

# Overview of Say Yes Buffalo's Student and Family Services

The Say Yes Buffalo Partnership brings student and family support services directly into school buildings, making them easier to access. The programs and services explained here are available to assist Buffalo Public School students reach their full academic potential, and prepare them for high school graduation, college and career.



## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, PK-12

### Social Services

Say Yes Buffalo school-based staff, called Family Support Specialists (FSS), provide services to every school building. They are responsible for working with students struggling with attendance or behavior problems and their families to get back on track. FSS connect students and their families to health, mental health, after school and basic needs programs. They also provide individual and group mentoring for the student and/or family and assist families with navigating school processes including registration, enrollment and parent-teacher conferences. Service is provided to students and families through two programs, school-based preventive services and Health Home care coordination. For additional information on both programs, visit [SayYesBuffalo.org](http://SayYesBuffalo.org).

### Mental Health Care

Mental health counseling is available to students within their school buildings, clinic sites, or virtually through Telehealth. Participation in counseling can be self-identified or referred by teachers, parents and other school building administrators. Services are provided by licensed clinical mental health professionals and are billed to the student's health insurance (for example private insurance or Medicaid).

### In-School and Mobile Health Care

Some schools have in-school health clinics that provide students with basic health care, including physical screenings and immunizations. Mobile Health buses are parked at various school locations to provide primary and reproductive health care to students where in-school services are not available. Services are provided by licensed medical professionals and are billed to the student's health insurance (private insurance or Medicaid). Families who do not have health insurance will receive help with getting it.

### Legal Clinic

Free legal advice is available for all Buffalo Public School students and families on non-criminal legal matters, year-round. While in-person clinics have been suspended due to COVID-19, legal matters are currently being facilitated as follows: family law questions (Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm) 716-823-3255; housing questions (Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm) 716-828-8460; to seek divorce 716-847-0662, ext 807; immigration questions 716-847-0662, ext 301; unemployment benefits questions 716-847-0662, ext 303; and all other types of cases 716-847-0662, ext 324.

### Early Childhood Development

Our program provides services, resources and free supports to families, caregivers, and educators to support children, birth through 6 years of age. We provide free developmental screenings (Ages & Stages Questionnaire) to monitor child development, education on developmental milestones, and activities to support and continue healthy development. We also provide connections to community-based organizations for resources such as diapers, clothing, parenting classes, counseling, and free training to educators and community organizations around social-emotional development and supports.

### Strong Community Schools

A Community School brings together school and community resources to improve student learning and create stronger families and healthier communities. It integrates academics, health and social services, youth and community development and community engagement. Twenty-one schools have become a hub of information and resources to meet

the needs of students, parents and community members. For a full list of Community Schools activities including (virtual) Saturday Academies, visit [www.buffaloschools.org/communityschools](http://www.buffaloschools.org/communityschools) and also [facebook.com/BPSCommunitySchools](https://www.facebook.com/BPSCommunitySchools).

### Parent Centers

The Parent Centers are a part of the Strong Community Schools Strategy and are located at four Community High Schools (Bennett, East, Lafayette, and South Park). The Parent Centers provide families with education, resources, and programming that build parents knowledge, skills and networks for supporting and partnering in their child's education. To achieve this goal a variety of activities, services, and learning sessions are offered daily and virtually in response to COVID-19. In addition, the welcoming atmosphere attracts adults for relaxation and self-care and children in our purposeful play area. For more information visit [buffaloschools.org/Page/3630](http://buffaloschools.org/Page/3630) and also [facebook.com/BPSCommunitySchools](https://www.facebook.com/BPSCommunitySchools).

### Boys and Men of Color

The Say Yes Buffalo "Breaking Barriers" Youth Leadership Council is a program of the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable's Boys and Men of Color Initiative that is aimed at accelerating positive outcomes for boys and young men of color across the cradle-to-career continuum. Participation is open to young men of color ages 12 – 24 years. Participants agree to a one-year commitment where they learn how to elevate their voice to advocate for social justice, racial equity and policy change in our community. For more information visit [BreakingBarriersBuffalo.org](http://BreakingBarriersBuffalo.org).

### Near Peer Mentoring

The Say Yes Buffalo Near Peer Mentoring Program matches Buffalo high school students (mentees) with current college students (Say Yes Near Peer mentors) to help guide them through the challenging transition from high school into post-secondary education. Mentors do earn a program stipend. This program, funded by the Gates Foundation, follows research that students engage and respond more meaningfully to a person who is closer in age and experience to themselves. Due to COVID-19, mentees and mentors are being supplied with laptops so that this work can be done virtually. Students can apply to the program at [sayyesbuffalo.org/nearpeermentoring](http://sayyesbuffalo.org/nearpeermentoring).

