

High School Admissions Information and Q&As

February 17, 2022

Survey on New Screened High Schools Admissions Process

Respondents: Over 520 respondents in a week

- Survey created by a group of informed parents
- Disseminated through social media and PTAs
- Results will be updated as more responses are received

Focus #1: The High School Application Process

- Do parents understand the HS application process? Is it easy for parents to navigate the process?
- Do parents understand the DOE methodology for screened HS (grouping + lottery)

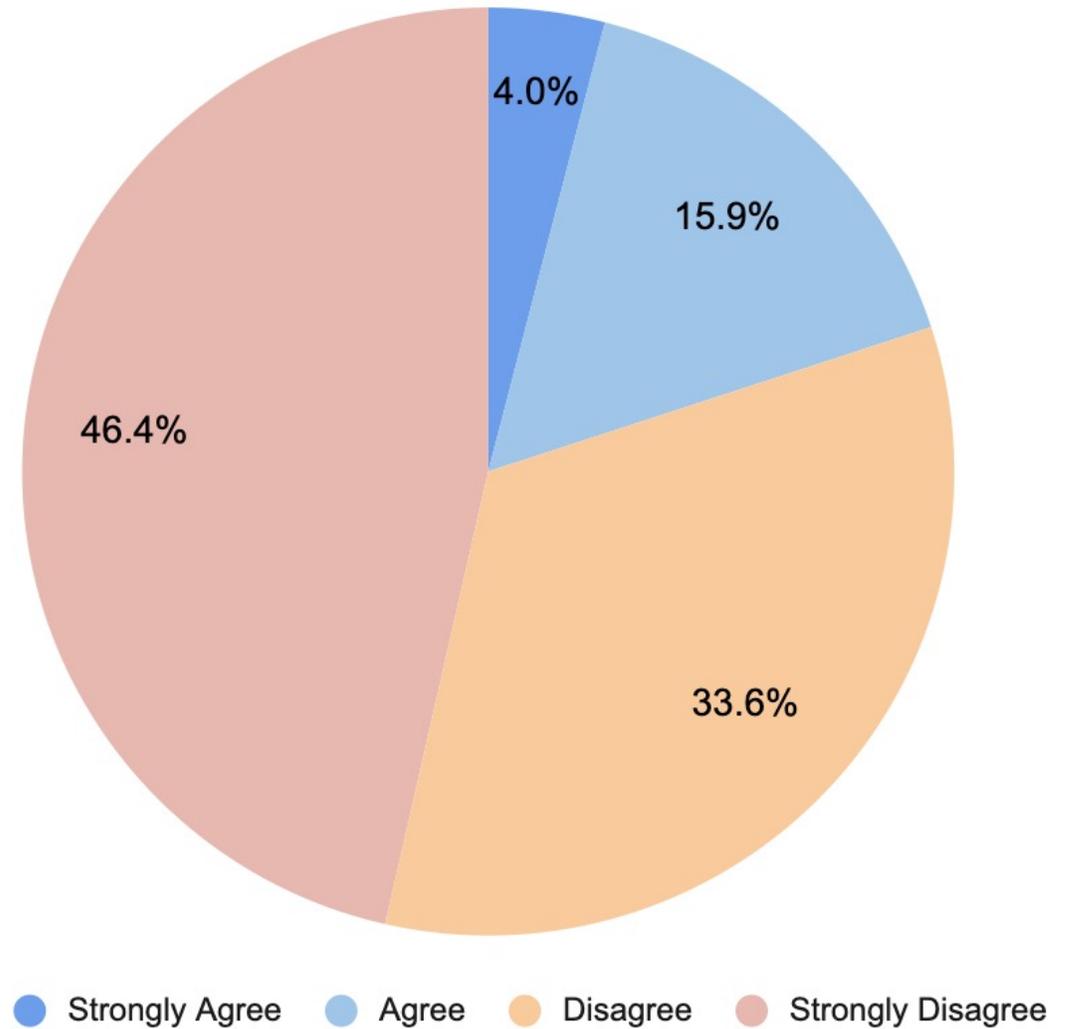
Focus #2: Parents' Views of Current Admissions Policies

- Do parents perceive these policies to be fair and equitable?
- Do parents believe the public school system will give children an opportunity to reach their fullest potential?
- Are parents looking at alternatives?

