

THE BIG SIB ORGANIZATION PRESENTS THIS YEAR'S

HANDBOOK

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2022 2023

The Big Sib Handbook

2022-2023

Your Big Sib Chairs:

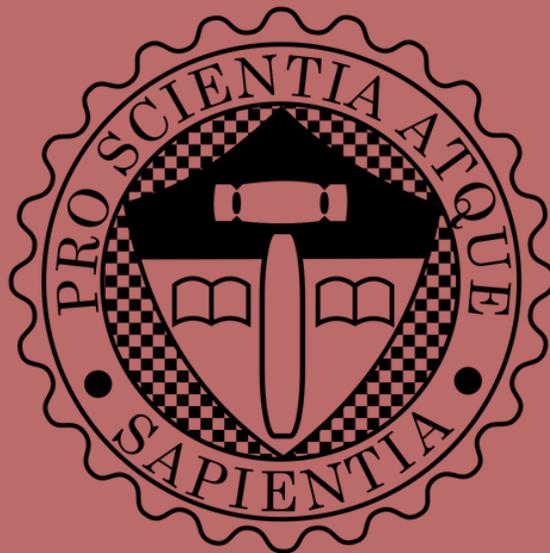
Sabiha Amin

Elicia Chau

Ava Rem

Suki Ferguson

Efe Kilic



Stuyvesant High School
345 Chambers St
New York, NY 10282

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Important Rooms	4
Important Contact Info	6
Bell Schedule	10
Map of the Neighborhood	13
Letter from Big Sib Chairs	16
Letters from Individual Chairs	18
Letters from SU	23
Secrets of Stuy	25
What's that?	27
Big Sib Experiences	29
Thank you!	42

IMPORTANT ROOMS

Principal

Mr. Seung Yu – Room 105

Assistant Principals

Organization: Dr. Haber - Room 103

Security: Mr. Moran - Room 103

Counseling: Ms. Pedrick - Room 222

Biology, Computer Science, and Special

Education: Ms. Prabhu - Room 260

Social Studies: Ms. Suri - Room 302

Mathematics: Mr. Smith - Room 402

**Foreign Languages, and Music: Ms. McAuliffe -
Room 502**

English: Mr. Grossman - Room 601

Physics: Ms. Fong - Room 701

Chemistry, Art, and Tech: Mr. Thomas - Room 901

IMPORTANT ROOMS

Attendance Office - Room 209

College Office - Room 225

Counseling Suite - Room 236

Program Office - Room 239

School Store - Room 262

Student Union (SU / ARISTA): Room 270

Business Manager/Family Engagement: Dina

Ingram - Room 273

Health & Phys. Ed: Mr. Bologna - Room 501

Internship Coordinator: Harvey Blumm - Room

239

Medical Suite - Room 371

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

Big Sib Chairs Email:
bigsibchairs23@gmail.com

Dina Ingram: ringram3@schools.nyc.gov

Assistant Principals

Dr. Haber: ghaber@stuy.edu

Mr. Moran: bmoran@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Pedrick: cpedrick@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Prabhu : mprabhu@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Suri: jsuri@schools.nyc.gov

Mr. Smith: esmith42@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. McAuliffe: fmcauliffe@stuy.edu

Mr. Grossman: mr.grossman@stuy.edu

Ms. Fong: apbiotchr345@stuy.edu

Mr. Thomas: sthomas@stuy.edu

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

Guidance Counselors:

Ms. Yang (1AA, 1BB):

ceciliayang@stuy.edu

Ms. Guthrie (1CC, 1DD):

uguthrie@stuy.edu

Ms. Rhiman (1EE, 1FF):

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Mr. Colon (1GG, 1HH):

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Ms. Kornhauser (1JJ, 1KK):

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Ms. Parris (1LL, 3JA):

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Ms. Brandan (1MM, 1NN):

sbrandan@stuy.edu

Mr. Feola (1PP, 1QQ):

jfeola@stuy.edu

Mr. Goldsman (1RR, 1SS):

pgoldsman@stuy.edu

Ms. Sugarman (1TT, 1WW):

hsugarman@stuy.edu

Ms. Mahoney (1XX, 1YY):

jomahoney@stuy.edu

Mr. Walkes (1UU, 1ZZ):

gwalkes@stuy.edu

Bell Schedule

Stuyvesant High School - Bell Schedule					
REGULAR		HOMEROOM		CONFERENCE	
1	8:00 8:36 8:41	1	8:00 8:35 8:40	1	8:00 8:32 8:37
2	8:45 9:21 9:26	2	8:45 9:20 9:25	2	8:41 9:13 9:18
3	9:31 10:10 10:15	3	9:29 10:04 10:09	3	9:22 9:54 9:59
		Homeroom	10:13 10:25		
4	10:20 10:56 11:01	4	10:30 11:05 11:10	4	10:03 10:35 10:40
5	11:06 11:42 11:47	5	11:14 11:49 11:54	5	10:44 11:16 11:21
6	11:52 12:28 12:33	6	11:58 12:33 12:38	6	11:25 11:57 12:02
7	12:38 1:14 1:19	7	12:42 1:17 1:22	7	12:06 12:38 12:43
8	1:24 2:00 2:05	8	1:26 2:01 2:06	8	12:47 1:19 1:24
9	2:09 2:45 2:50	9	2:10 2:45 2:50	9	1:28 2:00 2:05
10	2:54 3:30 3:35	10	2:55 3:30 3:35	10	2:09 2:41 2:46
				Meeting	2:50 3:30

THERE WILL BE A WARNING BELL AT 7:55 AM

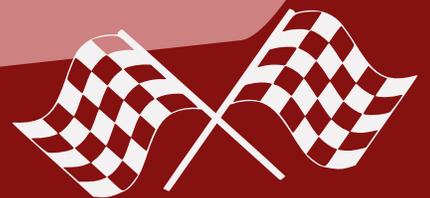
Teacher Time Schedule

1 - 9 8:00 am - 2:50 pm
 2 - 10 8:45 am - 3:35 pm
 Meeting 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM (All Staff)

Bell Schedule

There are 3 relevant types of bell schedules at Stuyvesant, and the respective week's schedules are posted on <http://bert.stuy.edu/pbrooks/schedules/schedules.py>. Make sure to check it out if you ever need help figuring out what schedule school is running on! You will also receive a weekly schedule sent out by the SU, detailing specifics of each day for the respective week. These emails are usually sent out on Sundays.

- 1. REGULAR SCHEDULE:** The most common schedule at Stuy is the regular schedule. Each class is 41 minutes long, with the exception of third period, which is 44 minutes long. First period begins at 8:00 A.M. and tenth period ends at 3:35 P.M.
- 2. HOMEROOM SCHEDULE:** Homeroom Day means that every class is 40 minutes long instead of 41 minutes, and there is a 12 minute homeroom after third period. First period still begins at 8:00 A.M. and tenth period also still ends at 3:35 P.M.
- 3. SPECIAL SCHEDULE:** Sometimes the administration will post a "special" schedule that refers to a schedule created for one day, like a half day. So, make sure you check the website periodically!



