction has begun**
- Students may not be picked up early unless there is a medical note.
- 3 early pick up, will count as one absence.
- 3 non-medically treated absences will result in in school detention
- Students who do not maintain a 95% attendance rate at any time will be labeled **PROMOTION IN DOUBT**

Early dismissal is not an option **except under the following circumstances:**

- The student's parent has a proven family emergency
- The student is suffering from an illness or injury or needs a change of clothing
- The student creates a situation in which he or she is a threat to the other students or to a teacher or to him/herself
- The parent notifies the school in writing, preferably in advance, or calls us the previous day
- The parent notifies the teacher early in the AM, and the early dismissal is noted.

We look forward to partnering with parents in enforcing consistent attendance.

Dress Code:

All students must conform to the dress code daily, regardless of weather. Failure to wear the uniform will be considered a violation of the school's discipline policy. Maintaining the dress code supports a sense of community and professionalism in students and promotes a focus on learning.

The South Bronx Charter School of International Cultures and the Arts uniform is:

Kindergarten to 5th grade Uniform:

(All uniforms with school logo can be purchase in the school)

Polo Shirt (white or Grey with Logo)

- Oxford Shirt (White with Logo)
- Pants (Black)
- Cardigan (Black/Red with Logo)
- Blazer (Black with Logo)
- Girls Jumper (Red /Black and white plaid)
- Tie
- **All Black shoes/sneakers only**

6th to 8th Grade Uniform:

- Black pants or skirt
- Polo shirt (Red with School Logo)
- **All Black shoes/sneakers only**

9yth Grade Uniform:

- Tan / Beige Khaki pants
- Polo Shirt (Brown with school logo)
- **All Black shoes / sneakers only**

Behavior and Disciplinary Action:

Above all, it is our intention that the South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts be a safe and healthy place that fosters learning for all of our students, and a bond between our parents, students, and school community.

In order to create and maintain a strong and cooperative school community, we have defined clear behavioral expectations as per the Student Code of Conduct. We have the highest of expectations for our students and stress positive recognition of appropriate behavior. Respectful behavior toward classmates and members of the school community will earn praise and rewards. Inappropriate and undesired actions will be met with serious consequences. School rules and regulation are meant to govern the behavior and be a support to all members of the school community, students, teachers, and administrators alike.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices:

The use of cell phones and electronic devices is prohibited during the school day. All devices should be **turned off** and placed in backpacks or cubbies. Failure to do so will lead to the device being confiscated for the day and repeated offenses will result in disciplinary action. This also includes cameras, Apple watches and Ipads with their own data plans as well as any other electronic device. The school is not liable for stolen items or electronic devices that enter the building.

Breakfast and Lunch Program:

Children need healthy meals to be productive students. Children from households that reach the federal income guidelines are eligible for free or low-cost meals. To qualify for free meals or reduced price, it is important that every parent/guardian submits a Direct Certification Letter from the State Office of Temporary Assistance or complete an application immediately upon registration or at the beginning of the school year. Breakfast is served daily from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

Transportation:

Transportation is provided according to the NYC Department of Transportation. Students who are designated as within walking distance of the school are not eligible to receive public transportation. Those students found eligible will receive school bus transportation according to a schedule that is disseminated to parents at the beginning of the school year. Students who do not qualify for school bus service may receive a student Metrocard to travel by bus or subway.

Student Records:

All student records include educational information, which identifies the student either by name and date of birth or student ID number and are either in written form or on a computer. They include personal and educational information such as test scores and attendance and guidance folders. They do not include notes about students kept by teachers or other school personnel.

Access to Student Records by Parents, Legal Guardians, and Students:

Authorized requests for students' records will be honored. Such requests need not be in writing.

- The parent is entitled to duplicate copies of these records or computer printouts. However, original records may not be removed from the school.
- Access to the record will be made possible at the earliest convenience. In no case will the waiting period be more than forty-five days after the parent or eligible student's request.
- Parents or eligible students can make notes regarding the records. The record is completed at no cost to the parent or student, however; the duplication fee can not exceed twenty-five cents/page. If the parent cannot afford this fee, it will be waived.
- The principal will arrange for a staff representative to explain and interpret the record data to the parent upon request.
- Parents who are disabled or who live outside of the school district are entitled to have photocopies forwarded to them. The Principal will then arrange for a staff member to interpret the record data to the parent by telephone or by mail.
- In the case of estranged, divorced, or separated parents, or in the case of custody issues, requests by the custodial parents or legal custodians to examine the child's records will be honored as outlined above.

- In the case of requests by non-custodial parents to view the child's records, the custodial parent or legal custodian will be notified of such request, and after forty-five days, if no documents are found which bar the non-custodial parent from viewing these records, they will then be made available.

Emergency Contact Cards:

Schools occasionally have to contact parents during the school day when emergencies arise. All students are issued a Home Emergency Contact Card or Blue Card. It is very important that you keep us apprised of changes as soon as they occur. Many of us use cellular phones, and in some cases we change numbers during the year forgetting to alert our children's school. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE US AS SOON AS TELEPHONE/CELL** numbers are changed so that we may have the most updated information in case of emergency.

Birthday Parties:

Kindergarten and 1st grade birthday parties can be celebrated with at least a five-day notice to the classroom teacher and Ms. Carmen Aquino. Please keep in mind that for the 2022-2023 school year parents are not allowed in the classroom. You may come by and drop off the cupcake (store bought preferred) The classroom teacher will celebrate the birthday at 3pm and send parents via bloomz the pictures and videos.