Selected Comments

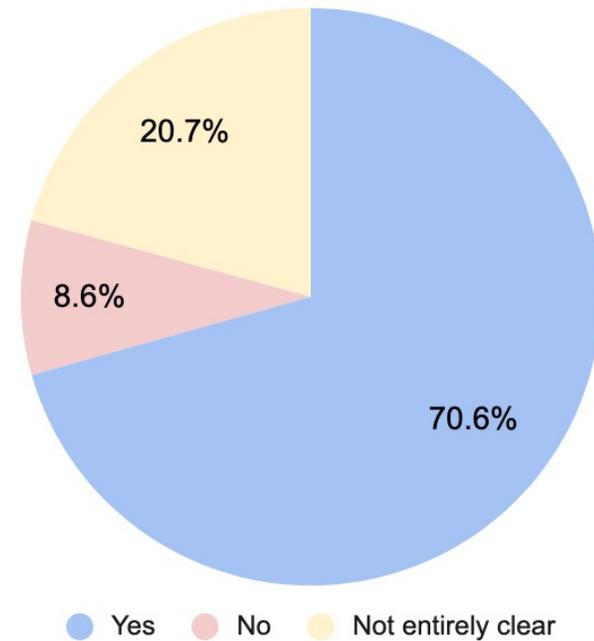
The high school application process is difficult for parents to understand and navigate.

HS Application process is easy for me to understand and navigate

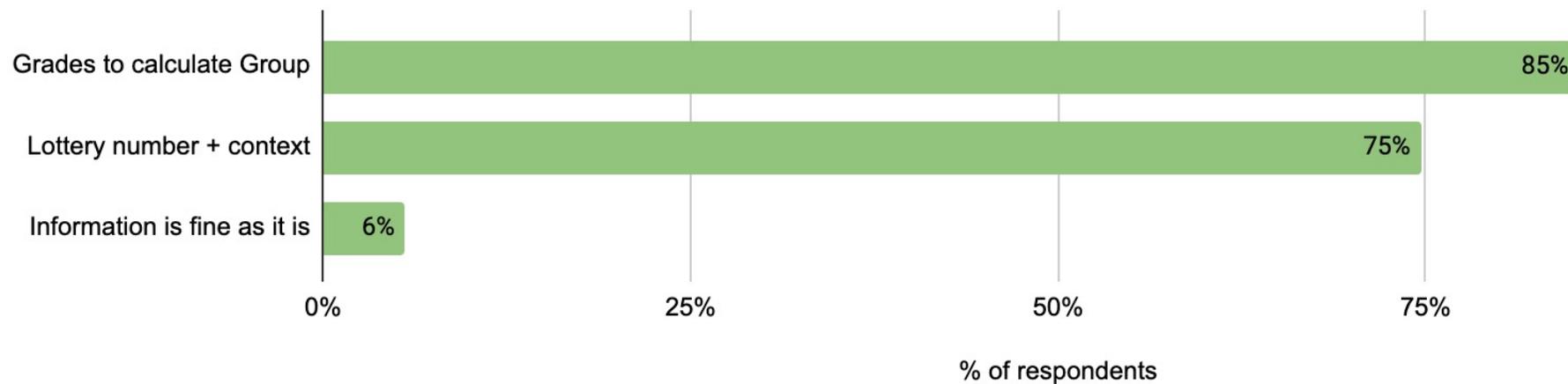


While parents by and large understand the new screened high school application process, they want more information and transparency.