### College and Financial Aid Application Supports

Free services are available to students applying to college and for financial aid. Through the FAFSA Completion Project and the NYGear UP Program, students can get one-on-one help deciding what colleges to apply to, how to prepare a great application and how to prepare and apply for financial aid. Services are available in every public high school building. Talk to your school's Family Support Specialist or call the FAFSA Completion Office at 716-645-1116 or visit [www.cscbuffalo.org/fafsa-completion-project-1](http://www.cscbuffalo.org/fafsa-completion-project-1) for more information.

### Summer Camp

Free Summer Camp is available for Buffalo Public School students in Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade. These half-day programs combine academics with fun enrichment activities and are located throughout the city at churches and community centers.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Once a Buffalo public or charter school student graduates from high school and enrolls at any SUNY/CUNY or Say Yes partner private college, they become a Say Yes Buffalo Scholar. As a Scholar, they are eligible for additional supports and services after they graduate from high school.

### College Scholarships

Say Yes Buffalo provides scholarships for Buffalo public and charter school students to attend college (certificate programs, 2-year and 4-year degree programs). Scholarships cover up to 100% of the tuition at any college or university in SUNY/CUNY system or at nearly 100 private colleges and universities after Federal, State and institutional tuition aid has been applied. Turn over for more information.

### College Kickoff for Incoming Freshmen

Each summer, Say Yes Buffalo hosts a free "College Kickoff" event to introduce students to what to expect when they get to college, and give them the tools to be successful once they begin. All Say Yes Buffalo Scholars are eligible to attend. More information available at [www.sayyesbuffalo.org/kickoff](http://www.sayyesbuffalo.org/kickoff).

### Paid Internships

Buffalo Public School Graduates who have completed their first year of college are able to apply for paid internships at companies and organizations throughout Western New York. Students are supported with workshops and training on topics such as resumes and preparing cover letters, interviewing skills and networking. These opportunities have been created specifically to provide a direct pipeline from college to career after students earn their degree. More information at [SayYesToYourCareer.org](http://SayYesToYourCareer.org).

### Scholar Mentoring Program

Buffalo Public School Graduates entering their freshman year at a Western New York college or university can apply to be matched with a mentor. The pair meets consistently for 18 months, and the mentor guides the student through the transition to college. More information at [sayyesbuffalo.org/supports/scholar-mentoring-program/](http://sayyesbuffalo.org/supports/scholar-mentoring-program/).

### Summer Success Academies

Say Yes Buffalo scholars who attend Buffalo State, Erie Community or Medaille Colleges have the opportunity to enroll in free summer programs prior to the start of their freshman college year to help put them on track to be successful once they officially start classes. Students are eligible to be paid for participating through the City of Buffalo's Mayor Summer Youth program. More information at [sayyesbuffalo.org/supports/college-summer-programs/](http://sayyesbuffalo.org/supports/college-summer-programs/).

For general questions please call our main office at 716.247.5310 or email [info@sayyesbuffalo.org](mailto:info@sayyesbuffalo.org) or visit us online at [www.sayyesbuffalo.org](http://www.sayyesbuffalo.org)