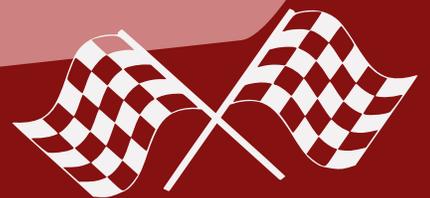
Bell Schedule

WARNING BELLS

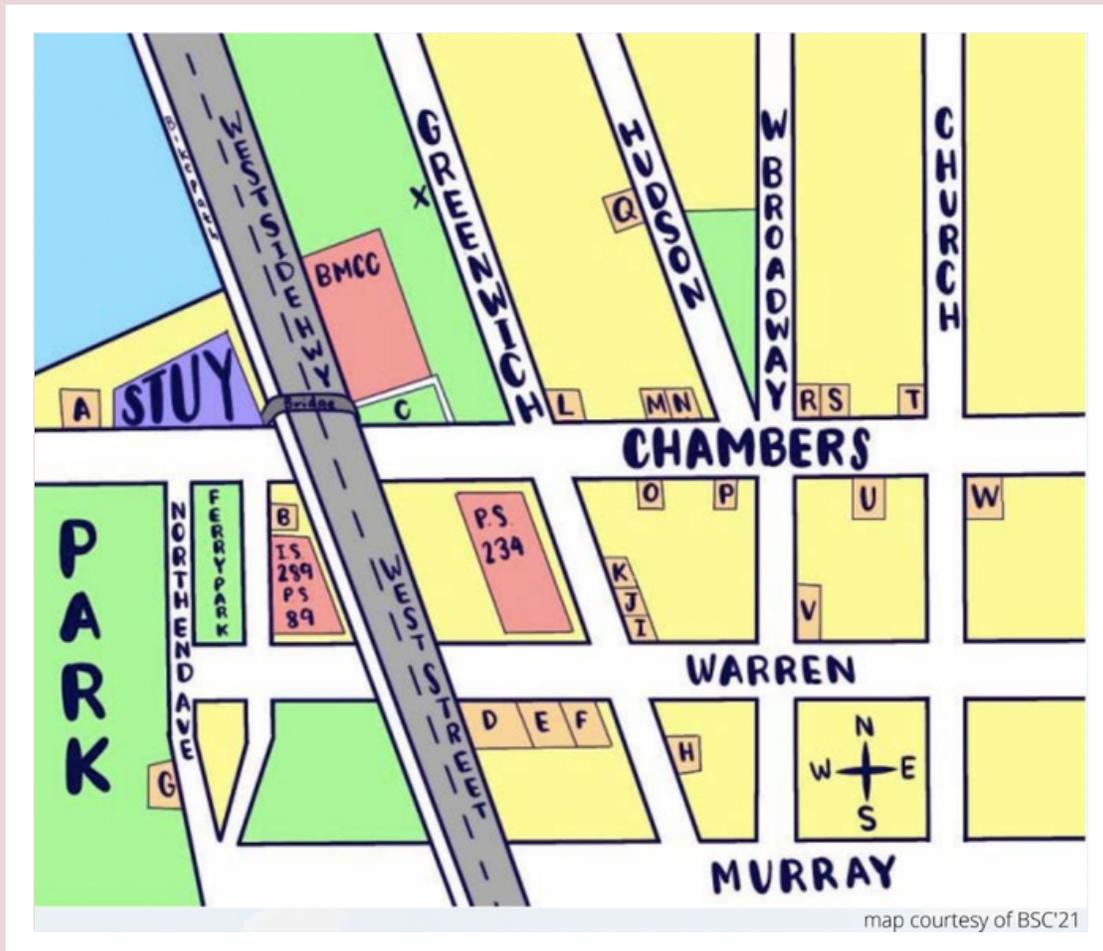
Before the end of each period, you will hear a “warning bell” which indicates that there are five minutes left until the period ends. After five minutes you will hear the “end bell” which indicates the end of class. The end bell means that you have four minutes to get to your next class. Once the four minutes are up, the “late bell” will ring, so make sure to get to class before the bell, or else you’ll be late!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION SCHEDULES

Besides the schedules just mentioned, there are also physical education schedules at Stuy. On your schedule you will see that you have either an A or B physical education cycle (located at the end of your class code). If you have an A cycle PE you will have PE on A days; if you have B cycle Phys.Ed, then you’ll have it on B days. A and B days are posted on the weekly schedule on the school website. A days and B days generally alternate, but check the website to help you keep track!



MAP OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD



A. Terry's: Deli right down the block from Stuy, lots of sandwiches as well as chips, drinks, candy, ice cream, and other snacks. Because it's so close to Stuy, it often gets very crowded very quickly, so don't delay if you plan on going there for lunch.

B. Battery Park City Gourmet Market (a.k.a. Ferry's): Officially the Battery Park City Gourmet Market (Fake Terry's) has grown in popularity among Stuy students. As Ferry's is similar to Terry's in terms of food (sandwiches, drinks, snacks, etc.), it's really just a matter of personal preference when it comes to choosing which you want to go to

C. Tennis / Basketball Courts: These basketball courts sit behind The Wall (a place where some like to sit or meet friends after school) and are a good place to play some basketball, if that's something you enjoy. There are also basketball court located in The Park (Rockefeller Park, runs along the Hudson River south of Stuy to Battery Park City) just a few hundred feet south of school.

D. Whole Foods: Great place to grab lunch, good food, good service, and great seating, although the lines can be a bit long and the food can get a bit pricey. However, you can find good, relatively inexpensive food if you look hard enough (try the Mac and Cheese!). Whole Foods is also a fantastic place to meet up with friends on a rainy day, because there's lots of room (and free WiFi!) in the seating area.

E. Bed, Bath and Beyond: Probably not your first stop for lunch, but if you're ever in dire need of some home furnishings by school, this is the place to go.

F. Barnes and Noble: We have a well-stocked Barnes and Noble right by Stuy, located in the same building as Whole Foods and Bed, Bath, and Beyond. The Barnes and Noble is very large, and contains pretty much everything you'd want, from comic books to fiction books to test prep books to DVDs and CDs. There's also a Starbucks Café inside if you want a quick bite to eat while you're browsing.

G. Duane Reade: The closest pharmacy to Stuy, has everything you'd expect a pharmacy to have (candy, hygiene products, school supplies, etc.), as well as a Citibank ATM.

H. Kaffe 1668: Great coffee and snack-y type deserts. It's like Starbucks, except more hipster.

I. Chipotle: Great burritos, tacos, and bowls, but usually packed to the brim. Make sure you get here fast if you plan on getting lunch here.

J. Gee Whiz: A sit down diner just two blocks from school. Not a place that you'll have time to go to for lunch (it's a sit down diner!) but it's great if you're looking for a good meal in the evening, especially with friends.

K. Poke Green: Come here for some fresh Hawaiian Poke bowls that are pretty filling. A little on the pricey side so see this as an occasional treat (although there is a student discount).

L. McDonalds: Our local branch of one of the most famous fast food restaurants in the world. Home of McNuggets and the Big Mac, though we recommend opting for healthier options on a daily basis. Great if you're looking for something cheap or fast (but try not to go there every day, it's extremely unhealthy!).

M. Subway: The largest fast food chain in the world! Famous for their sandwiches (most notably their five dollar footlongs). Subway is a good place to grab a relatively inexpensive, yet very filling, meal. *the location on the map above is closed but there is another Subway just a few blocks away: 165 Church St.*

N. Cafe Amore: The pizza parlor in Tribeca that is closest to Stuy. While the prices are a bit high, the slices are very generously cut, so you get what you pay for.

O. Tribeca Hardware: No food here, but if you're by school and need something from a hardware store, this is the place to go.

P. Zucker's: Bagel store on Chambers Street. Great bagels and generous helpings of whatever topping you ask for. They also have some fancier bagel toppings, such as lox. Nice seating area (although not very large) and a friendly environment. Great place for breakfast, lunch, or whenever you feel you want a bagel! A fair warning: it can be kind of expensive.

