



Community School Fact Sheet

The full-service approach of The Children's Aid Society's Community Schools addresses the multiple needs of children by recognizing that learning is influenced by ongoing experiences within families, schools and communities. To realize this comprehensive and collaborative approach to young people's learning and development, Community Schools foster sustained partnerships among parents, schools, community-based organizations, area health care providers, local businesses, and universities.

P.S. 5, Ellen Lurie School
3703 Tenth Avenue
New York, NY 10034

The Ellen Lurie School opened in 1993 as a Children's Aid Society Community School. It is a public school that supports learning and achievement for the entire family. The school is named after Ellen Lurie, a former community organizer, school board member, teacher, author and parent advocate. She devoted her life to school integration and to increasing meaningful parent participation within the school system.

P.S. 5, Ellen Lurie School
Wanda Soto, Principal
Phone (212) 927-0269
Fax (212) 567-6526

The Children's Aid Society
Carolyn Chin-Bow, Director
Phone (212) 567-5787
Fax (212) 567-5966

Mission Statement

P.S. 5 strives toward engaging all children to achieve high standards of academic excellence. With the collaboration of The Children's Aid Society and the home, our children will develop strong educational, social, and developmental skills. It is our vision to provide the school community with the support, resources, and learning environment that will create life-long learners. Providing quality education will develop the whole child to become a productive, responsible, accountable, and active participant in our school and society.

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Core Instructional Program

P.S. 5 is dedicated to providing a quality education for all students. This is accomplished in collaboration with the community and The Children's Aid Society. We intend to provide our school community with the ability to meet high academic performance standards. We do this to ensure that our students will be able to compete successfully in the 21st Century. Recently built, the Ellen Lurie School boasts an integrated technology infrastructure, and offers multicultural education, comprehensive programs in reading and math, as well as science and bilingual classrooms for English Language Learners.

CAS Extended Day Program

FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN, the Extended Day Program is designed to support learning and achievement for the entire family. In partnership with the New York City Department of Education and The Children's Aid Society, P.S. 5 provides on-site child and family services during and after school, Saturdays, school holidays and summer vacations. The primary goals of the Extended Day Program are to enhance skills and provide educational enrichment and cultural awareness through the creative arts, sports, technology, literacy and mathematics.

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT AND SKILLS: Programming is structured around age-appropriate after-school curricula supporting the school day curricula. Literacy is reinforced through activities such as frequent fluent read-alouds, critical thinking, creative arts, journal writing and role-playing. Additionally, one-on-one tutoring is offered to first graders reading below grade level in a partnership with the READ Foundation.

SOCIAL SKILLS AND COMMUNITY ACTION: Adventure- and literature-based curricula provide groups with social skill-building, character education, and maturational and health awareness. A Balance Center operates daily for youth experiencing difficulties with their readiness to engage in group activities. In the smaller group setting of the Balance Center, students have additional processing time and receive intervention skill building from the Balance Center Facilitator. Activities such as Youth Council, Junior Achievement, and Credit Where Credit is Due are a fun and novel means of enhancing reading, writing, communication and analytical skills that build a sense of community responsibility among students.

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Programs such as Honor the Game (Saturdays), Project Adventure, and Basketball, Swimming, and cooking club, promote health and fitness.

DANCE, ART, AND CULTURAL PROGRAMMING: Exposure to culture comes through clubs such as Folkloric Dance, Gardening (in collaboration with the New York Restoration Project), Play Production (which mounts a yearly musical incorporating dance, drama, and music), Chess, Poetry, Computers, and Art Lovers. Celebration

such as our yearly Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Winter Intermission traditions, and EXPO nights where displays and performances by students are seen by all the parents-unite our community in celebrating the achievements of our youngsters. Students can also register for one of two summer camps, including a country camp in Westchester County and a home-based camp.

Other Programs and Services

FOR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, academic and educational enrichment takes place through a **multi-faceted adult education program** where Financial Literacy (in collaboration with Credit Where Credit is Due), parenting workshops, Family Life and Sexuality and reading classes are offered throughout the year. Social and cultural development takes place through informal classes and workshops such as sewing, healthy cooking and recreational activities. Integrating activities with the Parent Teacher Association, P.S. 5's parents' group meets weekly in the school as a means of support and to help these caregivers proactively attain services. Annually, the P.S.5 PTA, the Children's Aid Society Parent Programs, and P.S.5 Administration collaborate to organize a parent fair. A variety of informational, recreational, and educational workshops are provided to parents during the Saturday fair to promote parent engagement at school and to increase awareness of issues and activities impacting the school, families, and the community.

FOR YOUNG FAMILIES, programs start at birth, with **Early Head Start** and **Head Start Programs** that offer families an early introduction to providing their children with a developmentally stimulating environment through home interactions, classroom activities and supportive services. The curriculum in each program is designed to develop the social and academic skills children need to prepare for kindergarten. P.S.5 has a School-Based Health Center composed of **Medical and Dental Clinics** on-site, providing routine and emergency care throughout the school day and during the Extended Day Program. The **Preventive Services Program** provides assistance and support for children and families that require strengthening to succeed at school. In conjunction with a mental health team, the program provides advocacy for children's rights and individual and family therapy. Registration for the **Health Care Access Program** (HCAP), Medicaid enrollment and other social services is also available on site.

Number of Students Enrolled

1074 in 2004-2005

Elementary school (Grades pre K-5)

Student Information (2004-2005)	%
Students qualifying for free federal school lunch	84.1
English language Learners (ELL)	44.6
Arrivals to the U.S. in last three years	10
Special Ed students in a self contained class	2.7
Student attendance rate	93.9
Hispanic students	93.4
Black students	6.1
White students	0.2
Asian and other students	0.3