



Mental Health Awareness Month

Community Education Council Meeting

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

May 4th, 2026

Dr. Khalek Kirkland, Superintendent

Dr. Mickisha McKoy, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Ronda Phillips, Executive Director of School Support & Operations



Our Vision & Mission



District 23 schools establish a culture of joy, high expectations, critical thinking, and cultural competence in partnership with our families and school communities. We emphasize equitable and welcoming learning environments where every child will receive high-quality instruction every day.



At D23, we are steadfast in our commitment to realizing our vision through E.Q.U.I.T.Y, empowering our families and communities as true partners in our scholars' success. We prioritize high-quality instruction and set ambitious expectations, leveraging innovative ideas and resources to enhance both academic and social-emotional learning. Our instructional approach is grounded in the science of reading and focused on cultivating academic excellence and character development. By recognizing and nurturing each scholar's unique strengths, we are building strong pathways to lifelong success and economic security, delivering exceptional results across all schools in District 23.



District Priority Goals 1 and 3

DCEP Goal: Priority 1- All Students Learn to Read Well

By June 2026, literacy for All Students will improve, as measured by a 5% Increase, from 48.6 to 53.6, of percentage of students scoring at or above grade level on the NYS exam results

DCEP Goal: Priority 3- All Students Have a High Quality Academic Experience

By June, 2026, the Percent of students scoring at or above grade-level proficiency will increase by 7% as measured by the State assessments will Increase by 7% from 49.3% to 56%, for All Students, as measured by Math screeners, state exams results and progress monitoring tools IE... module/end of unit assessments.

Standards Mastery Math- as of 4/24/26



Part 1

Grade	Standard	Completed/ Assigned	% Proficient	%Progressing	% Beginning
3	NY-3.NBT.4a NY-3.NBT.4b:	222/307	61	18	20
4	NY-4.MD.4	228/311	10	18	72
5	NY-5.MD.5.a NY-5.MD.5.b	191/249	41	30	29
6	NY-6.G.2	77/202	8	22	70
7	NY-7.SP.3 NY-7.SP.4:	106/230	14	46	40
8	NY-8.G.8	30/124	20	20	60

Part 2

Grade	Standard/S kill	Completed/ Assigned	% Proficient	% Progressing	% Beginning
3	NY-3.NF.1	208/307	56	26	18
4	NY-4.MD.5. a NY-4.MD.5. b NY-4.MD.6	175/311	18	39	42
5	NY-5.MD.5. c	153/300	15	25	59
6	NY-6.G.4	60/237	3	37	60
7	NY-7.SP.8.a NY-7.SP.8.b NY-7.SP.8.c	64/230	14	23	63
8	NY-8.G.9	20/124	15	25	60

Highest proficiency: Grade 3 (61%) on Part 1 and (56%) on Part 2



Standards Mastery ELA as of 3/31/26

Grade	Standard	Completed/ Assigned	% Proficient	%Progressing	% Beginning
3	3R3-1	330/468	26	45	28
4	4R3-2	336/422	43	33	24
5	5R1-2	275/392	39	28	33
6	6L1a-i	163/303	19	53	28
7	7L2a-c	176/274	31	56	13
8	8L2a-c	219/349	13	62	26

Highest proficiency: Grade 5 (42%)



Student Services

INCIDENTS		
BEHAVIORAL INCIDENTS		
PY L1-3	CY L1-3	%Chg L1-3
618.0	557.0	-9.9%
PY L4-5	CY L4-5	%Chg L4-5
382.0	329.0	-13.9%

As of May 1, 2026, districtwide, there has been a 9.9% **reduction** in **levels 1-3 incidents** and a -13.9% **decrease** in **level 4 and 5 incidents**, while comparing this year to the 2024-2025 school year.