Q. Morgans Market: Another deli a few blocks farther from school than Terry's or Fake Terry's, but if you can make the trip, it's worth it. They have a huge variety of food, from grilled cheese to hamburgers to deli sandwiches to a hot bar, as well as having a well-stocked grocery section as well. Good food and good prices.

R. Starbucks: If you ever need a coffee or a fancy blended drink with coffee in it, Starbucks is the place to go. They also have a number of different food items. Perfect place if you're feeling drowsy in the morning and need some caffeine.

S. Sweetgreen: Fancy salad place that sells HUGE salads. A lot of office workers and adults come here for lunch, so be quick if you want to stop by. Remember to eat your greens kids!

T. Dona Bella (ACE) Pizza: Another pizza parlor in the neighborhood that's a little bit farther than Café Amore, but is also quite good. The pizza slices are a little bit smaller, but are cheaper as well. Has a fantastic lunch special (two slices and a soda for only \$5). Try both Dona Bella and Café Amore so you can figure out which you like better.

U. China Red: Cheap but tasty Chinese food, what's not to love?

V. Le Pain Quotidien: Sandwiches, soups, salads. Good place to grab a delicious meal, although a little bit pricey.

W. Dunkin Donuts: America (and why not Stuy too?) runs on Dunkin! Grab some cheap coffee and donuts on your way to school.

X. Site of the Wednesday Farmers Market: The Farmer's market comes to this corner every Wednesday, great for fresh food. There are various stands, some have fresh fruit, others have pastries. If it's a nice day it's nice to get some food at the farmer's market and sit outside while you eat.

Remember that during and after school hours, we all represent Stuyvesant. Please act appropriately wherever you may go, and respect the spaces around you.



A Letter From Your Chairs



Hey Class of 2026!

Woohoo, you've made it through your first month here at Stuyvesant! We are incredibly proud of the changes you have already begun to make, and cannot wait to see where these next four years take you. As you may know, we are the Big Sib Chairs, the leaders of the Big Sib Organization at Stuy, which facilitates a program of 150 upperclassmen to be assigned to your homerooms. While there are only six Big Sibs assigned to each homeroom, every single Big Sib out there is there for you, via message, email, or a quick chat in the school hallways. If this is the only thing you pay attention to in this handbook let it be this: do not keep your feelings or questions to yourself – please reach out to a Big Sib (whether it be the one assigned to you, other Big Sibs in your homeroom, or any other Big Sibs in our program).

We have all been in your shoes before and would love nothing more than to pass on our sage wisdom to you all so that you may learn from our mistakes and make the most out of these next four years. Above all, please remember that your Big Sibs aren't just your mentors, but they're your friends too! We aren't joking when we say that you ask any of us to share our thoughts, suggestions and experiences from our time here at Stuyvesant. Even after your Big Sibs graduate, we will still be available for you to reach out to with questions regarding your upperclassmen years and even college.



Stuyvesant prides itself on its academic rigor and numerous resources, but at times it can be overwhelming to decipher what Stuy is for you. Some of y'all may experience stress from keeping up with challenging courses, which is **NORMAL!** Some of you may have no idea or too many ideas as to what extracurriculars to join. That's also **NORMAL!** Others may be completely oblivious as to what resources to go to for new opportunities, or people to assist you in handling stress. Once again, completely **NORMAL.** There are bound to be highs and lows, but that's where we want to assist y'all in hopes that you can enjoy your time here to the fullest. The Stuyvesant building is full of about 4,000 people every day, ranging from teachers, faculty members, peers, Big Sibs, upperclassmen, and your friends. Each and every one of us is here to both improve ourselves as people and be a helping hand for those around us. There is nothing wrong with asking for some assistance because, at one point or another, we all need it.

As you read through this handbook, you will see pages filled with the wise words of your Big Sibs and additional student leaders who all have one common goal: to aid you and your transition into this school. If there is a question that you don't know the answer to or if you're deciding whether or not to commit to one extracurricular or the other, these are the people to go to! All we want is for each and every one of you to feel comfortable and properly adjusted to your new second home for the next four years. It may seem daunting, but we believe that you all will become amazing young people during your time here, so enjoy it!

Welcome to the Stuyvesant Family,
Your Big Sib Chairs
2022-2023
big sibchairs23@gmail.com



Hey y'all!

I'm Ava, one of the 5 Big Sib Chairs! First and foremost, I want to congratulate each of you for being accepted into Stuy. Whether you are currently doubting your place at this school or feeling like you have been here all along, I want you to know that Stuy would 1000% not be the same place without you. Regardless of what our school is known for – be it rigorous academics or having an olympic-sized pool – we have secured our place on the metaphorical map because of people like you. You are all brilliant, kind-hearted, and will go on to do things that I cannot even begin to imagine. I am honored and privileged to have spent these past three years with people too good to confine to a few adjectives.

Now that my sappy, reminiscent spiel is over...let's get straight on into the advice I hope you all heed in order to make the most out of your short time here. Ok, get your seatbelt strapped and ready!

1) **ASK QUESTIONS!** Everyone at this school has at some point been utterly confused in class and, because of their fear of seeming like the only confused person in the room, they remained silent. I'm here to tell you that being confused does not mean that you are dumb or unworthy of being here at Stuy, so ask as many questions as possible. Please don't just duck your head behind the person in front of you to avoid being called on. When you stop trying to get through your Stuy experience as fast as possible, you'll truly be able to enjoy your time here.

2) **BRANCH OUT!** Try as many clubs as possible your first few months here so that you can find your niche sooner. Talk to random people in your classes or on the escalators because you never know who may become your closest friends. Also, don't feel like you have to remain friends with the people you first get attached to these next few months. Sure, some of these friendships will last all four years, but sometimes, you will become distanced from these people and get closer to others in your later years. It is totally fine if you don't have a solid group of friends until sophomore, junior, or even senior year, as long as you make sure you are staying true to yourself and picking people you can be yourself around. As a reminder, quality over quantity, always.

No matter what happens, these next four years, please feel free to refer to this letter whenever you need a reminder of your strength and intelligence, and don't hesitate to reach out to me or wave at me in the hallways!

Stay zesty,
Ava Rem (Navel Oremge)
arem30@stuy.edu
Your Big Sib Chair
Class of 2023



Hey '26,

I'm Efe (F-A), one of your Big Sib Chairs! Some of you may know me as the dude who peeps his head into every homeroom desperately trying to find something to do, while others may just know me as that one guy. However, at Stuy, we are all known as test-takers. We are all considered around the city as "try-hards", or victims of demanding parents. I'm sure that's how most of you perceived Stuy's nature, because it's how I did.

In all honesty, I felt unqualified coming to Stuy. I had gotten a 560 on my SHSAT, apparently the lowest score admitted in my year. It is important to remember that at Stuy your SHSAT score does not mean anything, but my naive mind couldn't get past the fact that one single question could have prevented me from getting into my dream school. One more wrong answer which could have prevented me from writing this letter today. One more wrong answer that could have possibly taken away the greatest 4 years of my life.

As my Freshman year progressed, the haunting of that one question which determined my fate faded. Not that I had forgotten about it, but rather because I realized Stuyvesant is just a collection of those "one questions": the one question in class you publicly answer so ridiculously wrong that it stays on your mind for the rest of the day, the one question you miss on a test that you feel you should have answered correctly, the one question you feel too shy to ask your oh so intimidating upperclassmen.

