



December 2018

Dear Families and Friends of PS 68 Falcons,

Due to the sudden snow storm on Parent Teacher Conference evening last month, many families need to reschedule a time to connect with your child's teacher. Our teachers are prepared to accommodate an appointment that works for you and your family. Please reach out directly to your child's teacher.

We will also reschedule each of the **Family Empowerment Learning Series** workshops during the January evening Parent Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, January 22, 2018. The topics will include:

- Homework with Purpose: PS 68 Policy and Practices
- Understanding our Grading Policy & Unpacking your Child's Report Card: Delving into Mastery Learning
- How Parents and Families Support Oral Language and Vocabulary
- Attendance Works: Parents Can Build the Habit of Good Attendance

We Hear You!

There are two topics abuzz at PS 68. Homework and recess. Here are our thoughts as well as the NYCDOE policy that guides our practices on these two matters.

Homework:

Research on homework shows that the act of homework alone does not have a positive impact on student learning. Research has also shown that homework can have a negative effect on a student's desire to learn. It is our school policy to provide experiences or "homework" as a connection between home and school. It is our intention to provide meaningful homework experiences that are purposeful, efficient, personalized, doable, and inviting. Most importantly, students need to see how the works connects to their own learning. It is NYCDOE policy to assign no penalties for missed or incomplete homework. We have decided a survey is needed to capture our families' opinions about homework. Please complete your Family Perception Survey regarding our Homework Policy during December Family Fun Friday.

Recess:

As a school that focuses on wellness, we believe students need brain breaks and physical activities each and every day. For this reason, our students enjoy 30 minutes of recess in addition to 30 minutes of lunch. Our students will go outside for outdoor physical activities unless it is actively raining or there is ice/ snow on the ground. The NYCDOE requires 60 minutes of physical activity daily and strongly recommends that all elementary schools offer at least 20 minutes of recess on all or most days during the school year.

All my best,

Lorrie Brown
Founding Principal



Communicate with us. Your involvement in your child's school life is immeasurable.

- Place your thoughts and ideas in our Suggestion Box located in the main lobby.
- Gather information from our website- www.ps68.org.
- Connect with Class Dojo. See your child's teachers if you aren't connected already.
- Find us on Twitter at @ps68si1
- Read emails from 31R068 and contact us at 31R068@schools.nyc.gov.
- Give us a call at 718-816-337.
- Connect with the PS 68 PTA on Facebook and at theps68pta@gmail.com