Student Services

SUICIDE IDEATION (O57)		
PY Ideation	CY Ideation	%Chg Ideation
32.0	27.0	-15.6%

As of May 1, 2026, districtwide, there has been a 15.6% **decrease** in the number of **Suicide Ideations**, while comparing our current year to the 2024-2025 school year.



Student Services Outcome

Decreases in both behavioral incidents and suicide ideations may have occurred due to a culmination of many factors including:

- More mental health support (counselors, early help, community)
- Stronger SEL programs (coping, emotional skills)
- Enhanced school climate (belonging, less bullying)
- Targeted interventions (MTSS/PBIS)
- Greater family/community involvement
- Restorative vs. punitive discipline
- Improved screening and staff training



Additional Priority- Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism

- Current daily attendance average 88.8%
- Current Chronic Absence rate 43.8%
- Students w/Disabilities daily attendance rate 89%
- Students w/Disabilities CA rate 44%
- Students in Temporary Housing daily attendance rate 88%
- Students in Temporary Housing CA rate 47%
- **Highest CA rates by Grade district-wide**
 - Pre-Kindergarten 52%,
 - Kindergarten 50%
 - 3rd Grade 43%
 - 4th Grade 40%

Schools are working with at-risk of CA students by creating individualized student attendance plans for the months of April/May and tracking their daily attendance.

Schools are planning incentives both academic and social to increase attendance before and after holidays and in June.