Stay connected:

It is important to stay current with any new information. We will use the Bloomz app for real time school communication. Please feel free to follow us on our website, Instagram or Facebook page, to keep up to date on any changes in the school. Please download our school app to stay connected with your child's teacher.

Website: www.sbsica.org

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sbsica/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sbsica/>

Parent Teacher Organization:

The parents, according to the PTO By-Laws and Regulations, create the Parent-Teacher Organization. The PTO President sits as an active member of the Board of Trustees. The PTO meets the last Wednesday of every month, and staff and administrators are also encouraged to attend these meetings. There are PTO Special Events and Fund-Raisers, in which all parents are encouraged to volunteer, so that special events, cultural artists, and field trips may be purchased for the school.

Parent Appeals and Concern Procedure:

Procedures for Filing Concern/Appeals for South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts

If you have a concern regarding SBCSICA, we encourage you to first speak with your child's Teacher, then to the Assistant Principal or the Parent Coordinator. These staff members may be able to resolve the issue or direct you to the appropriate school staff member for further assistance. It's best informing the school and allows us to resolve the problem in a timely manner.

If the personal outreach does not resolve the issue, any school parent may file a concern.

All concerns must be in the following format:

- be written.
- be signed by the person or agency representative filing the concern.
- specify the requirement of law or regulation being violated and the related issue, problem, and/or the concern.
- contain information/evidence supporting the concern; and
- state the nature of the corrective action desired.

An appeal must contain:

- a copy of the original signed concern
- a copy of the LEA's response to the original concern or a statement that the SBCSICA has failed to respond in 30 business days.

Where should a concern/appeal to the LEA be sent?

Concern/appeals regarding SBCSICA should follow the following complaint procedure:

1. The Principal

School Safety Plan

- **Visitor's Policy:**

Any parent wishing to see a teacher must make an appointment. Under no circumstance will a parent be allowed to interrupt instruction. All appointments must be made during teachers prep before or after school. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Dismissal Plan:

Students will be escorted to their buses at the scheduled time. Students that are in the zoned area must be picked up by 4:00 p.m., no exceptions. Kindergarten and First Grade will begin to dismiss at 3:45 pm. 2nd- 8th grade will begin dismissal at 3:50 pm. Please do not take your child off his/her classroom line. The students follow the teacher to the designated spot and must shake their teacher's hand before a parent takes a student home.

Please note that you must have listed that relative, friend or neighbor in case your child is released early and you will not be at home to care for him or her. Your child should know of this plan.

Also note that you must have listed that relative, friend or neighbor on the "BLUE EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD " because schools are not authorized to release pupils to persons not listed on the card. You should make certain that the card is up to date. If your child takes a school bus, school staff will remain in school with the bus children until buses arrive for dismissal or until your child is picked up.

The safety and welfare of our school family is of primary importance to us.

Cancellations of School Due to Inclement Weather:

Cancellation of school due to inclement weather or emergencies will be based on closing announcements from the New York City Department of Education. Therefore, it is very important to listen to your local radio and television stations for confirmation that the local school district is indeed closing.

In case of a citywide emergency or major storm, the following will take place. The Chancellor will make an announcement to all public schools in the city on whether to close schools or delay their opening. This announcement is made in consultation with other City Officials. All authorized delayed openings will result in the regular starting time being two hours later. By 7:00 am., the decision is announced on 311 Information Line, on the Department of Education

Regular school hours are from: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

If there is an authorized delayed school opening, school hours will be: 10:00 am

When there is an authorized citywide school closing or delayed school opening, the following will also be cancelled unless the Chancellor makes an announcement to the contrary:

All field trips and after-school programs.

When there is an authorized citywide delayed school opening, school buses will run, *but their arrival times will be delayed by two hours.*

It is expected that when there is a delayed opening, students will be in school until their regular dismissal time. However, if citywide emergency conditions or a storm worsen, the Chancellor may have to announce an early dismissal. The Chancellor will notify bus services of the early dismissal schedule. You should advise your child to tell the teacher if no one is at home at the time of an authorized early dismissal. You should have plans in place with a relative, friend or neighbor *in case your child is released early and you will not be at home* to care for him or her.

Mission Statement:

In an effort to represent the community's prestige, the Dual Language Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts is a model of excellence providing its youngsters with a constructivist and child-centered curriculum. Our intellectually challenging and standards-based curriculum is enriched by our international perspective, the arts, and our dual language program. Our students receive a well-rounded education that uses the arts to promote excellence in all areas: cognitive, social, emotional, and moral. Our school meets or exceeds New York State Next Generation Learning Standards, aligns student learning to those standards and supports teachers with professional development opportunities. Our community, our parents, and staff are empowered to participate meaningfully in our school to strengthen its potential for success.

Board of Trustees

SBCSICA was founded on the belief that a high-quality education and a vibrant, deep connection to the local community go hand in hand. By maintaining a strong relationship with the community and teaching students about its rich and complex history, we hope to create citizens who will contribute to the continued revival of the South Bronx. We believe in and set exceptionally high professional and ethical standards for our board, leadership and staff. If necessary, we take swift action to ensure those high standards are maintained as it is of utmost importance that we set an exceptional example for our students.

Angie Gonzalez

Chair Board of Trustees, Executive Committee,

Donald P. Mattson

Vice-Chair Board of Trustees, Executive Committee,

Treasurer, Executive Committee

Priscilla Ocasio

Member, Executive Committee

Elvira Barone

Member, Executive Committee

Genna Fukuda

Member, Executive Committee

Rosemarie Torrez

Member, Executive Committee

Mariel Manon

Member, PTO President

Our Board of Trustees meet every last Thursday of the month at 4:30 pm.