The real difficulty of Stuyvesant isn't in getting good grades, but it is pushing through these "one questions" with the grit to take on another. In mustering up the courage to take another shot at raising your hand to try again or to build up the bravery to ask what you need to about a club that could possibly be your calling, you gain access to the part of Stuy that the city doesn't see. You get access to a vast community of people who have overcome that one question, ready to make sure others do the same.

But we cannot force you into this community. We cannot make the decisions for you. However, we can guide you to where you wish to be. We can provide you with tutoring resources and give you all the extracurricular information packets that you need, but ultimately, you are the one who decides what to do with them. If you need that kick start, please feel free to let me or any of the other chairs know! If any of you are interested in Debate, Football, Spectator, or Student Gov, I'm your guy!

Ambition is great, but we can't let a failure to meet it bring us down further. In Stuy, you will fail. You will get that one question wrong. The real question is, will you overcome it?

Yes.

Stay ballin',
Efe Kilic
ekilic30@stuy.edu
Your Big Sib Chair
Class of 2023



Hey hey hey Class of '26!!

I'm Elicia (like the singer, but spelled wrong), one of your Big Sib Chairs! For starters, a belated welcome and congratulations to Stuy!! This is a big accomplishment—I remember being so proud but also being absolutely terrified of being in such a big school on my own. The memories of sitting in the auditorium during Camp Stuy, feeling slightly nervous and very small, truly came rushing back when I saw you all sitting there. I'm sure there are some of you who relate to that feeling of nervousness and insecurity, and I want to first and foremost say that it's okay! Stuyvesant is big, and it's understandable (and relatable). I already mentioned that I was shy, but I promise you: I was really, *really* shy. As in, massive stage fright and would break down every time I was asked to go up to do anything in front of an audience, shy. The person I am now doesn't reflect that at all, but I never forget the insecure, timid, trembles-during-presentations person I used to be.

But with your time here, you'll find a place where you will grow—whether it be something small or a huge, drastic change where you reinvent your life, in four years, you'll look back and think about how much you've changed. Even if you aren't sure about what or who you want to walk out of Stuy as, your time here is going to be littered with classes, extracurriculars, people, and memories that are going to sculpt you into your best self. Stuyvesant is extremely rough, there's no denying that, but you are deserving of a place here and, in every way, we wouldn't have Stuyvesant High School, Class of 2026, without you in it.

As you navigate Stuy and find your own place, I hope that the Big Sibs will keep being there for you: we're existing to be there for you for more than just homerooms and Camp Stuy; we are there for any of your questions, to welcome you to clubs, and to help you with anything you could ever need, from math homework to dance practice. I know I may not be a designated Big Sib, but I'd still love for people to say hi—I promise I'll remember your name and face—and I hope that I'll see some of you during extracurriculars that mean a lot to me personally, like SING! and StuySquad and SOS! (Join Flow).

If you ever want to chat about any of the smallest, littlest things, please talk to me! I respond to all my texts on Instagram or Messenger, so feel free to hit me up at @aicilevevo (Instagram) or EliChat Noir (Facebook). I love, LOVE people and will always be happy to talk. A few fun facts: my favorite color is green, I love Miraculous Ladybug and Pokémon Go and Bitlife, and I'm an avid Snapple Rain enthusiast. If you like any of those things (or don't), talk to me about it!!

Finally, I hope you all find your place in Stuy! I promise, even if it's the most unlikely place, Stuy will have it, and we're just waiting for you to come home.

Stay furry,
Elicia Chau (EliChat Noir)
echau30@stuy.edu
Your Big Sib Chair
Class of 2023



Hey Class of '26,

It's almost been a month since y'all hopped on the Stuyvesant Bandwagon ... crazy. But trust me, if you thought the last month was chaotic, hold on tight for the twists and turns you'll experience over the next four years. If you hadn't had any crazy memories yet, trust me, you are bound to have some of the best memories here at Stuyvesant High School.

When I was a little sib, hearing intel from my big sibs' experiences often helped when it came to tackling challenges or calming my nerves. So here's a little about freshman year Sabiha:

- I was REALLY shy. I seldom raised my hand in class, scared of getting the wrong answer.
- I was a master at the awkward smile. I didn't know many people coming in, so I resorted to small talk and awkward smiling to start making friends (Hint: it worked!)
- I bonded with one of my closest friends now in AP Bio class over her BT21 shirt.
- Never run after swim gym to get to class on time. I promise it's not worth slipping and falling ...
- I joined over ten clubs during clubs and pubs. Did I join/attend all 10+ clubs? NO! But I found what fit me best and what I genuinely enjoyed doing.
- I had no idea how to study. My version of "studying" was based on those colorful Pinterest notes that I failed emulating. I don't think I properly created a study routine until the middle of second semester during freshman year. (Let me know if you need help with this!)
- Freshman me had zero fashion sense and for some reason loved monochromatic fits. Despite that, I wish I took more photos or videos freshman year because not only could I cringe at myself, but I could see how I developed.

If y'all are one of my homerooms, y'all already have the insider scoop, but if you pass by me in the hallways, wave hi! Legit say, "Hi Sabiha". Actually, wait. Even better, yell hi across the escalators. I genuinely want to get to know y'all, during your good and bad times, and the best way to start is simply by saying/waving hi.

If y'all have any questions, comments, or concerns, don't hesitate to dm me (@sabiha0716), pm me (Wa SabiHa), or email me (samin30@stuy.edu). I may not respond in ten mins if I'm re-watching Gilmore Girls or Twenty Five Twenty One, but in all other cases, I will respond as soon as possible. In the meantime, drink coffee, do that geo homework, and go laugh with your friends!

Stay Spicy,
Sabiha Amin (Wa SabiHa)
samin30@stuy.edu
Your Big Sib Chair
Class of 2023



Hey CO' 2026!

This may be my 10th introduction to you all, but again, my name is Suki! I am currently one of the 5 Big Sib Chairs that you all saw during Camp Stuy (the one with the curly hair) and I would like to say congratulations! You are all officially Stuy students now! In terms of advice, the Chairs aren't able to see you all on a note that allows us to bond personally in comparison to your Big Sibs. So as you move on throughout the school year, there are a couple of things I would like to let you know:

First and foremost, do not psych yourself out the moment you walk into the building! It is very easy to get lost in the mindset that this school may be too overwhelming in freshman year. But trust and believe that every single one of you is capable of prevailing in unimaginable ways. I have met so many of you all already and you guys truly astonish me with all of your ambition and drive.

Segwaying into my second point, be ambitious! Freshman year is the perfect time to build a foundation that fabricates who you want to be and how you want to grow throughout your next four years on Chambers Street. This goes beyond "try a bunch of extracurricular activities!" Being ambitious as a freshman means building the foundation for you to push yourself to boundaries you've never even thought of and to enjoy the experience. This entails taking an extra step forward socially, academically, and mentally. Don't be afraid to talk to the person in your geometry class that you want to be friends with. Don't be afraid to reach out to every upperclassman possible to help you out with that AP Biology question you're stuck on. Finally, don't be afraid to understand your limits.

A big part of self-actualization is understanding what is good for you and what is not. While being ambitious has so many benefits to it – especially in Stuy – I can't help but say that knowing when you need a break is super significant! As a freshman, I surely dipped my toes in too many pools that I needed to pull myself out of. Not only for the sake of my grades but for myself. Understanding that you need to sit something out or take some time to reflect will truly benefit you in the long run. In Stuyvesant, it is relatively easy to not know how to articulate this skill effectively, but if you learn to listen to yourself as early as this year, you'll do amazing.

