



# Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

## TAG PTA – WHO WE ARE

Every parent, guardian, and teacher of a student attending TAG is automatically a **member of the PTA**. At TAG, we believe parents are their children's first teachers, and that parent involvement is essential to a child's academic success. Our mission is to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff at TAG, and to provide resources to support the school in offering outstanding curricular and enrichment opportunities for our students. To make the most of our students' education at TAG, we urge each parent to **get involved!** The more involved parents we have, the more opportunities we can collectively provide for our students. Active members have been a valuable resource for starting and maintaining projects and programs that benefit our children.

Start by **joining our mailing** list at <https://www.tagscholarspta.org/pta-registration.html>

Please join us at our annual **Welcome Event, Sat June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11am - 2pm** (find information and RSVP on our website <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/>). This will be a great opportunity for incoming families to mingle with each other and to meet current TAG families. There will be food, face painting, crafts, and other fun activities.

## MESSAGE FROM TAG PTA CO-PRESIDENTS 2017-18

As Co-Presidents, we would like to **welcome all the new parents and children to the TAG Family!** We look forward to a very productive and exciting year ahead and need all the help we can get from everyone of you as we work to meet the goals that we have set for ourselves as an organization. Everything we do as a PTA is for the **benefit of our children**, to give them the best education possible in-curriculum and also through after-school enrichment programs. We have worked hard to build a good relationship with the TAG school administration and we encourage you to take part in strengthening that bond even further as you join our community. Our **fundraising efforts** have increased our revenues tremendously over the past 5 years, but there is still much work to be done. As a PTA, we have been able to institute some important **enrichment programs** for our children, but there are always ways to improve them and provide even more enrichment opportunities. **Parent involvement** in our PTA has also increased over the years. We are a very **diverse community** and have various fields of expertise among our parents that we can leverage to meet our goals. We look forward to seeing what you, as new parents, will bring to the TAG community and how you can help us get to the next level as an organization.

We have many **different committees within the TAG PTA** and they are a great way to get involved and contribute in areas that you feel fit your skill set and interests. On the next page we have a description of each of the committees and how you can get in touch with the VP's of each of them. Meetings will start in the fall and you are encouraged to attend.

We look forward to seeing all of you become active members of our school community and contribute towards making TAG the best place it can be for our kids!

Regards,  
Nina Reiniger and Anand Raghunath

## TAG COMMITTEES

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** The Audit Committee is responsible for conducting internal audits or coordinating external audits, as needed. This committee is essential for assuring the PTA is adhering to **financial guidelines** as dictated by the bylaws, the Department of Education Chancellor's Regulations, and city & state laws. To contact the Audit Committee Chair, email: [audit@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:audit@tagscholarspta.org)

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:** The Budget Committee is responsible for drafting a **proposed budget** each spring for approval by the membership, developing a written review of the prior year's budget, both of which must be presented for vote at the May membership meeting, and presenting the budget process. Simply put, without the budget committee, the PTA would have no direction or compass. It is a great place for those who have a vision and are great at creating a meaningful and attainable schedule of priorities. To contact the Budget Committee Chair, email: [budget@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:budget@tagscholarspta.org)

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** The Communications Committee is responsible for providing information to the parent body via **email, newsletters, the PTA website, and social media**. This committee is vital to the PTA's development of a clear and effective means of communicating with all members. The committee also assists all other PTA committees with promotional materials. To contact the Communication Committee Chair, email: [communications@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:communications@tagscholarspta.org)

**ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:** The objective of this committee is to enhance the enrichment programs offered to TAG students. The committee assesses existing enrichment opportunities for students, identifies gaps, and focuses on greatest needs. The committee then organizes around **specific programs** (e.g., chess, physical education, debate, etc.) to research the needs for enrichment programs, develop strategies for bringing the program to TAG, and find organizations that specifically address the goals of that program. This is great committee to join if you are interested in finding ways to make our scholars **well-rounded**. To contact the Enrichment Committee Chair, email: [enrichment@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:enrichment@tagscholarspta.org).

**FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** The Family Engagement Committee is responsible for encouraging **parent participation, outreach and recruitment**. Members of the committee organize school tours, events for parents, TAG scholars and staff. This is a great committee to join to be instrumental in bringing the **TAG PTA community together** and fostering the kindness and support we have for each other and the school. Without this committee, the PTA would not be the family it is. To contact the Membership Committee Chair, email: [membership@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:membership@tagscholarspta.org).

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** The fundraising committee coordinates fundraising events and activities to generate **funds to benefit TAG**. Sounds simple enough, except it's so much more exciting than that. It is possibly the best place to get the most creative and the most involved. With budget cuts and the chronic underfunding to gifted and talented schools, fundraising is essential! So if you feel inspired to be creative and make a great difference, this is a fabulous place to start! To contact the Fundraising Committee Chair, email: [fundraising@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:fundraising@tagscholarspta.org).

**GRANTS COMMITTEE:** The Grants Committee is responsible for assessing and prioritizing funding needs. Members of the committee collaborate with the administration and with other members of the PTA to research grants that fit these needs, **write and edit grants applications**, and manage compliance with existing grants. To contact the Grants Committee Chair, email: [grants@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:grants@tagscholarspta.org).



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## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **How do I receive PTA emails and contact other parents?**

The PTA has created a parent directory since 2016 and by signing up with the directory is the ONLY way you will receive information from the PTA and your class parents. When you register online, you can also choose to have your contact information to be shared among TAG families, it is not a requirement. Please sign up here: <https://www.tagscholarspta.org/pta-registration.html>. For the 2018 incoming K class, the graduation year will be 2027.

