

2nd Annual NYC Transfer School Conference

~

June 7, 2012
Fordham University Graduate School of Education
113 West 60th Street
New York, NY

eskolta
We help schools learn.

NYC

**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Office of Postsecondary Readiness

Conference Overview

- 8:00 – 8:30**
Registration & Breakfast
Check in and proceed up one floor for breakfast
Location: Lobby & Cafeteria Atrium (Main Level)
- 8:00 – 8:45**
Page 4
Breakfast & Time for Ideas to Bring Schools Together
Sign up for topics that interest you to connect with colleagues
Location: Cafeteria Atrium (Main Level)
- 8:45 – 10:05**
Pages 5-9
Conference Sessions
Attend sessions by transfer school educators and partners
Location: Classrooms on floors 3 to 7
- 10:15 – 11:20**
Page 10
Common Ground Conversations
Share ideas with other educators in your same role
Location: Classrooms and Auditorium
- 11:30 – 12:20**
Pages 11-15
Conference Sessions
Offered by Transfer School Educators & Partner Organizations
Attend sessions by transfer school educators and partners
Location: Classrooms on floors 3 to 7
- 12:30 – 1:10**
Page 16
Lunch & Time for Ideas to Brings Schools Together
Sign up for topics that interest you to connect with colleagues
Location: Cafeteria & Atrium (Main Level)
- 1:15 – 2:20**
Page 17
Plenary Session
Cristal Cruz, Student, Brooklyn Frontiers High School
Josh Thomases, Chief Academic Officer, NYCDOE
Andrew Martir, Alumnus, Bushwick Community High School
Rev. Dr. Alfonso Wyatt
Location: Auditorium (Ground Level)
- 2:30 – 3:30**
Page 17
School Planning Time
Reconvene with colleagues from your school
Location: Classrooms and Auditorium

**Please remember to complete and turn in an evaluation form.
Feedback is a Gift!**

Wireless (Wifi) Account:
User name: **eskolta**
Password: **spring2012**

Conference Overview

2012 NYC Transfer School Conference

Sponsored by the
New York City Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Readiness

and

Eskolta, LLC

Transfer School Fellows

Aaron Boyle

Volunteer Transfer School Fellow

Natalie Lozada

Eskolta Transfer School Fellow

Nicole DeFino

NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow

Kim Nogay

NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow

Adam Grant Kelley

NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow

Neil Pergament

NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow

Student Conference Coordinators

Stephanie Albino

Danyale Arnette

Cristal Cruz

Louis LeGendre

Yvonne House

Katrina Khoruzhaya

8:00 - 8:45 Breakfast & Bringing Schools Together

Breakfast in the Atrium on the Main Floor

Pastries, fruit salad, coffee, and tea will be served.

Ideas to Bring Schools Together

Help build the transfer school network! In the atrium, find topics that interest you and add your ideas, comments, or contact information to the list. Lists will be circulated the week after the conference so that you can connect with your colleagues.

Networking topics include:

- I want to form an advocacy organization to make sure that the voice of transfer schools is heard by state and city officials.
- Let's put together a career fair for our students to meet supportive employers in the area.
- Let's share resources to better serve students with special needs.
- I want to form an association for transfer educators to put forward our own principles of good practice for serving our population.
- I want to connect my class with another class at a transfer school to share work.
- I want to discuss Common Core implementation with other schools.
- How we can create positive connections and tap into social service needs in our neighborhoods?
- Let's develop clubs, sports leagues, and extracurricular activities that work for transfer school populations
- What cool field trips have you done with your students?

8:45 – 10:05 Sessions

Curriculum, Instruction, and Academic Development

These workshops highlight curriculum, instruction, and classroom practices that are designed to help students meet high standards of learning.