One of the last things I want you to know is to use your voice. With 3,000+ students in this school, it can be really hard to communicate your concerns, emotions, or anything else that relates. I promise, there is always someone willing to listen but please do not limit your voice because you feel like no one is listening. With a strong student body, there is a strong backbone to ensure the betterment of everyone's high school experience. Someone is always here for you. Don't forget that!

If you need anything, please feel free to reach out to me anytime! You will probably see my curly fro bouncing in the hallway once or twice, so say hi! Again, congratulations my loves. Welcome to Stuy!

Stay sweet,
Suki Ferguson (Sukies NCreem)
sferguson30@stuy.edu
Your Big Sib Chair
Class of 2023

Hey Freshmen!

You've probably seen my name and face in your EMail inboxes way too many times or plastered on the virtual walls of Instagram, but hey, my name is Ryan Lee, your Student Union President.

I've been told I'm supposed to be giving a general introduction on myself and some stuff to say how we're here to support you all, and in Stuyvesant fashion I write this the night I'm supposed to hand it in. Here goes.

As much as I would love to flaunt Stuy as much as I do to my friends at Brooklyn Tech, it would be an injustice for me to lie and say that Stuy is like something one sees in the movies, and you've probably experienced something like that; And if you haven't already, there are going to be many times where it's a late night and you have a project due in the morning, or there's a day where you have three tests. In any case, there are going to be some, rare, moments where things will suck.

But you're not alone. One of the biggest pieces of advice when facing the nastiest, brutish and shortest moments is to reach out, and look forward to what comes after. If you think about it, after taking a test you stressed over, there is no longer a test to stress for. It's super important to know that with your High School journey, you're not alone. The kid sitting next to you is probably facing some of the same things as you, and it does not hurt to know that you're not alone.

One thing that is to look out for in Stuy is definitely the traditions and student culture in the building. Coming from a small, 50 people per grade middle school, I was absolutely shocked to see how amazing and lively the traditions and student life is at Stuy. There are so many cool traditions such as SING!, Dances, or STC productions that you get to see during your time at Stuy, and I do not exaggerate when I say you're seriously missing out. See a sports game, attend a club or two, do something and branch out.

As we arrive at the end of this letter, let me say some last few words. If you were to take anything away from this letter, it would be this: Be bold, be yourself, be the person you've always wanted to be, be the leader your kid self would imagine, you're at Stuy, and your experience is what you make of it. Reach out, pursue what you like and what makes you happiest, and always know you're never alone.

And on the SU, my team and I are always open to literally anything. Whether it's a question or just someone you want to talk to, we're always there to listen and speak. Never feel afraid to reach out.

I hope to see you all in the hallways someday!

-Ryan Lee, SU President

Dear Stuyvesant Freshman,

Congratulations on your acceptance to Stuyvesant! You should be proud of yourself for all of the hard work it took to get here.

As freshmen, I think the first thing you should know about Stuyvesant is that you will be able to find a community wherever you look. When I was a freshman, Stuyvesant was still remote, and it was hard to connect with my peers. However, since my freshman year, we've become fully in-person! Our sports teams are thriving, we just finished the Clubs & Pubs fair, and we are finally leaving COVID behind. Now is the time to explore your interests!

Even if you aren't sure yet whether you're a math kid, a sports kid, or a theater kid, I encourage you to check out any of Stuyvesant's 150+ clubs, and join the clubs that interest you.

Stuyvesant's clubs have been a big part of my high school experience, and I know they will be an important part of yours. I've met lifelong mentors through the Student Union, found a community within the Black Students League, and made friends to exercise with on the Track team.

Wherever you go at Stuyvesant, you will be able to find students who share your experiences. Everyone at this school has had a rough test, or has gotten their headphones taken by Mr. Moran. Stuy has a vibrant student body, and we are always willing to help each other. If you are struggling with your academics, you can reach out to an ARISTA tutor. If you have questions about the school, your big sibs can act as a mentor. If you want to make changes to the school, Ryan and I (and the rest of the Student Union) are always willing to hear what you have to say!

I'm very excited to meet you all, and I can confidently say that the Student Union (and Stuy as a whole) is here to support you in whatever you do here.

*-Amanda Cisse, SU Vice
President*

SECRETS OF STUY

1) It's okay to ask for help. In a sea of 900 students, you may feel a little lost or confused. We'll let you in on a little secret: everyone feels the same way. If you're struggling to find a club that suits you or need help with a class, the school network is here to help and we encourage you to use it. Whether that's emailing your Big Sib, setting up an ARISTA tutoring session, or reaching out to your guidance counselor, know that help is there for you when you need it.

2) With a heavier high school workload and a new environment, the importance of organization cannot be stressed enough. To manage your due dates, assignments, club meetings, and external commitments, your planner will become your best friend. Whether you prefer online or physical calendars, make sure to set one up before the pace of everything speeds up.

3) At Stuyvesant, our grading system may be a little different from what you're used to. There are two semesters and three marking periods within each semester, making for a total of six marking periods. The first marking period of each semester will only be graded with E, S, N, U (Excellent, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, Unsatisfactory). The second marking period will be a number grade out of 100. The third and final marking period will be written on your official high school transcript and also out of 100.

4) StuyActivities is a SU-run club portal that is usually up-to-date with club meetings, inquiries on how to join, and a master list of the clubs available. And no, not all are academic! From Pokemon Go clubs to nonprofits and literary magazines, there is something for everyone.

5) Stuy is not all about grades! We know that Stuyvesant has a reputation for academic rigor, but at the end of the day, high school is more than a set of numbers. These are the years that you meet new friends, find subjects that interest you, and explore yourself as a person—all of which come independent of the grades you receive. High school only lasts for four years, so make sure to make the most of it!

6) Do things that interest you! You shouldn't be choosing classes/clubs based on how they would look to colleges.

7) Get to know your teachers. They want to help you, but they can only do that best if they know you as a person, not just a numeric grade.



8) One of the best ways to meet new people is by joining clubs. There is no limit to the number of clubs you're a part of, but make sure you join a couple that you're interested in by the end of your freshman year. Clubs are also a very good way to find out what you enjoy doing outside of class.

9) Escalators at Stuy cover two floors instead of one (except for the 2-3). That means that some escalators only go on even floors and others only on odd. There are markers at the end of each escalator so you can figure out where you are. No escalator reaches the first or tenth floor (you'll need to take the stairs).

10) Getting to know your guidance counselor is extremely helpful, as they are also a great resource to go to if you need to vent, ask for advice, or need academic support.

11) Mr. Blumm sends out elaborate newsletters each week. They are super helpful for helping you find internships and other opportunities outside of Stuy.

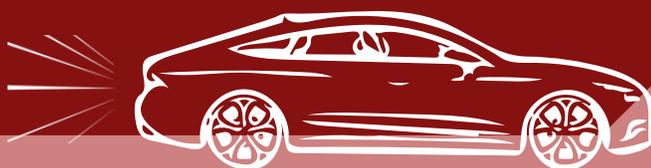
12) Stuyvesant runs on an A or B schedule. This means that every day is either assigned an A day or B day and it alternates. There are also other variations of A or B days, with A, A1, or A2 day and likewise B, B1, or B2 days. These different letter days correspond to variations in the classes you may take. Your teachers will make sure you're aware of these changes.

13) Stuyvesant High School is only a 15-20 min walk from Chinatown! Make the short trip to get tons of delicious food from \$1.25 dumplings to a classic Stuyvesant-favored restaurant, Wok Wok! Take advantage of the location of our school and explore neighborhoods you haven't visited often.

