

# Paterson Post

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## School 28/PAGT at NJIT for Science Olympiad

Twenty-two students from the School 28/Paterson Academy for the Gifted and Talented (PAGT) traveled to the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in Newark to compete in the regional *NJ Science Olympiad* competitions. Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, with up to 25 team events. Each year, the events rotate to reflect the changing nature of earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology and engineering. Students begin preparing for this rigorous competition as soon as school begins in September. There are opportunities for student teamwork, problem solving and collaboration.

This year's competition "builds" included a tower, roller coaster, battery operated car, an airplane and a hovercraft. PAGT students attained medals in the following events: experimental design, ecology, anatomy and physiology, roller coaster, and rocks and minerals. They received a 6<sup>th</sup> place team trophy and qualified for state competition happening on March 13<sup>th</sup> at Middlesex County College.

## Sobering Facts at JFK



Ms. Judith Beckmeyer, a Student Assistance Coordinator at the John F. Kennedy Educational Center, paired up with members of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) club from the School of Business, Technology, Marketing and Finance (BTMF) in recognition of National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week. Ms. Lydner and Student Resource Officer Detective Robert Pleasant delivered poignant and sobering information about the inherent dangers of drug and alcohol abuse along with the DECA membership. The group then

delivered a Drug and Alcohol IQ Challenge to their peers during lunch and went over appropriate answers. Everyone learned at least one important drug and alcohol fact during National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week!

## Eclipse Shot Goes National

We've all seen him around the school district with his trusty camera, snapping (above average) photographs at most important events. When the recent eclipse of the Sun was taking place, Graphics Coordinator George Garbeck, from the Department of Communications was at the Great Falls National Historical Park, covering the "Eclipse Party" activities there. Students from several schools and their teachers, Park Service rangers, Paterson residents and visitors from all over were at the park with various kinds of safe-viewing apparatus to watch our local star blocked out to near totality by the Moon.



After reviewing some of Mr. Garbeck's photographs, the National Park Service decided to feature one of his shots [on their website and in their annual report!](#) The featured photo shows a young uniformed junior officer, "Ranger Abby" looking at the rare celestial phenomenon with delight. According to Supervisory Park Ranger, Ilyse Goldman, George's photo was, "...by far voted to be one of THE best pictures in the region this year."

When you see Mr. Garbeck with his camera, be sure to smile – because you never know what might become of the image!

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