The Common Core Learning Standards in the NYCDOE

Lauren Weisskirk, NYCDOE Office of Achievement Resources
Room 708 (7th Floor)

Participants will gain an overview of NYC's transition to the Common Core, discuss the instructional shifts that the standards require, and learn a protocol for analyzing sample student work against the new standards. Time will be allowed for an overview of resources available to educators to support implementation in their schools. **Suggested Audience:** Teachers



Interdisciplinary Instruction

Travis Frick, Femi Lewis, and Dulely Perez, Teachers
Brooklyn Democracy Academy
Room 515 (5th Floor)

In this workshop, teachers from Brooklyn Democracy Academy's ELA Department will present their process around building Common Core-aligned interdisciplinary units, melding themes of literature and history into their curriculum and assessments in order to promote enduring understandings. **Suggested Audience:** ELA and social studies teachers



Fresh Prep: Teaching & Learning through Hip Hop & Beyond

Michael Wiggins, Urban Arts Fresh Prep Manager
Jidenna Mobbisson, Fresh Prep MC (Master of Curriculum)
Philip Courtney, Executive Director
Urban Arts Partnership
Room 518 (5th Floor)

In this session, teachers will discover ways to harness aspects of Hip Hop and youth culture to help previously failing students pass the Regents Exam, create more positive teacher student relationships, increase levels of student engagement, and improve academic outcomes for struggling students. Participants will be provided with data on Fresh Prep's effectiveness, and information about our program models. **Suggested Audience:** All



8:45 – 10:05 Sessions

Blended Learning for All

Courtney Kelly, Bronx Community High School
Ivelisse Rodriguez, Bronx Arena High School
Charlie Freij, East Brooklyn High School
Michael Preston and Brianna Lawrence, Connected Foundations
Room 519 (5th Floor)



This workshop will introduce the basics of blended learning and will include target stations in which teachers can explore the following issues: the first year of blended learning in a school, the challenges and benefits of blended learning, incorporating technology into teaching, using technology to motivate and engage students, incorporating blended learning into the Common Core Standards and the gaming elements of the DIG/IT course. ***Suggested Audience: All***

Video and Project-Based Learning with the Common Core

Kate Rubenstein and Justice Whitikar from EVC (Education Video Center)
Ellie Weiss, Bushwick Community High School
Room 508 (5th Floor)



EVC will highlight the real-world learning and amazing student-produced work coming from the transfer schools working in partnership with EVC. By sharing sample projects, workshop participants can hone in on the literacy and 21st Century skills necessary to create a video and complete a project over a sustained period of time. This workshop will provide teachers with strategies and lesson plans to build student-centered classrooms that use video to engage all students with rigorous and authentic work. EVC will also provide sample school partnership options so that interested teachers can further inquire about our unique services.

Suggested Audience: All

8:45 – 10:05 Sessions

Guidance, Advising, and Youth Development

These workshops highlight practices for school-based counseling, guidance, and socio-emotional support to help student engage and grow in school.

Effective Facilitation Strategies for Youth Workshops

Samuel Quiah, MSW
Development Without Limits
Room 513 (5th Floor)

In this workshop, participants will identify the essential traits of an effective facilitator by using a variety of methods for crafting structured, interactive work readiness workshops. You will be challenged to think outside the box to develop and deliver workshops that promote group discussion, critical thinking, and exciting opportunities to learn by doing. **Suggested Audience:** *Counseling and internship staff*



PARTNER SESSION
Practices from school partners

Effective and Relevant School Partnerships: Balancing the Needs of Your Organization and Partnership

Dapheney St. Fleur, Program Director
St. Nick's Alliance at Bushwick Community High School
Room 424 (4th Floor)

This workshop will provide a space for workshop participants to discuss and highlight practices that allow for continued sustainability between DOE and CBO partners. Facilitators will help participants identify the unavoidable issues between partners and discuss methods of addressing these issues while balancing DOE expectations and CBO requirements. The workshop will also cover how to meaningfully provide additional guidance, academic, attendance, post secondary, and social emotional support to transfer students while establishing a concrete, trust worthy, effective, fully functioning partnership. **Suggested audience:** *Counseling staff and partners*



PARTNER SESSION
Practices from school partners

Creating Safer Spaces: Empowering and Supporting LGBTQ Students in NYC Transfer Schools

Alli Javors, Ed. M., CAS
Hetrick-Martin Institute at Harvey Milk High School
Room 514 (5th Floor)

Workshop participants will learn about many of the complex issues that youth who identify as LGBTQ deal with each and every day. Participants will leave with concrete ways to support their students in a transfer school environment as well as specific community resources in the NYC area. Particular attention will be paid to trans- and gender non-conforming students. **Suggested Audience:** *All*



EMERGING PRACTICE
Developing ideas from NYC transfer schools

8:45 – 10:05 Sessions

College and Career Readiness

These workshops highlight work specifically focused on preparing students for college and careers.