### **What are TAG school hours?**

TAG hours for 2018-2019 are from 8:05 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. *School hours are subject to change from year to year.* The first day of school will be September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### **How is TAG situated in the Tito Puente Education Complex?**

TAG is located in the Tito Puente Education Complex at 240 East 109th Street, between 2nd and 3rd avenues. TAG shares the campus with two other schools: Esperanza Preparatory Academy, and The District 75 Burke School M138. The auditorium, cafeteria, dance studio, gym, and library are shared among all 3 schools. However, common spaces are scheduled in a way that prevents overlap.

### **Where do TAG parents drop off and pick up their children?**

Drop Off: Parents bring their children to the main entrance at 240 East 109th Street (near 2nd Avenue).

Pick Up: Elementary school students are dismissed with their classes in the lower yard (adjacent to playground on 109th Street near 3rd Avenue). Middle school students are dismissed from the side exit on 109th street (adjacent to the lower yard entrance near 2nd Avenue)

\*\*\* Parents wishing to enter the school need to sign in and provide identification at the NYPD School Safety desk in the lobby of the main entrance\*\*\*

### **What are transportation options?**

Free yellow bus service is offered to eligible students, and requirements vary according to grade and distance from school. Transportation applications will be sent home the first day of school. You may contact Ms. Maritza Apellaniz, TAG School Assistant, before the end of June or again starting the last week of August at [mapella@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:mapella@schools.nyc.gov), 212 860-6003 ext.1081 for DOE yellow bus information. Several private bus routes have been established from parts of Queens, Bronx and Washington Heights. Please see the PTA -"About TAG" webpage (<https://www.tagscholarspta.org/about-tag.html>) for both maps of current public and private bus routes and private bus contacts. Alternatively, student Metrocard applications will be distributed.

### **What are the uniform requirements?**

Students are expected to wear **uniforms** each day, including the first day of school.

**(K-5th)** Red plaid jumper or skirt (knee length) or gray pants with white, uniformed, button-down collared shirt; white, navy, or red tights; red or navy sweater; red plaid tie; and navy or black shoes.

**(6th-8th)** Solid navy jumper or skirt (knee length) or navy pants with white, button-down collared shirt; white, navy, or red tights; red, white, or navy sweater; blue plaid or solid navy tie; and navy or black shoes.

**Gym uniform (all grades):** Red sweatpants, and white or TAG logo T-shirt. Gym is held once a week; the day varies by grade and the gym uniform is worn all day that day.

You can find all the information on how to purchase uniforms on our PTA website: <https://www.tagscholarspta.org/uniform-guide.html>

**What school supplies do we need to buy?**

Every June, teachers hand out a list of school supplies for the upcoming academic year. Together with the supplies list you will be handed a **homework packet**, which should be returned the first day of school. If you don't receive one please contact Ms. Powell, the parent coordinator, at [lpowell15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:lpowell15@schools.nyc.gov)

**What are meal options?**

TAG serves free breakfast in the cafeteria from 7:30 - 7:50 a.m, and lunch during 5th period. Students may bring lunches made at home or purchase lunch at school. To view lunch menus: <http://www.schoolfoodnyc.org/MenusAndRecipes/menus.htm>

**Where do students go for recess?**

Half of the lunch period is for recess. Elementary students enjoy recess in the lower yard, and middle school students go to the upper yard; gates are locked by school safety personnel and yards are only accessible to TAG students. On exceptionally cold or inclement days, students remain inside to do age-appropriate indoor activities.

**Who can parents contact to discuss family or medical issues?**

TAG's Main Office number is 212-860-6003. You can also reach Parent Coordinator, Ms. Powell at 212-860-6003, ext. 1061 or at [lpowell15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:lpowell15@schools.nyc.gov). You may contact Guidance Counsellor Michelle Yrigoyen at [myrigoyen@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:myrigoyen@schools.nyc.gov). TAG's Mt. Sinai School Based Health Center is open from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. You can reach the clinic at 212-860-6027.

**Does TAG have an after-school program?**

TAG offers various free and fee based afterschool programs. Information can be found on the PTA website under "About TAG" (<https://www.tagscholarspta.org/about-tag.html>).

**Are there other enrichment opportunities at TAG?**

TAG has varied enrichment opportunities for students in every grade. Some of these are in-curriculum programming, like chess and robotics, and others are offered after school, in addition to the Y program. Upcoming opportunities and partnerships for TAG students include: chess with NY Chess Kids; debate with Agape Debate; New Victory Theatre; Latin Jazz Ensemble; piano with Piano School of NYC; Intramural volleyball, Mandarin. Programs may change. The TAG PTA seeks new enrichment opportunities and partnerships every year.

**Are there volunteering opportunities at TAG?**

We have plenty of volunteering opportunities. We welcome you all to join one of our committees to help us grow. You can check our website <https://www.tagscholarspta.org/about-tag-pta.html> to see what our committees do. Feel free to contact us at any time <https://www.tagscholarspta.org/contact.html>.

For any other information, please visit our **PTA website**: <http://www.tagscholarspta.org>



# Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Dear new parents, are you ready for the first day of school? Here's a checklist that you may find useful:

## JUNE:

- My child is registered with the Parent Coordinator, Ms. Powell.
- I have RSVP'd for the welcome event on June 23rd.\*
- I have signed up for the PTA directory.\*

## JULY/AUGUST

- I have contacted on site YMCA directors about the after school program to avoid fall waitlists. (Elementary K-5: Ms. Scott 917-575-4021; Middle School: Ms. Nicole 917-887-3384)
- I have purchased school uniforms (including gym uniform)\*

## SEPTEMBER

- I have registered my child with the nurse's office.
- I have signed up with public/private school bus, or requested a metrocard for my child.

\*On the PTA website: <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/>

For any update please check our website often.

If you have any question please don't hesitate to contact us at [ptaboard@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:ptaboard@tagscholarspta.org)