I understand the new Screened HS placement process

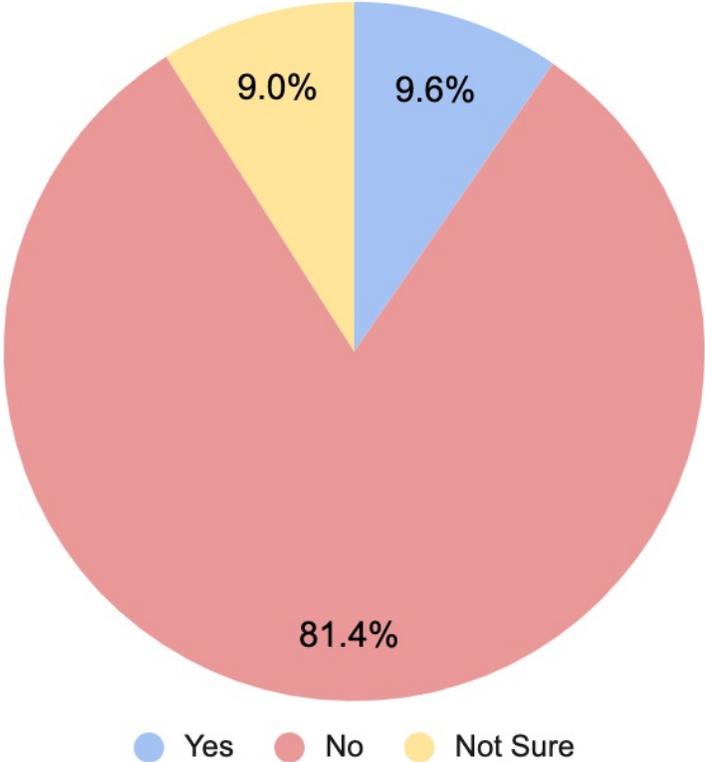


What else would you like to be able to see in Myschools?



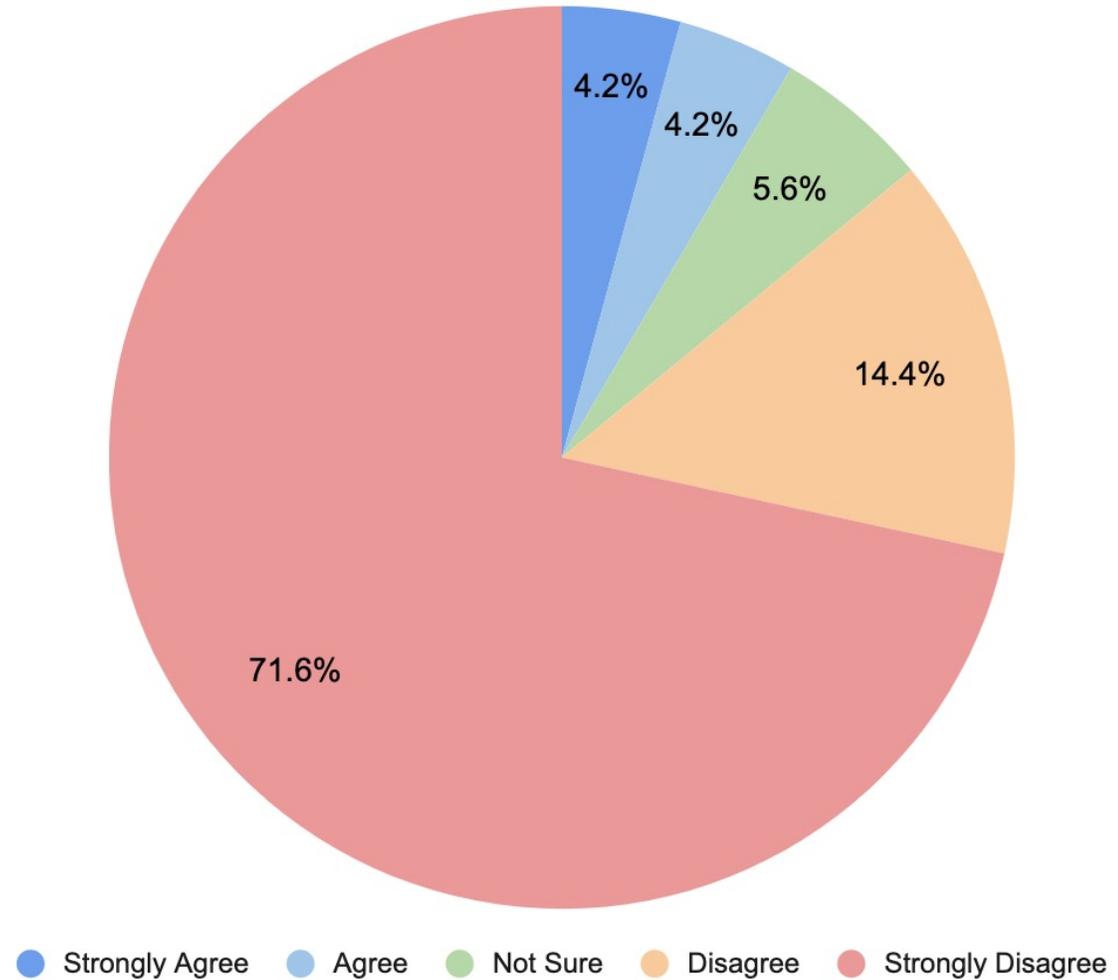
Only 11% believe
the high school
placement process
for screened
programs is fair and
equitable.