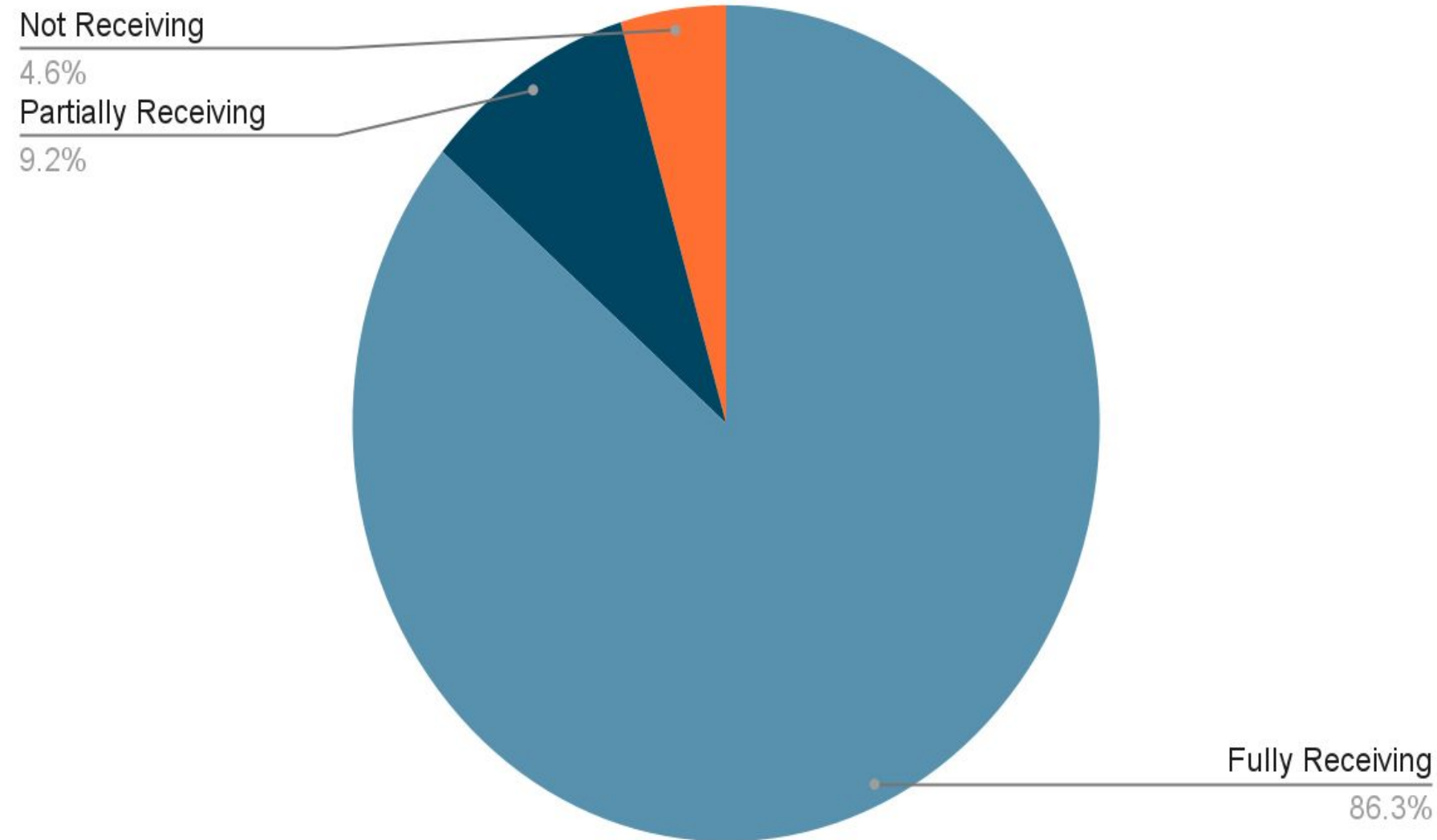


Special Education

Provision of Special Education Services:

Percentage of students who are receiving the recommended services.

Students Receiving Status



Currently we are:

1. Beginning the hiring process so students will begin to receive all services in-house.
2. Ensuring that sub-teachers with licenses are connected to the appropriate classes.



Special Education

**Progress towards Individualized Education Program Goals:
Percentage of who are meeting their IEP Goals**

Meeting IEP Goal	Not Meeting IEP Goals
85%	15%

Action Steps:

- 1. Continue to put focus on progress monitoring efforts throughout the district, accurate and timely updates.**
- 2. Working with school special education leads on proper IEP & goal development.**



Family Engagement

Our District 23 Parent Coordinators have been working hard to sign up District 23 families for NYC Kids RISE. To ensure compliance, schools have set up tables outside during arrival and dismissal to help increase participation and provide all scholars with a head start toward funds for college. In addition, they continue to host monthly workshops and provide ongoing support to parents as needed.



NYCPS Guidance on AI

**Feedback from community
is due by May 8th 2026!**

The **Guidance on Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, released in **March 2026**, is NYC Public Schools' first systemwide framework for how AI may—and may not—be used across schools. It is explicitly described as a **starting point**, not a final policy, and will later be expanded into a more detailed **AI Playbook** following community feedback.

The guidance applies to **students, families, educators, and school leaders** and emphasizes that: *Teaching and learning are human endeavors served by technology—not replaced by it.*

[guidance-on-artificial-intelligence](#)

Core Principles

NYCPS grounds the guidance in several foundational beliefs:

- **Human judgment comes first:** AI cannot replace teachers, counselors, principals, or relationships with students and families.
- **Student safety and equity are non-negotiable.**
- **AI must be age-appropriate**, transparent, and monitored.
- **Technology supports instruction** but does not define it. [AI Guidance](#)

[AI Survey](#)



Summer Rising Schools at District 23

K041, K156, K178, K298,
K327, K401, K446, K644



Family Engagement

A glimpse of some of our amazing schools in action!





Districtwide Events



AIM Gala 2026: Celebrating 20 years of the Science of Reading
Dr. Kirkland, Principal Jackson and BCMS AIM trained staff



Districtwide Events

Newest Cohort 5 of 95-hour Certified Yoga and Mindfulness Teachers





Upcoming: Math Madness

Math Madness is an annual fun, district-wide math competition that gives students another motivating way to practice and strengthen their skills during state testing season-bringing together students, schools, and families to celebrate learning and effort across District 23.

