



# Waterside Children's Studio School

P.S. 317Q

1-90 Beach 110<sup>th</sup>

Rockaway Park, NY 11694

Phone: (718) 634-1344

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Email: [watersidecss@gmail.com](mailto:watersidecss@gmail.com)

Website: [www.watersidecss.org](http://www.watersidecss.org)

Dana Gerendasi, Principal

Zoraida Quiles, Parent Coordinator

Katie McGillicuddy, Assistant Principal

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September 5, 2019

## Greetings WCSS Families:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year of the Waterside Children's Studio School, P.S. 317. If you are new to our school, I would like to welcome you to our school family. We are very excited to meet you and your child! As we enter a new school year, my hope is that we will continue to move in the direction of high academic achievement and college and career readiness for ALL of our children aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards (PK-2) and Common Core Learning Standards (3-5).

Just a reminder, our school day begins promptly at 8:00AM, with doors opening at 7:30AM for breakfast. Beginning Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, all students in K-5 will enter from the back of the school building facing Beach 109<sup>th</sup> Street. Pre-K arrival and dismissal is in their classrooms beginning at 7:30AM and dismissal is at 2:20PM. At 2:20PM, K-2 dismisses in the small yard and 3-5 dismisses in the big yard behind the school by Beach 109<sup>th</sup> Street. Please make sure that your child gets to school on time every day. As I have mentioned before, the standards and expectations are high and students who come late to school miss important rigorous instruction. Please make every effort to get your child to school on time every day.

SAVE THE DATE for our annual WCSS Back to School Night. Learn all about our curriculum, programs, enrichment, and student expectations from your child's teacher, cluster teachers, and administration. This is an important evening, so we encourage ALL of our families to attend.

**When:** Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 - 7:30

When families are involved, educators, students and parents can take our school to great heights. With that being said, we want your support. Parent involvement is a very important aspect of every child's education. There are many ways in which you can participate in our school. Attending our schools information sessions and academic workshops, coming to our monthly PTA meetings, participating in our family arts nights, makerfaires, and enrichment showcases, chaperoning field trips, being part of our monthly class celebrations and Family



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Fridays, volunteering for the parent-teacher association and assisting with many activities around the school are just a few things that you can do to make a difference. Even if you work during the day, you can be involved by doing things at home for our school. Please feel free to contact our school and our FANTASTIC PTA to get more information. We will be more than happy to discuss with you any aspects of family involvement.

I would also like to remind you of our school website ([www.watersidecss.org](http://www.watersidecss.org)) that has a ton of information about our school, including an updated calendar for upcoming events. Additionally, you can find a complete list of school supplies needed by grade on the homepage of our website. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please email me at [watersidecss@gmail.com](mailto:watersidecss@gmail.com). We will also be continuing to use our school communication tool called Bloomz for the entire school community (Pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade). Please look on our website for the class codes to sign up. **PLEASE NOTE** that we are a Go Green school and all communication will be sent via BLOOMZ including letters from teachers and administration. If you need guidance, please email our amazing STEAM teacher, Ms. Camuti, at [watersidesteam@gmail.com](mailto:watersidesteam@gmail.com).

Our cell phone/game system policy remains unchanged. Students may bring their cell phones to school, but they must not be taken out while in school. If a student is seen with a cell phone while in school, it will be taken away and returned only to the parent. Gaming devices are not allowed at school. If a child is seen playing with the device, it will be taken away and returned only to the parent. Please note, WCSS will not be held responsible for any lost or stolen phones and/or devices brought to school.

Waterside is a second home for your children. Their continued safety and support is our top priority. I am excited to have the opportunity to continue to grow together as a school community. As the year moves forward, I welcome you to share any of your ideas and suggestions into what you would like to see happen at our school either through our parent suggestion box or by calling our parent coordinator, Zoraida Quiles. We are so excited for this school year!!!

Sincerely yours,

Dana Gerendasi