Process for Screened HS Placement is fair and equitable



Parents are losing faith in our public education system.

I believe that the current DOE policies will provide the best opportunity for my child to reach their fullest potential



Are parents looking for alternatives?

Latest enrollment data suggest this is the case and based on our survey these trends are likely to continue.

Parents considering schools outside of the system

- 46% have considered private or independent schools
- 29% have considered parochial schools
- 23% have considered charter schools

55% of parents have considered leaving NYC altogether

25% have no other choice but to stay in the public school system

MySchool Account

Student's Profile

- Student name + OSIS number
- Zoned program if any
- GE vs. SWD
- IEP or not
- Full priced meal or FRL (for DIA)
- Recently: grades in 4 core subjects and period applicable

School information

- Location
- Number of students
- Performance metrics (graduation rate, college attendance, safety...)
- Academic offering
- Link to school report data
- Priorities for admissions
 - Zoned School
 - Borough Priority
 - Continuing Middle School
 - DIA set aside
- Admissions Method
 - Academic Screens, Ed Op, lottery, Consortium (essay), Audition
- Seats offered + number of applicants per seat for both:
 - GenEd
 - SWD

Applying to High School

- Ranking up to 12 programs
 - Possible to rank multiple programs per school
- True Order of Preference
- Submitting additional information (essays, audition material) through Myschools
- Deadline now extended to March 11 (22 days to go)
- La Guardia and Specialized High Schools are NOT part of the 12
- Results: May?
- Post Results: waitlists:
 - Automatically
 - Additional

Resources:

- Myschools information
- Link to more specific information about each school: <https://tools.nycenet.edu/snapshot/2021/>
- Middle School Guidance Counselor / “High School Articulation Specialist”
- Virtual Tours / information on schools’ websites
- In person tours offered selectively – call!
- Talking to parents with children there, friends with older siblings, social media (e.g. PTA Facebook groups)

New Screened High Schools Admissions Process

Highest of 7th grade year end or either of the first two 8th grade marking periods in four core subjects – ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies

Assign a point value for each grade

- 85-100 = 400 points
- 75-84 = 300 points
- 65-74 = 200 points
- <65 = 100 points

Take the average of the 4 point values to determine Tier

- 350-400 points = Tier 1
- 250-349 points = Tier 2
- 150-249 points = Tier 3
- <150 points = Tier 4

Students who apply to the same school will be entered into a lottery with other students in the same tier.