DISTRICT TWENTY THREE
23
BROOKLYN

2026 Math Madness

Elementary Schools
1st Grade: May 11, 2026 at 23K284
2nd Grade: May 12, 2026 at 23K137
3rd Grade: May 13, 2026 at 23K401
4th Grade: May 14, 2026 at 23K298
5th Grade: May 18, 2026 at 23K599

Middle Schools
6th Grade: May 19, 2026 at 23K178
7th Grade: May 20, 2026 at 23K363
8th Grade: May 21, 2026 at 23K184

Contact Dr. Padmore-Gateau for additional information
epadmoregateau@schools.nyc.gov

Multiply!
4
7 × 8
▲ 52 ◆ 56
● 48 ■ 42



Upcoming: STEAM Fair on May 28, 2026

Students can channel their focus into hands-on innovation, effectively reinforcing the skills they are practicing in the classroom.

Core Objectives:

- **Skill Reinforcement:** Encouraging students to apply Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics concepts to real-world problem-solving.
- **Community Cohesion:** Uniting students, educators, and families across District 23 to celebrate the collective effort and intellectual growth of our scholars.
- **Student Participation:** K–8 students are invited to present original projects that showcase their unique talents and critical thinking.

DISTRICT TWENTY THREE
23
BROOKLYN

STEAM FAIR

2026

Innovate • Create • Explore • Inspire

Calling All K-8 Students!

Join us for an exciting day of creativity, discovery, and hands-on learning at the **District 23 STEAM Fair!**

What is STEAM?

STEAM stands for:
Science • Technology • Engineering • Arts • Mathematics

Think like scientists, build like engineers, create like artists, and solve like mathematicians!

Project Ideas by Grade Band:

Grades K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fun Science ExperimentsBuilding with BlocksNature Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">STEAM ChallengesSimple CodingModel Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engineering DesignsRobotics ProjectsReal-World Solutions

Event Location:
BCMS 363
85 Watkins Street
Brooklyn, NY 11212

Contact: Kemaaleka Clarke-Davidson
kclarke2@schools.nyc.gov

Free Summer Resources

[NYC Parks Department](#)

[Fresh Air Fund](#)

[Summer at the Library](#)

[Free Summer Meals](#)

[Inside Schools Free Programs](#)

[Culture Pass](#)



Districtwide Events Calendar & Upcoming Family Engagement

- **Math Madness May 11th-May 21st**
- **STEAM Fair- May 28th**
- **Honor's Haven- A July Session**



NYS Math Exam and Statewide Connectivity Issues

Across four of our schools scheduled to administer the NYS Math Exam on April 29, 2026, approximately 164 students were unable to test due to statewide connectivity issues.

Note: The testing window runs through May 15. Schools may select any day within this window to administer a make-up exam.

Overview & Calendar

2026 ELA/Math and Science Administration

As a reminder, for Spring 2026, grades 3-8 will take the NYS Grades 3-8 ELA and mathematics, and the grade 5 and grade 8 science exams on a computer. The administration window for the exams is as follows:

Exam Type	Start Date	End Date
ELA Administration*	Tuesday, April 14	Friday, April 24
Math Administration*	Tuesday, April 28	Friday, May 8
Science Administration (Grades 5 & 8)*	Tuesday, May 12	Friday, May 15



CONNECT WITH US!



ENROLL NOW

OUR DISTRICT HAS AN APP!

GET IT ON **Google Play** Available on the **App Store**

SOLVED

Our CSA and UFT district representatives working together with Superintendent Dr. Kirkland on behalf of the children of ...

@D23Rising: Week 4 - Another great week in D23 filled with engaging instruction, extracurricular activities, and fun #d23rising #drkirklandd23supt @ps_is_178 @bees_ms664 @brooklyn_landmark @ps41_brownsville @kappavms518 @MottHallBridges

Social News About Schools Resources



Download our School App!

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[Community School District 23 NYC | D23 Rising](#)