College, Career and Setting Goals

Francesca DiBlasi, MS Ed, MPA, College and Career Specialist
North Queens Community High School
Room 510 (5th Floor)

The objective of the workshop is to give counselors resources and tangible tools to assist students with post-secondary planning. This workshop will focus on strategies to motivate and engage students in positive, post-high school planning and development. It will include strategies for career and college preparation and engagement, including how to create a school-wide language and culture around post-high school focus. **Suggested Audience:** *Counselors*



EMERGING PRACTICE
*Developing ideas from
NYC transfer schools*

Preparing a Postsecondary Portfolio: Strategies to Help Transfer School Students Plan for the Next Step

Natalie Lozada, Bronx Haven High School
Lili Allen, Jobs for the Future
Room 526 (5th Floor)

Many transfer schools are considering ways to not only graduate their students, but also help them prepare for and transition into postsecondary. In this session, participants will learn about a sequence that is being piloted in some Transfer schools to build postsecondary planning and preparation into the school from intake to graduation, and how a graduation portfolio can help students in their planning and preparation. **Suggested Audience:** *Counselors and Teachers*



EMERGING PRACTICE
*Developing ideas from
NYC transfer schools*

Starting the Conversation about Life after High School

Gloria Rosario, Stephen Marcus, Mercedes Cepeda-Lorenzo
West Brooklyn Community High School
Room 311 (3rd Floor)

“Starting the Conversation” will seek to answer the question: How do you start the conversations around post-secondary readiness at your school? We will share our process, use a protocol to get participants to think about how to implement a post-secondary readiness plan at their schools, and create a safe space for feedback. **Suggested Audience:** *Administration and College/Career Staff*



EMERGING PRACTICE
*Developing ideas from
NYC transfer schools*

8:45 – 10:05 Sessions

Schoolwide Support and Decision-Making

These workshops focus on decisions made by leadership and staff that combine instruction and counseling.

The Quality Review: Evaluating Use of Resources in Transfer Schools

Sarah Goodman, NYCDOE Office of Academic Quality

Tarika Barrett, NYCDOE Office of Postsecondary Readiness

Room 710 (7th Floor)



Indicator 1.3 is a key Quality Review area that measures how well schools utilize resources and partnerships to support student learning. For transfer schools, seeking to support students with diverse unmet needs, the effective use of resources is of particular importance. Two NYCDOE Quality Reviewers will discuss the QR process and engage participants in thinking about what effective use of resources to support high-quality education looks like at a transfer school. **Suggested Audience:** *School leaders, faculty and CBO staff*

10:15 – 11:20 Sessions

Common Ground Conversations

Meet with teachers within your area of expertise to share practices and connect with colleagues. Facilitation protocols are available

Math Teachers (Introductory Level Math)
Room 508

Math Teachers (Regents & Beyond)
Room 510

Science Teachers
Room 513

ELA Teachers (Introductory Level ELA)
Room 514

ELA Teachers (Regents & Beyond)
Room 515

Social Studies Teachers (Global Studies)
Room 518

Social Studies Teachers (U.S. History)
Room 519

Foreign Language Teachers
Room 521

Special Education Teachers
Room 520

Health/PE Teachers
Room 525

Art & Music Teachers
Auditorium

Guidance Counselors
Room 307

Counselors, Advisers, and Coaches
Room 710

Internship Coordinators
Auditorium

Technology Specialists
Auditorium

Assistant Principals
Cafeteria Atrium

Program Directors
Room 708

Principals
Room 424

If your group does not have a facilitator, a protocol will be provided to you to help you have structured conversations around the work.