Two Examples of Students Assigned to Tier 1

Student A					
Subject	7th Grade	8th Grade Pd 1	8th Grade Pd 2	Highest Grade	Points Assigned
ELA	65	85	70	85	400
Math	65	65	75	75	300
Soc Studies	75	85	75	85	400
Science	75	70	70	75	300
GPA	70	76.25	72.5		
Average Points					350
Tier Assigned					1

Student B					
Subject	7th Grade	8th Grade Pd 1	8th Grade Pd 2	Highest Grade	Points Assigned
ELA	97	98	99	99	400
Math	98	99	99	99	400
Soc Studies	98	99	100	100	400
Science	98	99	99	99	400
GPA	97.75	98.75	99.25		
Average Points					400
Tier Assigned					1

Disconnect from the GPA calculation

ALFIE

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	99	400
Math	98	400
Soc Studies	98	400
Science	97	400
GPA	98.0	
Average		400
Group		1

BEATRICE

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	70	200
Math	96	400
Soc Studies	92	400
Science	94	400
GPA	88.0	
Average		350
Group		1

CHARLIE

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	85	400
Math	75	300
Soc Studies	85	400
Science	75	300
GPA	80.0	
Average		350
Group		1

DAVID

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	85	400
Math	85	400
Soc Studies	85	400
Science	65	200
GPA	80.0	
Average		350
Group		1

ELLEN

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	84	300
Math	84	300
Soc Studies	84	300
Science	100	400
GPA	88.0	
Average		325
Group		2

FRANCES

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	99	400
Math	99	400
Soc Studies	84	300
Science	74	200
GPA	89.0	
Average		325
Group		2

GARY

	Grade	Equivalent
ELA	84	300
Math	84	300
Soc Studies	84	300
Science	88	400
GPA	85.0	
Average		325
Group		2

Lottery Numbers

- Each applicant has ONE lottery number randomly generated
- Hexadecimal number: 0-9, then A-E
- What matters is the first two numbers / digits
 - A good number: **3B**1920AF-F1C6-40EC-8E9A-3E1E50CB13BB
 - A not so good number: **D5**1920AF-F1C6-40EC-8E9A-3E1E50CB13BB
- Email HSEnrollment@schools.nyc.gov to obtain it. Provide your child's name + OSIS number
- Useful links on Lottery numbers

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/how-students-get-offers-to-doe-public-schools/random-numbers-in-admissions>

<https://medium.com/algorithms-in-the-wild/decoding-the-nyc-school-admission-lottery-numbers-bae7148e337d>

https://placenyc.org/2022/01/19/middle-school-admissions-how-to-get-your-lottery-number-and-what-does-it-mean/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=middle-school-admissions-how-to-get-your-lottery-number-and-what-does-it-mean

How is the Lottery Number used by the DOE?

- Lottery is used when there are some seats available for a particular priority group but there are more applicants in that group than there are seats available
- Expect a very large pool of Group 1 applicants based on the broad Grouping, ***essentially, screened programs are lotteries among Group 1 applicants***
- Schools fill GenEd and SWD “buckets” of seats
- When schools have a DIA set aside, lottery among qualified applicants for DIA, and lottery also for non-DIA seats

Why should you ask for your lottery number?

- 1. For a more realistic approach on what your 12 choices should be**
- 2. For a more realistic approach on options outside the DOE**

Other Changes from Past Years

Attendance is no longer considered in admissions (Since 2021)

State test scores are not considered this year due to lack of availability of test scores (Since 2021)

All admissions decisions will be made at the centralized DOE level rather than at the individual school level

Additional Perspective: last year's outcomes

In 2021, 7% of HS school applicants received NONE of their first 12 choices

- In District 22, it was 11%
- In District 15, it was 9%

That number was considerable higher in Manhattan, where District Priority was removed and there are only a few High Schools with Borough Priority (none of which are screened)

- In District 2, that number was 18%, which was itself up from 10% from the year before
- In District 3, that number was 12%

What is being done? Can anything be done?

- CEC Resolutions
 - Non-binding
- Contacting the DOE
 - FirstDeputyChancellor@schools.nyc.gov
 - Chancellor@schools.nyc.gov
- Reaching out to elected officials (borough president, Mayor, city-councilmember, state assembly person and state senator)
- Press coverage
- Petition: <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-eric-adams-demand-fair-and-transparent-high-school-admissions-from-chancellor-banks-and-nyc>

Proposed solutions:

- Delay admissions
- Allow Schools to have their own admissions method (like the Consortium schools), non-centralized including essay, test, submission of graded work...
- Allow GPA ranking
- Narrow the bands to reduce the lottery pool size



Q&As