




**Welcome to Back to
School Night
9/22/2022**

Admission for 2023-2024 School Year



Counselor Brian

- Hello! My name is Counselor Brian. I am so excited to continue my journey as a Middle School Counselor at ICS West. I earned my master's degree in Professional School Counseling in 2018 from Eastern University. This is my 20th year working in education and my fifth year as a school counselor. When I'm not working with ICS West's terrific scholars and staff, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy watching movies/shows, Harry Potter, Disney, and rooting for the Philadelphia Sports teams. I'm looking forward to working with the wonderful scholars, parents, and staff at ICS West.



Mission Statement

Independence Charter School West (ICS-West) is a community-based K-8 public charter school of academic excellence, located in South-West Philadelphia and serving a diverse community of learners. ICS-West provides an intellectually-stimulating curriculum with a global focus designed to develop independent, thoughtful global citizens. We emphasize second language acquisition and integrate arts, ideas, and histories from around the world.

Goals

- Assist students and parents throughout the high school selection process.
- Help students identify schools that meet their individual needs.
- Provide students with the tools they need to be successful throughout the high school selection process.
- Meet dates in the timeline of high school selection process.

Contacts

- Principal: Dana Twyman- danat@icswest.org
- Assistant Principal: Alexis Vincent- alexisv@icswest.org
- Middle School Dean: Aminah Dark- aaminahd@icswest.org
- Middle School Counselor: Brian Schmidt- brians@icswest.org
- 8th Grade ELA/Social Studies: Emily Stevens- emilys@icswest.org
- 8th Grade Math/Science: Christopher Wilder- christopherw@icswest.org

2022-2023 High School Selection Timeline

High School Selection Timeline:

Event	Date
PSD School Selection Opens	Friday, September 16 4:00 PM
8th Grade Night For 8th grade parents/guardians and scholars	Wednesday, September 14 3:00-4:00 PM
Apply Philly Charter Application Opens Open to all scholars	Friday, September 23
LeGare meeting request due Applies only to scholars who have an IEP, 504 plan, or who are ELL	Friday, September 30
Virtual High School Fair Open to all scholars in person (PA Convention Center) and virtual.	Friday, October 14 4:00 PM Saturday, October 15 10:00 AM https://phillyhighschoolfair.com/
Initial high school selection due Parents/guardians must return a document indicating who is submitting their child's application (parent/guardian or the school counselor)	Friday, October 7
Out of district consent due Applies only to scholars who do not live in Philadelphia	Friday, October 7
Final high school selection due Parents/guardians must return a document listing their child's 5 final high school selections	Friday, October 14
Receipt of LeGare folder due Applies only to scholars who have an IEP/504 plan or who are ELL	Friday, October 21
Deliveries School counselor will deliver LeGare documents	Friday, October 28
School selection closes PSD closes their school application	Friday, November 4 11:59 PM

2022 PHILLY HIGH SCHOOL FAIR

Philly High School Fair

<https://www.phillyhighschoolfair.com/>

PA Convention Center

Friday, October 14 4:00 PM

Saturday, October 15 10:00 AM



School Selection Information

- Philadelphia School District selection is open from September 16- November 4.
- Scholars can apply to FIVE public high schools. There is no limit on charter or private school applications. Scholars do not have to apply to their catchment school.
- The school counselor will assist each Philadelphia resident with applications to FIVE public schools. Any district scholar who wishes to apply to charter and/or private schools must apply on their own.
- Information about virtual shadow days/open houses will be sent out once available.

School Selection Information, cont'd

- Non-district scholars - your counselor will contact you to schedule a meeting
- Scholars with disabilities, 504 plans, and English Language Learners are eligible for the LeGare Consent Decree. Your counselor will call parents/guardians of eligible scholars to schedule meetings.
- [Philadelphia High School Directory](#)
- [Resource Links](#)** Please bookmark this page!!

General Requirements for Criteria Based Schools

- A's and B's with the possible exception of one C in a major subject in 6th and 7th grade
- Exemplary attendance & punctuation for 6th and 7th grade
- Standardized Test Scores for 6th and 7th grade
- Please see [admissions criteria](#) for requirements for specific schools

Recommendation Letters/Essay

- Recommendation letters and essays are no longer required for The School District of Philadelphia
- The school counselor will NOT submit any recommendations or essay if not required by the high school. Please be mindful of this when requesting recommendations from teachers and community members.
- Scholars must ask for a recommendation. Scholars must ask at least 2 weeks ahead of time.
- All recommendations must be submitted by November 4 for private schools.

Auditions

AUDITION

Arts Academy at Ben Rush - *ALL applicants MUST submit an audition video in order to be considered for admission:*

<https://rush.philasd.org/auditions/>

CAPA - *Contact the school for more details*

Franklin Learning Center - *Auditions for Music & Dance Only, Contact Mr. Gist at flc@philasd.org for details*

GAMP - *Contact the school for more details*

Project Based Submissions

Parents must contact SLA Center City and SLA Beeber to schedule project based submissions. All other schools will contact the families after the application has been submitted.

Citywide Schools

- There are no academic requirements
- Admission is lottery based
- Must participate in an interview to be considered for admission

Philadelphia Charter High Schools

- You can apply to most charter schools via [Apply Philly Charter](#).
- Deadline is January 23, 2023
- Please note that parents/guardians are responsible for applying to charter schools
- [Charter High Schools in Philadelphia](#)

Private/Parochial Schools

- Please review admissions requirements on each school's website
- Counselors will assist, but cannot submit applications for families
- Please submit transcript/recommendation requests one week ahead of time
- Mock exams:
 - ISEE
 - SSAT

Thank you!
Please put your questions in the chat or
email them.

Brian Schmidt: brians@icswest.org