11:30 – 12:20 Sessions

Curriculum, Instruction, and Academic Development

These workshops highlight curriculum, instruction, and classroom practices that are designed to help students meet high standards of learning.

Developing Formative Assessments with the Common Core

Nicole Boone and Kevin Jacobsen
Bronx Haven High School
Room 520 (5th Floor)



Teachers will share their process for developing Common-Core school wide formative assessments in ELA and Mathematics, using framing questions to guide their approach. Samples of assessments and grading systems will be provided.

Suggested Audience: Math and ELA teachers

Robotics as Science Elective

Paul Stephens and Daks Armstrong
NYC Mission Society
Room 514 (5th Floor)



This presentation will be an exploration of the benefits and practicality of robotics in the classroom. We will examine how we take a seemingly complex topic and make it accessible to students of all learning levels and backgrounds. **Suggested Audience:** Science and Technology Teachers

Team Teaching in a Blended Classroom

Alex Mednick, Gregory Dolce, Josh Burstein
Murray Hill High School
Room 424 (4th Floor)



This workshop will focus on blended learning and team teaching. It will explore the following questions:

- What does team teaching look like in a blended learning classroom?
- What are the advantages of team teaching in a blended learning classroom?
- What possibilities does team teaching allow that solo teaching would not?
- What planning/strategizing do you need to do to keep it running smoothly?
- Why would school administration decide to support team teaching when resources are spread thin?

Suggested Audience: Teachers or Administrators

11:30 – 12:20 Sessions

Learning Through Teaching

Paul Joseph, Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Service
Room 525 (5th Floor)

"Learning through Teaching" is a workshop meant to consider student empowerment through peer-to-peer instruction. Taking the perspective that conveying research information to a novice is the foundation of lifelong learning, this workshop assumes that building relationships through teaching engages students and cultures while creating community. Participants of all content areas are welcome in this discussion to refine this progressive curricular technique through the analysis of student work and dialogue. **Suggested Audience:** All teachers



Student Video Exposition

Ruben Gonzalez, Perrin Lieberman, and Michael Lopez
Harlem Renaissance High School
Room 508 (5th Floor)

Student portfolio presentations have been used as culminating projects for years, following a standard rubric that has become mundane. This workshop will give participants a glimpse into how HRHS runs its Student Expo each trimester and the value video portfolios bring to the school. Audience members will view past student video portfolios, learn about our process, and walk away with ideas for how to incorporate video into their own classrooms, teams, groups, and community. **Suggested Audience:** All Teachers



How Do We Meet Struggling Students' Academic Needs and Push Thinking in Rigorous Classrooms?

Nicole DeFino, NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow
West Brooklyn Community High School
Room 708 (5th Floor)

Many students enter transfer schools with low literacy levels. Participants are invited to think together about who these students are and how we can help them to build the reading and comprehension skills they need to become lifelong learners.



How Can We Help Students Develop Study Skills They Need to Succeed?

Neil Pergament, NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow
Brooklyn Frontiers High School
Room 515 (5th Floor)

Many of our students come to us lacking the study skills they need to be successful in high school and college. But what are the specific study skills that our students need? When during the course of the day should we teach our students these skills? How do we ensure that these skills are taught in an effective, consistent manner throughout the school? Join together with other transfer school educators to explore these questions and share ideas and strategies to bring back to our school communities.



11:30 – 12:20 Sessions

Guidance, Advising, and Youth Development

These workshops highlight practices for school-based counseling, guidance, and socio-emotional support to help student engage and grow in school.