14) There are always tons of free space for you to study, complete work, or just relax. The 1st floor always has room and the upper floors have benches scattered near your next class. Just make sure that you are never blocking the hallways and you stay aware of the classrooms around you. Find a quiet space to just sit down and relax your mind until you have to get up and learn again, safety regulations permitting.

15) Don't be late to school or classes! You may be suspended from sports teams, barred from extracurriculars, and your grades can be lowered as a result. It is imperative that you maintain good attendance.

16) Absence/lateness notes and early excuse forms, which need to be signed by your teachers, and working papers can be printed off of the "Students > Forms" section of the Stuyvesant website. Hand in your forms as soon as possible!



WHAT'S THAT?

1) *Get involved in SING!*, a competition between the grades where students create entire original musicals of their own. You can act, direct, sing, dance, play an instrument, paint, build, and more! An annual performance, this pits SophFrosh against Juniors and Seniors! This is an amazing way to be a part of something that connects a huge number of student in a fun and exciting way!

2) *Open Mic* occurs on the first Friday of every month in the library, and allows students to share their writing, music, and other talents. You can perform or watch! Remember to catch the last performance that is sure to have special performances by faculty and is all seniors!

3) *The Stuyvesant Theater Community (STC)* is a great way to get involved at Stuy during any time of the year. Students in all grades can participate in any of the three productions (fall, winter, and spring), and you don't necessarily have to be a theater person to join, be a part of the lights and sound or set crew! Reach out to this year's STC board for any questions or information!

4) *The Spectator* is our school newspaper which comes out with a new issue every two weeks. Departments include News, Features, Opinions, Arts & Entertainment, Humor, Sports, Photos, and Science. If you aren't into writing, no worries! Join departments like Copy, Business, Layout, or Art! Pick up your copy in front of the bridge exit!

5) *ARISTA*, which you can apply to join at the end of your freshman, sophomore, or junior year, is an excellent resource for tutoring and volunteer opportunities. Go to "Students > ARISTA" on the Stuy website to find a peer tutor or visit the ARISTA website: <https://stuyarista.org/>



6) *The Speech and Debate Team* is where to go for public speaking skills! In Debate, you can choose to join Policy, Public Forum, Lincoln-Douglas, Parliamentary, or Congressional. In Speech, you can participate in Interpretation, Original Oratory, Declamation, and more! Visit Room 627 to see all of our trophies and awards!

7) *StuyMUN* is always looking for more delegates to help tackle the world's most pressing issues. Develop a love for public speaking and international affairs at conferences hosted by either local high schools or colleges a bus ride away. You will find yourself in the shoes of important decision-makers from all throughout history, debating with your counterparts represented by high schoolers from all over the world.

8) If you are having trouble in a class, attend an *AIS session* after school! Meet with both teachers and upperclassmen to receive some extra guidance or even practice for your next test or perhaps homework you are struggling with. Find the schedule on a bulletin board right next to Ms. Pedrick's office on the second floor!

9) *The Senior Bar* is located on the second floor next to the bridge entrance. Many seniors will spend their free time hanging out and fun events like promposals occur here! Wave hi to your senior Big Sibs as you walk by!

Most importantly, don't forget to apply to become a Big Sib at the end of your sophomore or junior year!





BIG SIB EXPERIENCES

FAVORITE THING ABOUT STUY?

"My friends and the activities are my favorite things about Stuy. I think it's awesome that I always see someone I know in the halls during passing or during frees and it always makes my day. I also love the activities because they really helped me find out what I'm good at and what I like to do while getting to hang out with my friends and giving me something to look forward to."

Samira Murad, 1BB

"My favorite thing about stuy is definitely the freedom we are allowed. We have such a wide range of courses and clubs which you can choose uniquely to your own stuy experience, making your 4 years a little less tedious. Not the mention the luxury of leaving the building for food or just some fresh air during your frees."

Shyann Rampaul, 3JA

"The escalators. I get so tired after certain classes and having the opportunity to save my physical energy and recuperate my mental stamina on the escalators have been a wonderful experience at Stuy."

George Tom, 1ZZ

"My favorite thing about Stuy would have to be the AMAZING English teachers we have. They are all super sweet and passionate about the work they do."

Faima Safwana, 1CC

"The building is actually so beautiful. I love finding new spots to study and hangout with friends."

Samantha Hua, 1WW

"My favorite thing about Stuy is definitely the library! There's tons of really great places to be, like clubrooms or the SU room, but the library definitely takes the cake for offering a safe place to do some homework and do some reading :)"

Emily Lu, 1HH

"My favorite thing about Stuy is the array of extracurriculars it provides. I swear, any club you are looking for, we probably have. And if not? Make your own! These clubs allow students to look beyond the academic curriculum and destress while doing something they enjoy!"

Isabella Chow, 1PP

FAVORITE EATERY & GO-TO ORDER?

"I love Whole Foods. It has such a wide selection of food and a large seating area. My go-to order is the roast beef and cheddar panini and it's literally the best thing I've ever had."

Margaux Scandura, 1WW

"Ferry's (the deli across from the dog park) has really good fresh hot sandwiches and a wide variety of snacks, drinks, and even fresh fruit. They have really good BECs and bagels and a variety of warm wraps. It's a go-to for me during my free because of how quick and simple it is. There is also two really good pizza places if you go on chambers street (the one further away is better)."

Lucien Clough, 1UU

"Zuckers (expensive but so worth it) everything bagel with chive cream cheese!"

Polina Maller, 1WW

"A large iced coffee with milk (no sugar) from Ferry's!"

Danielle Que, 1TT

"It used to be Ferry's before the price hike. Now I'm at Terry's with a bacon egg and cheese on a roll with hot sauce. I was inspired by Principal Yu who I once saw order a bacon egg and cheese with red onion and hot sauce."

Brandon Phillips, 1DD

"The Halal cart right outside MCD, I swear that man is the best. I always get the chicken and lamb over rice, with white sauce and hot sauce."

Everett Torrey, 1QQ

"Brookfield Place! There's so many options there, but recently I have started loving the Ham and Swiss toast from Tartinery."

Bowen Fu, 1BB

"I think my favorite eatery near Stuy is Chipotle, even though I barely go there. My go-to order is a chicken bowl with white rice, red peppers, beans, cheese (a little bit), and lettuce."

Samaria Noel, 1CC

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT AT STUY?

"One time, after Swim Gym, I completely forgot to take off my swim cap, and I went to my biology class with my swim cap on."

Alisha Zaman, 1MM

"My sophomore year I walked into the wrong classroom for math three days in a row, and even sat down at a desk on two of those days before realizing I wasn't supposed to be there. I think the math teacher in that room thought I was doing it on purpose by the third day..."

Margaret Mikhalevsky, 1YY

"On my first day of freshman year I was a period ahead of the schedule so I accidentally went to all of the wrong classes and I did not realize until 7th period. None of the teachers noticed as well since no one was really taking attendance."

Michelle Hu, 1WW

"My shoelace got stuck in an escalator and I held up the entire escalator."

William Wang, 1RR

"My most embarrassing moment at Stuy was probably over Zoom when I just joined my algebra 2 class and I didn't know I was unmuted. I was singing something and my teacher called me out for it and I muted myself so quickly. I have a friend that teases me about it to this day."

Tiffany Liang, 1QQ

"Calling Ms. Fang "mom" freshman year!"