See back for complete list of service locations



Buffalo Public School Number and Name	Phone Number	Social Services & Care Coordination	Mental Health Care	In-School and Mobile Health Care	Legal Advice	College Supports	Strong Community School	Parent Center
#3 D'Youville Porter Campus	816.3120	•	•	•			•	
#6 Buffalo Elementary School of Technology	816.3767	•	•					
#17 Early Childhood Center	816.3150	•	•					
#18 Dr. Antonia Pantoja Community School of Academic Excellence	816.3160	•	•					
#19 Native American Magnet School	816.3180	•	•	•				
#27 Hillery Park Elementary	816.4770	•	•	•				
#30 Frank A. Sedita Elementary School	816.3220	•	•				•	
#31 Harriet Ross Tubman School	816.3780	•	•					
#32 Bennett Park Montessori	816.4603	•	•					
#33 Bilingual Center	816.4783	•	•	•				
#37 Marva J. Daniels Futures Preparatory School	816.3800	•	•	•			•	
#43 Lovejoy Discovery School	816.3260	•	•				•	
#45 International School	816.3300	•	•					
#48 @#39	816.3240	•	•					
#50 North Park Community School	816.3440	•	•				•	
#53 Community School #53	816.3330	•	•					
#54 Dr. George E. Blackman School of Excellence	816.3340	•	•	•				
#59 Dr. Charles R. Drew Science Magnet	816.3370	•	•				•	
#59A Dr. Charles R. Drew Science Magnet Annex	816.4120	•	•					
#61 Arthur O. Eve School of Distinction	816.3400	•	•					
#64 Frederick Law Olmsted School	816.3420	•	•					
#65 Roosevelt Early Childhood Center	816.3430	•	•	•				
#66 North Park Middle Academy	816.3440	•	•					
#67 Discovery School	816.4922	•	•					
#69 Houghton Academy	816.4794	•	•					
#72 Lorraine Elementary School	816.4809	•	•	•				
#74 Hamlin Park Claude & Ouida Clapp Academy	816.3490	•	•	•			•	
#76 Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy	816.3848	•	•					
#79 Pfc. William J. Grabiarz School of Excellence	816.4040	•	•	•				
#80 Highgate Heights Elementary	816.4050	•	•				•	
#81 School #81	816.4060	•	•					
#82 Early Childhood Center	816.4070	•	•	•				
#89 Dr. Lydia T. Wright School of Excellence	816.4110	•	•				•	
#92 New BUILD Community School	816.4140	•	•	•			•	
#93 Southside Elementary School	816.4818	•	•	•			•	
#94 West Hertel Academy	816.4150	•	•				•	
#95 Waterfront Elementary School	816.3900	•	•	•				
#97 Harvey Austin School	816.4460	•	•			•	•	
#99 Stanley M. Makowski Early Childhood Center	816.4180	•	•	•		•		
#131 The Academy School @#4	816.3270	•	•	•		•		
#131 The Academy School @#4 & LTEP	816.3270	•	•	•		•		
#156 Frederick Law Olmsted School @#203	816.4330	•	•	•		•		
#192 Buffalo Academy for Visual & Performing Arts	816.4220	•	•					
#195 City Honors School at Fosdick Masten Park	816.4230	•	•					
#197 Math, Science & Technology Preparatory School	816.4500	•	•					
#197 Math, Science & Technology Preparatory School @#39	816.3501	•	•	•				
#198 The International Preparatory School	816.4300	•	•				•	
#205 Riverside Institute Of Technology	816.4360	•	•					
#206 South Park High School	816.4828	•	•				•	•
#207 Lafayette International	816.4358	•	•			•	•	•
#208 Riverside Academy	816.4358	•	•				•	
#212 Leonardo DaVinci High School	816.4380	•	•	•				
#301 Burgard High School	816.4450	•	•					
#302 Emerson School of Hospitality	816.3018	•	•					
#304 Hutchinson Central Technical High School	816.3888	•	•	•				
#305 McKinley High School	816.4480	•	•					
#309 East Community High School	816.3997	•	•				•	•
#335 Middle Early College High School	816.4010	•	•					•
#353 Newcomer Academy	816.4345	•	•					
#355 The New Buffalo School of Culinary Arts & Hospitality Mngmt.	816.4777	•	•					
#357 Pathways Academy @ East	816.4526	•	•					•
#363 Lewis J. Bennett School of Innovative Technology	816.4250	•	•				•	•
#366 Research Laboratory High School for Bioinformatics & Life Sciences	816.4250	•	•			•		•
UpSkill.org Adult Education Center	888.7088	•	•				•	

Free legal advice is available to ALL Buffalo residents. Please see program description for contact details.

**SAY YES BUFFALO SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY** – Say Yes Buffalo provides scholarships and grants to eligible graduates of Buffalo public and charter schools to all State University of New York (SUNY) and City University of New York (CUNY) and nearly 100 private colleges and universities. Eligible students who enroll at a Say Yes participating college will receive a scholarship to cover up to 100% of the cost of tuition after Federal, State and institutional aid has been applied.

**SAY YES BUFFALO SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS WHO:**

- Reside in the city of Buffalo.
- At minimum, complete grades 9-12, in consecutive years, at a public or charter school in the city of Buffalo or enroll in and complete the Buffalo Public School Adult Education College Career Institute.
- Graduate from a public or charter school in Buffalo in June 2013 or after.
- Enroll full-time at a Say Yes college within one year of high school graduation; and,
- Apply for all federal and state financial aid programs available (FAFSA and TAP), including Selective Service as required by law.

For a complete list of partner colleges and universities, visit [SayYesBuffalo.org](http://SayYesBuffalo.org).