Sing it Loud, Sing it Proud: Student Voice and Leadership

Adam Grant Kelley, NYCDOE Transfer School Fellow
Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Service
Room 519 (5th Floor)

“Sing it Loud, Sing it Proud” invites like-minded educational activists who strive to better empower students to claim leadership roles in classrooms, conversations and administrative collaborations in hopes of improving performance, attendance and community. Exploring a balance of theory and practice, this workshop encourages participants to share how we already implement a model of student buy-in within our respective transfer school while simultaneously challenging ourselves to realize how to better involve students in democratic education processes. **Suggested Audience:** *All*



BIG QUESTION

Group discussion of important issues

Redefining Conflict

Katie Henry, Advocate Counselor
West Brooklyn Community High School
Room 311 (3rd Floor)

“Redefining Conflict” will explore the roots of conflict amongst our young people, with the goal of facilitating the ways in which the participants can use conflict as opportunity for positive growth and self-awareness. The workshop will explore student mediation and the ways in which it is used within our programs. The participants will leave with suggested tools for successful interventions and experience the benefit from the wealth of information through the exchange of experiences and ideas. **Suggested Audience:** *All, but particularly Counselors*



EMERGING PRACTICE

Developing ideas from NYC transfer schools

High Leverage Attendance Support: Whom Do We Target and What Do We Do?

Aaron Boyle
Volunteer Transfer School Fellow, Bushwick Community High School
Room 518 (5th Floor)

This session is designed to be a forum for educators to discuss ideas and build strategies around efforts to promote good attendance for transfer school students. Participants will share experiences from their schools and review data from a research study with the goal of identifying potential practices that could be further developed at their school to benefit students.

Suggested Audience: *All involved in attendance outreach*



BIG QUESTION

Group discussion of important issues

11:30 – 12:20 Sessions

Advisory: What Are Our Approaches to Group Support?

Rachel Forsyth, Good Shepherd Services

Room 510 (5th Floor)

Almost every transfer school offers some class or program for students to engage in socio-emotional support and guidance in a group setting.

Whether you call this advisory or family group or community scholars,

how can we learn from the structures and approaches we use at our different schools? Participants will have the opportunity to share ideas with colleagues and think about how you support students in advisory. **Suggested Audience:** *Counselors or other staff who facilitate advisory groups.*



BIG QUESTION

*Group discussion of
important issues*

11:30 – 12:20 Sessions

College and Career Readiness Workshops

These workshops highlight work specifically focused on preparing students for college and careers.

Preparing for the CUNY Placement Test

Lauren Rubin, CUNY At Home in College
Shirley Wu, East Brooklyn Community High School
Room 710 (7th Floor)



The purpose of this workshop is to introduce teachers and administrators to the CUNY Assessment Test in reading and writing and the expectations this test sets for both teachers and students. In addition, we will present concrete classroom strategies that can help teachers prepare their students for this high-stakes exam. **Suggested Audience:** All

Inspiring Marketable Interns

Pia Raymond, LMSW
NYC Mission Society Learning to Work Program at Emma Lazarus H.S. for English Language Scholars
Room 513 (5th Floor)



In a fluctuating economy, it is our role as counselors and educators to inspire youth to be global leaders. This workshop will highlight strategies to yield successful interns in your Learning to Work Programs. We will discuss the internship application process, professional development and building workplace initiative. **Suggested Audience:** Social workers, Internship Coordinators, Counselors

Schoolwide Support and Decision-Making

These workshops focus on decisions made by leadership and staff that combine instruction and counseling.

Launching a Transfer School Institute for Common Core Readiness

Tarika Barrett and Lynette Lauretig, DOE Office of Postsecondary Readiness
Room 521 (5th Floor)



What if the DOE provided additional resources for transfer schools to support students in achieving Common Core mastery? In Fall 2012, OPSR will launch a yearlong Institute centered on schools' efforts around CCLS. In this session, we want your input and thoughts on this new opportunity. Participants will identify the best ways that coaching and support in 2012-13 can help teachers promote rigorous content and the application of higher order thinking skills, and can strengthen the systems and structures that enable over-aged under-credited students to reengage academically. Through an initial process to take place in Fall 2012, schools will apply to participate in multi-school trainings, on-site instructional coaching and coaching on the design and development of systems to support this work, among other activities. **Suggested Audience:** School leaders and all school staff

12:30 – 1:15 Networking & Lunch

Lunch in the 2nd Floor Atrium

Boxed lunches will be available, including sandwiches, chips, whole fruit, a cookie, and soda or water.