Anna Kathawala, 1XX

"Not being able to find room 615E 😞"

Roxy Perazzo, 1YY

"One of them would have to be when a student asked me where the lunch room was. I kind of confidently fed them the lie that it was on the 6th floor, but then I saw my friend on the stairwell and asked them. They told me the lunch room was on the fifth floor and I needed to run back and catch the poor soul I had misled."

Julia Lee, 3JA

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT AT STUY? PT.2

"My most embarrassing moment at Stuy was the collective moment in which everyone in Art Crew realized we had painted the canvas upside down. It still haunts me to this day..."

Natalie Soler, 1NN

"I once told someone 'welcome to stuy!' since I thought they were a freshman, but they were a senior."

Olivia Haven, 1SS

"One time someone went to dap me up, and I shook their hand instead. I was so embarrassed that I would dap up my friends every day so I would get better and actively avoided them in the hallways. When I reminded the person about the story, though, they didn't remember it at all (I will probably never forget it)."

Cynthia Chang, 1LL

"I got my shoe thrown off the half floor in my freshman year and it got confiscated by Mr. Moran (on the bright side, it didn't hit anyone). I had to talk to him for an entire period and I didn't even get my shoe back until the end of the day. Apparently my counselor was notified as well. Good times."

Jesse Ding, 1TT

"In a CS class, everyone had to handwrite some code, and then we had to swap it with a partner. Our teacher used the word "trace," which he meant as going through the code and making sure the output is what's expected. I was very slow and very bad at CS and I of course took an orange pen and traced the writing of my partner, letter by letter, and handed it back."

Nada Hameed, 1GG

"My first day in-person, when I walked into an AP calc BC class instead of my Spanish class . I quietly sat there for a good 5-10 minutes before I built up the courage to raise my hand and eloquently said something along the lines of: "Uhhhhh, I think I'm I'm in the wrrronn-wrong room..." Then I gracefully sprinted out of the classroom and had to explain to my Spanish teacher I messed up."

Jonathan Wun, 1RR

FAVORITE WAY TO RELEASE STRESS?

"Going on a walk while listening to music and pretending I'm in a movie."

Elah Wilson, 1UU

"I love to just sleep. Sleeping releases a lot of tension within my body."

Justin Chen, 1SS

"My favorite way to release stress would be dancing. However, when that gets stressful as well I usually spend time wallowing in a losing streak of games. Or when I'm feeling intellectual I would indulge in a book or two while listening to music. Or I would learn a song on the guitar, it's a really nice way to get your mind off of things."

Caleb Song, 1JJ

"Talking to friends, playing a sport, journaling, talking to guidance :D"

Emma McGee, 1KK

"I take bus rides while listening to music or drink bubble tea/ eat a pint of icecream. Or I rearrange my whole entire room or dye my hair. These are super common ways (I think) to relieve stress but it's popular for a reason."

Eugene Park, 1FF

"I usually journal. I'm not a huge fan of writing so I like to collect scraps of paper and basically have a junk journal out of those."

Mikayla Lin, 1GG

"ASMR. Honestly, ASMR used to be a joke when I was younger, but it was actually helped me a lot with stress. It sounds silly, but it helps me go to sleep and my quality of rest has gotten much better. Favorite channels: Gibi and Dong ASMR Highly recommend!!"

Kyle H. Chan, 1WW

"Playing sports (specifically tennis)! It helps to relax my brain and keep myself active, and I find that my brain is clearer and I'm less anxious afterwards!"

Kate Bondarenko, 1CC

"Spinning lights in StuyFlow, dancing Kpop, playing the piano/instruments, sleeping :D!"

James Shin, 1PP

HOW HAVE YOU DEVELOPED SINCE FRESHMAN YEAR?

"Become more resilient academically. Instead of dwelling about a bad grade I got, I look at why I did badly and how can I improve next time."

Calista Lee, 1KK

"I've gotten more social and self confident, and developed (somewhat) a work ethic. I've also discovered what I'm interested in and a potential goal for college and beyond."

Julia Shen, 1MM

"I used to be a very shy/self conscious person. I used to cry when I came up to give presentations and didn't talk to too many people in fear of being overbearing. As I met more people and friends at Stuyvesant, I became a lot more confident in speaking and presenting, and even asking more questions made classes more engaging and I found myself having a lot of fun learning in class discussions and lectures."

Ethan Wong, 1KK

"Since my freshman year of Stuy, I've learned a good deal more German, got a few haircuts, found my community, became confident in my sexuality, and honestly more confident and outgoing overall."

Petra Dijur, 1NN

"I'm a lot less afraid to ask for help, and put myself out there. I have always been outgoing but I was scared of judgement. I've grown to not care so much because as cliché as it sounds, being yourself will bring you the right people. Your people."

Ruby Lin, 1CC

"I've become more comfortable with putting myself out there even when I embarrass the heck out of myself. I used to never participate in STEM classes because I was so intimidated. Now, I ask a bajillion questions in class and confidently tell my teachers "I have no idea" when they call on me to answer questions. At the end of the day, no one is going to remember a few dumb things that you said in class and they may have even had the same questions as you. In the past few years, I've received a lot of compliments from people thanking me for asking all those questions because they were all just as lost as me."

Yulin Zhen, 1RR

AN EXPERIENCE THAT RESONATED WITH YOU?

"Junior SING! was one of the most enjoyable experiences for me of all time, period. I loved every second of the experience and I'm definitely auditioning to be part of Senior SING!"

Kevin Xiao, 1AA

"Writing my first article for The Spectator strongly resonated with me. I remember feeling a strong sense of pride and accomplishment seeing my article on the front page of the newspaper, and thinking "Wow, I wrote that article!" It was a super rewarding experience that pushed me to be more involved in The Spectator."

Kevin Chan, 1KK

"The time my friends and I bought a whole rotisserie chicken from whole foods and ate it on the hallway floor. Good times."

Zifei Zhao, 3JA

"3 things:

- I rediscovered a love for volleyball, and I turned out to have gotten better after not playing for quite a while + after picking up some basic tips.
- I realized that even though I was in math team and didn't have such a great love for math, the people are still amazing to be around.
- After having to wear a mask for so long, I felt self-conscious about my mouth. But while playing, we took our masks off, and I felt more comfortable than usual."

Erica Liu, 1XX

"When the Stuyvesant baseball team beat the #1 team in the city during the playoffs. Everyone was surprised by our victory. This showed me the beauty of joining a team or any club. Competing and winning with the people closest to you is an amazing experience."

Julian Duran, 1FF

"Once, I wore a new pair of pants to school without realizing that they were slightly too large and didn't fall where they were supposed to. We happened to be doing a cocktail party in AP World and walking around and talking to people. Dr. Berman happened to see me struggling while talking and quietly gave a large binder clip so I wouldn't have to worry about it for the rest of the day. Thank you doc b"

Jessica Liu, 1PP

WHAT WOULD YOU RE-DO?

"I would put in more effort to be positive even if I'm tired or upset at something. It takes effort to be happy and doing that makes it easier to get along with others."

Pimada Phongsuriya, 1QQ

"Be nicer to myself, reconsider my priorities and make sure my mental health isn't jeopardized for those priorities."

Xinni Lan, 1ZZ

"I would re-do my freshmen comp class. I really loved my teacher and the books we were reading in that class, but I barely spoke. I wish I did, so if I could I would go back and push myself to speak more and realize sooner that participating is not as scary as I made it out to be in my head."

