

M.S. 88 FAQs

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: Am I going to get to be in the House I want?

A: Most likely, yes. The vast majority of our students get to be in the House they select on their House Preference Form. If you get placed in your second choice House, we believe it will be a great fit for you, and will be happy to talk further to see if you're willing to give it a try. All of our Houses are awesome in different ways!

Q: Can I change houses if I want to?

A: Sure, but most kids don't want to.

Q: How am I going to know what to do at the beginning of 6th grade?

A: We don't know yet whether we'll be together in real life, remote, or a combo of the two. Whatever format, you will get information from us by email and phone about how to navigate your first day, week, month and beyond!

Q: Am I going to have an Advisor?

A: At MS88 we have Social Emotional Learning classes, and teacher teams ensure that every student has a trusted point person who supports them in knowing and navigating the ropes.

Q: Do students have homeroom at M.S. 88?

A: Rather than home room each class has a designated teacher. Also, students stay with their assigned class throughout the day, and are taught by a House-based teacher team. These systems mean that students form rich and intimate communities!

Q: Does this school have a library?

A: Yes! It is on the second floor and it is awesome! Our librarian and media specialist, Ms. Wolfe, is pretty much the best. Check us out (and all our cool activities!) on Instagram: @ms88library. All ELA classrooms also have rich libraries.

Q: Sweet. Can I check *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*?

A: You absolutely can... next year.

Q: Do students have lockers?

A: No, students leave their coats and extra belongings in their first period class.

Q: Can we leave the building for lunch?

A: Unfortunately, because of our location near a highway we think it is safer for everyone to stay in the school. Students do get a chance to exercise and have movement activities in our M.S. 88 courtyard after they finish eating!

Q: Oh, sorry. Is that a comfort dog I see?

A: Yes, we have an adorable comfort dog named Bailey. He is great. He has a busy, daily schedule where he visits with students and classes.

Q: Are there 6th grade honor classes? What about Regents classes?

A: There are no 6th grade honor classes. All students in 8th grade are given an opportunity to take Algebra I, Living Environment and U.S. History. We believe that all students are capable of advanced, rigorous work!

Q: Are there things to do after school?

A: Yes, we have a giant menu of after school programs to choose from, and some before school activities, too! Whether you love sports, arts, academics, games, or basically anything else, we have a club for you!

Q: Is there bussing at M.S. 88?

A: Students that need transportation to school are provided free metrocards. As one 6th grade parent put it, “basically the B67 and B69 are school buAses from 7 to 8 A.M.” All D15 students are also entitled to free yellow school buses.

Q: Does M.S. 88 have prom/school dances/fun events?

A: We have so many fun events! Every quarter there is an “Honor Roll” field trip for students who earned over 85% in every class. There is also a prom for 8th graders in spring, and other fun events throughout the year like the Halloween carnival!

Q: Are there things that I should be doing over the summer to get ready for middle school?

A: The most important thing you can do over the summer is read as much as possible! Middle school is all about reading and writing, and it’s super important to keep up your reading skills during break.

Q: Did you know that M.S. 88 received “highly effective” scores in every category of their quality review?

A: Of course.