Speed Networking Time

Help build the transfer school network! In the atrium, find topics that interest you and add your ideas, comments, or name to the list. Lists will be circulated the week after the conference so that you can connect with your colleagues.

Networking topics include:

- I want to form an advocacy organization to make sure that the voice of transfer schools is heard by state and city officials.
- Let's put together a career fair for our students to meet supportive employers in the area.
- Let's share resources to better serve students with special needs.
- I want to form an association for transfer educators to put forward our own principles of good practice for serving our population.
- I want to connect my class with another class at a transfer school to share work.
- I want to discuss Common Core implementation with other schools.
- How we can create positive connections and tap into social service needs in our neighborhoods?
- Let's develop clubs, sports leagues, and extracurricular activities that work for transfer school populations
- What cool field trips have you done with your students?

1:25 – 2:20 Plenary Session

Location: Auditorium on 1st Floor

Cristal Cruz
Brooklyn Frontiers High School
Learning-to-Work Intern, Eskolta, LLC

Joshua Thomases
Chief Academic Officer, NYCDOE

Andrew Martir
NYC Transfer School Alumni Speaker

Andrew Martir grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from Bushwick Outreach Center in 1996. Following that, he attended SUNY Purchase where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies. Andrew entered the field of education in 2000 and worked in various roles over several years as a social studies teacher, dean, and counselor at West Manhattan Outreach and Brooklyn High School of the Arts. In 2008, Andrew was proud to return to the high school he graduated from (now Bushwick Community HS) to join the faculty as a guidance counselor and college advisor. At BCHS, he coordinates the school's College Summit program which builds leadership and college-readiness for students approaching graduation. Andrew believes deeply in the ability of his students to succeed despite their previous educational difficulties, and he uses his past experience as a transfer school student to powerfully connect to, inspire, and mentor all the students he interacts with today. In 2010, Andrew was honored by College Summit with their national Educator of the Year award.

Reverend Dr. Alfonso Wyatt
Keynote Address
“Lessons from a Mental Ninja”

Rev. Dr. Alfonso Wyatt has worked with four generations of young people in community based organizations, public schools, and the faith community. He is highly regarded for his work with young people in foster care, juvenile detention facilities, and transfer schools, as well as working with young people on their way to college and beyond. He served as vice president of the Fund for the City of New York for over two decades. He is founder of Strategic Destiny: Designing Futures Through Faith and Facts. Rev. Wyatt is a national role model, keynote speaker, advocate and leader on issues that impact young people in New York City and around the country. Rev. Wyatt has served as a consultant to foundations, government, nonprofits, universities private sector and the broader faith community. He has mentored three generations of leaders in the public, private, nonprofit and faith community. He attended Howard University, Columbia Teacher's College, The Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy, Columbia Institute for Nonprofit Management (INM) and New York Theological Seminary. Rev. Wyatt, a published author, has also served as Chair of The 21st Century Foundation and Chair of The Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, New York Affiliate. He continues to serve on the boards of progressive organizations that advocate for young people and families caught in the grip of poverty and despair. Rev. Alfonso Wyatt is an Elder on the ministerial staff of The Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York.

2:30 – 3:30 School Planning Time

Schools may develop their own agendas, or use sample protocols provided.

Arturo A. Schomburg Satellite Academy
Auditorium

Bronx Arena High School
Auditorium

Bronx Academy High School
Room 311

Bronx Community High School
Auditorium

Bronx Haven High School
Room 508

Brooklyn Democracy Academy
Room 510

Brooklyn Frontiers High School
Room 522

**Brooklyn High School for Leadership and
Community Service**
Room 514

Bushwick Community High School
Room 519

Harvey Milk High School
Auditorium

High School for Excellence and Innovation
Room 521

Independence High School
Room 710

North Queens Community High School
Room 515

Queens Academy High School
Room 424

South Brooklyn Community High School
Room 513

Voyages Preparatory High School
Auditorium

W.E.B DuBois Academic High School
Room 708

West Brooklyn Community High School
Room 518

Schools with fewer than 10 registrants are welcome to find an alternative space in the building to meet, such as the Cafeteria or outside patio