Nora Loftus, 1RR

"I would care less about what other people thought of me. After becoming a senior, I've realized that what they think of you is their problem, not yours. Also, it's out of your control. Focus on things that are worth your time :))"

Judy Chen, 1JJ

"I would change my study method and schedule. Often times, I would spend too much time studying for one subject and give little attention to another since I was worn out. I would also attempt to study everything in one go and study for several minutes straight with no breaks in between. Now I've learned that I can't keep wearing myself out and that I should take periodic breaks."

Sajida Aktar, 1QQ

"I would make sure that I was living each day focusing on the present. It is overwhelming to think too much about the work ahead and I have found that just forming a checklist and steadily making my way through each day is the best way to make it feel more manageable."

Maggie Sansone, 1MM

"I would try Ferry's coffee earlier when the prices were lower."

Lianne Ohayon, 1UU

WHAT RESOURCE DID YOU RELY ON THE MOST?

"This is kind of basic, but email. I'm serious. You can find any teacher (or student's) email address using just the recipients line. The emails I've sent asking for help, clarification, or opportunities were really the difference between making and breaking my year. Teachers especially were so much more open and willing to help than my anxiety would lead me to believe."

Eshaal Ubaid, 1ZZ

"My support system. It doesn't have to be a guidance counselor or teacher or parent, it could just be a group of friends that you trust to have your back. Literally just doing homework with friends, knowing that we're all in this together, makes everything feel less stressful."

Liana Wu, 1EE

"AIS and Office Hours! In a large classroom setting, it might be hard to ask specific questions, especially in a limited time period. But at afterschool or during your frees, you can get the teacher's specific attention to ask any questions. Also the writing center helped a lot with my English essays!"

Zifei Zhao, 3JA

"I rely a lot on my counselor - I chat with them a lot. Another thing that is huge is the Facebook group - just searching up info on classes and teachers is a huge boon at the beginning of each semester (though sometimes it just makes you more stressed because you have more to think about lol). Facebook groups are definitely the No. 1, then my counselor."

Kai Xuan Li, 1BB

"This isn't a stuy resource per-say, but having an online version of textbooks if your teacher only gives you an in-person one is so helpful, try to find them for free on the internet"

Kiera Goggin, 1NN

"I used to always get an ARISTA tutor and attend office hours. I really like working with people so the people who host office hours/ ais or tutoring sessions are like so passionate and helpful it felt really nice to be supported."

Ava Fung, 1AA

WHAT RESOURCE DID YOU RELY ON THE MOST? PT.2

"Mr. Blumm is a lifesaver and some teachers are literally angels. I found a summer job I adored because of Mr. Blumm."

Emily Lu, 1HH

"The Library!!!!!! I feel like the library does not get enough love; it is the best place to do work in Stuy. It had computers, printing stations, and plenty of work space so you can work in a quiet environment! I have many memories of spending free periods there to either get my work done early, or frantically finish the assignments I hadn't quite finished yet."

Emily Young Squire, 1NN

"My Big Sibs/older Stuy students who were wiser in the ways of the world (the old stuy kids on facebook also count)! They were very insightful about how to best handle Stuy and how to get the most of my time here, and I'm really grateful to have met them :)"

William Tang, 1NN

"MY EMAIL my email gets absolutely everything and I check it so often and it helps me with everything. It is very easy to organize and I stay up to date on everything I have to do and I also look at all the unread emails in my inbox to see what I haven't seen yet. Trite, I know but helpful and not a lot of people use it to its full potential."

Abigail Johnson, 1SS

"I rely on Facebook the most. Before going to Stuy, I never would have seen myself downloading Facebook. However, it is such an important app to have. Almost all club recruitments and sports tryouts are posted on Facebook. On top of that, it is one of the best places to get advice from upperclassmen about specific teachers, classes, or miscellaneous. I check Facebook so often and it has helped me discover so many opportunities inside of the building."

Samaria Noel, 1CC

"Facebook! Everyone posts information about clubs, pubs, and even classes in incoming groups. It's such a good way to remain involved in the community and seek out things of your interest."

Shyann Rampaul, 3JA

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST PIECE OF ADVICE?

"Don't worry about making sure that you're taking all the "right" classes or joining the "right" clubs that will look good for college. You want to be able to talk about what you've done in high school from a positive standpoint. Look for things that you're passionate in. Those are the things that you'll love talking about and anyone, for college or not, will see that."

Adriana Lam, 1GG

"Don't be afraid to ask for help! You aren't alone or the only person struggling so don't be embarrassed to ask for help. This could be reaching out to your teachers, counselor, friends, family or Big Sibs because we are all here to help and have all been through exactly what you are going through. We know what it's like to feel lost and helpless so please please reach out to us if you ever need anything at all! "

Sarah Ibrahim, 1BB

"My biggest piece of advice is figure out your strengths/weaknesses and your study habits. If you know how you handle stress or your study habits, you can have such a productive year. If you know yourself well, you can figure out how much is too much for you and it will be much easier to juggle all of the things you want/have to do.

Shwetlana Jha, 1HH

"Don't be afraid to try something new. Now is the time to be trying things out and seeing what you like! Remember, if you don't enjoy doing something, you necessarily have to continue doing it. But, if you never try it, you'll never know what you think about it. Stuy has so many activities to choose from, whether it be clubs, sports, performing arts, or volunteering opportunities, so take advantage of it all!"

Carol Hon, 1EE

"My biggest advice is to ask for help when you need it. I have met so many people, built wonderful relations, and gotten better grades because I took the first step of asking for help. There are people more knowledgeable and more experienced; don't be afraid to take advantage of that. "

Vanessa Chen, 1QQ

"My biggest piece of advice is to make a lot of friends. In such a big school, you may either feel lonely or packed with pals, but to be honest, I feel like making a lot of friends and getting to know the kids in your class is most valuable. This allows you to hang out on free days, grab lunch together, and have someone to ask for assistance."

Sun Min Choo, 1AA

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST PIECE OF ADVICE? PT. 2

"If some of you are like me, then you must have had a moment sitting in biology class when you realized that it feels like everyone around you knows exactly what clubs they want to join, and what they want to be in the future ... High school is your time to try new activities and commit to what you like. It may be really far out of your comfort zone, or something that was always really close to your heart. Either way, this is your time to do the exploring to find yourself."

Ravindra Mangar, 1CC

"Don't skip lunch!"

Olivia Haven, 1SS

"go. do. clubs.

talk. to. teachers.

get into a community. do it. just find something you like. you'll make worthwhile friends. and talk to teachers. a good chunk of them are really interesting and helpful, and you can learn more than just the fact that the mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell."

Unique Zhang, 1HH

"Time management. Time management. Time management. Cannot emphasize this enough but from personal experience, no homework or projects you receive should take much time to the extent where you only sleep 4 hours a night. As long as you value time and work on assignments with maximum efficiency without distractions, you'll realize that you'll have all three: a social life, academics, and sleep :)"

Rebecca Bao, 1CC

"It's really really important to prioritize sleep. There's a culture at Stuy that will probably make you think it's ok to consistently get four hours of sleep a night, but chances are that you'll feel kind of awful during the day and your performance in class will drop."

Kikyo Makino-Siller, 1DD

"To try and explore different things, whether is be clubs, meeting new people, etc. Stuy has so much to offer and it's only if you take action to try these opportunities that will make your high school experience come to life!"

Isabella Jia, 1GG

Thank You!

The 2022-2023 Big Sib Program would like to thank:

The 2021-2022 Big Sib Chairs:

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Alec Shafran

Daniela Maksin

Samuel Espinal Jr.

Syeda Zahan

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