

Paterson Mayor Recognizes Student Ambassadors

Over 30 students (7th through 12th grade) were selected in February to be their school's "Student Ambassador" to Acting Mayor Jane Williams-Warren. The Acting Mayor challenged each of these students to develop a project, event or activity that would help improve the quality of life in Paterson. With the help of their fellow students and staff, our Student Ambassadors exceeded everyone's expectations. The student projects ranged from massive school and park clean-ups to ensuring every student in the school had a library card. The Mayor recognized each of her Student Ambassadors at three recognition ceremonies which were held at the district office in May. Additionally, as this program was implemented under the leadership of Superintendent Shafer and Executive Director of Information Services, Terry Corallo, the Mayor made a special presentation to both of them at the final meeting on May 30th. The Mayor has challenged these students to continue in their efforts to improve the quality of life in Paterson and hopes that this wonderful program will carry on after she leaves office at the end of June.



Azim Uddin, a senior at JFK's BTMF, successfully planned a clean-up day in nearby Westside Park. Many students were involved in this clean up, and it has inspired them to do more in the community.

ES GOPA Student Artwork on Display at WPU

Eastside's School of Government and Public Administration (ES GoPA) students from Ms. Michelle Sosa's (11th grade) and Ms. Jennifer Franco's (12th grade) classes were recently honored for their joint artwork at William Paterson University College of Education's Seventh Annual Art Exhibit.

All art teachers in the PDS network of over 50 schools were invited to submit their students' best work, from which fifteen pieces were selected for permanent display in WPU's College of Education building in Wayne. The purpose of this exhibition is to recognize the talent of outstanding student artists, as well as the efforts of their art teachers to foster those talents.

Ms. Sosa and Ms. Franco's work, which used the medium of tempera paint on paper, stressed the ideas of collaboration and cooperation, and was done under the tutelage of ES GoPA art teacher Darryl Jones.

The students and their families enjoyed the exhibit opening and reception, where they received their Certificates of Recognition from PDS Director Nancy Norris Bauer. After speaking to WPU's Dean Feola of the College of Education, Jennifer Franco, ES GOPA student (pictured) commented, "It is good to see a possible career path for me."



Pictured: Jennifer Franco, with her mother and Interim GOPA Principal Michael Olo.

School 13 Recognizes Parents & Community Members

The PTO of School 13 held their Annual Parent & Community Appreciation Night on May 17, 2018. Teachers and staff selected parent and community supporters to receive parent involvement and/or volunteer recognition awards. This year, Principal Booker and Vice Principal Braico presented awards to 35 parents, 8 community leaders, and 2 faith-based organizations. The evening included a still life art presentation by students of Ms. Jackson and words of inspiration from Action Team Partner Min. Regina Moore of Resurrection Kingdom Ministries. Parent Liaison Ms. Demarest, Parent Coordinator Ms. Simmons and PTO Secretary Ms. Hylton were so happy that the parents, students and staff enjoyed this special evening of community at School 13.



Paterson Students Go to Washington



For the last four years, our very own district director and Passaic County Freeholder, "T.J." Best, has chaperoned a group of Paterson students on an annual trip to Washington D.C.

This annual trip is a collaboration between N.J. State Senator Cory Booker, Amtrak and NJCDC, and is in honor and memory of the late Senator Frank Lautenberg who served as the chairman of the United States Federal Transportation Committee. This year's group of 40 students representing 10 Paterson high school academies traveled to the Capitol City on a special charter Amtrak Acela train. During the action packed two-day schedule, the students met the chairman of the Amtrak board, who is originally from Paterson and a JFK alumnus. They also received a private tour of the DC Union station, visited the U.S. Capitol building, and had meetings with Senator Cory Booker, Senator Lautenberg's wife, and the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. During their stay, this lucky group of students also had dinner in Georgetown where they had an opportunity to get a taste of college life!

Governor Murphy's Inauguration includes speaker from Eastside

Before Governor Phil Murphy signed his executive order promoting equal pay for women on January 16th, Eastside High School Technology teacher, Murdina Hansen, shared her personal story of pay inequity. As Governor Murphy patiently waited to take the stage, Ms. Hansen explained to a packed house how after sixteen years as a "solutions engineer" at a tech company, she unexpectedly learned that she earned far less than her male colleagues.



Her new manager shook his head in disbelief; but after researching Ms. Hansen's job performance history, he was able to award her a 25 percent raise along with a company apology. But even then, despite glowing job evaluations over every one of those sixteen years, her manager said, "This will go a long way in closing the gap." Ms. Hansen immediately recognized that this meant "the gap [still] wasn't closed." Following her presentation, Governor Murphy then signed his executive order barring pay inequity at state agencies, beginning a new era of gender equality in the State of New Jersey. Way to go Ms. Hansen!

Art/Music Literacy Night at NSW



Art is a visual language that all children can "speak". The Norman S. Weir (NSW) community is fortunate to have parents and teachers who recognize the value of the creative process and who have helped develop children's imaginations to soar by providing the opportunity to think, create, discover, problem solve, and build confidence. For their "Into the Frame" art phenomenon, rows of easels were set up facing Ms. Jackie Norman, NSW Art Teacher. She walked the students and parents through the painting of Giraffes Can't Dance-- while listening to

Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 (Pastoral), Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and the Sorcerer's Apprentice. Groups of smiling students and parents holding nearly identical paintings took part in the "Into the Frame" event courtesy of funding provided by the district's Parent Resource Center. A colorful evening was had by all!

Mother's Day Literacy Parent Workshop

Dale Avenue School hosted a Mother's Day Literacy Workshop and over 90 mothers were in attendance. Our mothers were treated to a special hot and cold breakfast buffet. Each mom was given a gift bag and presented flowers from their children. A parent workshop was hosted by motivational speaker and clergywoman Mrs. Regina Moore.



Mrs. Moore spoke to the mothers on the topic: Being an Example of Success to Your Children through Diligence. She discussed topics such as: Setting Goals, Being a positive example, Good Study Skills. She encouraged a partnership with the school and building a strong home school connection.

Food donations were obtained from local business owners and community partners. This annual event was coordinated by Family and Community Engagement Parent Liaison and Parent Coordinator Ms. Charlene Cromartie and Mrs. Leyda Gonzalez. It was greatly supported by Dale's PTO and Dale's staff and administration.

A Valuable Lesson for ES SOIT



Students from the School of Information Technology (SOIT) were honored on Friday, May 4th for their participation in the Passaic County Law Day Contest. Students were asked to create a video, poem or poster depicting the separation of power as stated in the Constitution. Freshman, Michael Cadavid, received first place for his poem followed by second place winner, Akeem Haynes, senior. Juan Urena, junior, placed third in the video portion. School of Government students, Joshua Greene and Mariah Hamad, placed second and third with their posters. In addition to this highlighted event, the students were able to participate

in the county's citizenship swearing-in ceremony. Twenty-six people from 16 countries swore their allegiance to our country. Student, Haicha Aguero, stated that it was very powerful to see and hear about the hard work and dedication of the new citizens to achieve this accomplishment. "It was a wonderful experience," Ta-jay Stoney said. "I was delighted and moved to see, through these people, how great the United States was and the benefits of citizenship." Kennedy Rodriguez, Keyrin Lopez and other students were touched by how the "new" citizens held and kissed the paper certificate declaring them United States citizens.

Around the District

Great Scholarships for College-Bound Seniors

At the May 16th Board Meeting, the District recognized 128 college-bound seniors who earned a scholarship of \$10,000 or more, and who also plan to attend a four-year college or university this fall. During the awards presentation, Superintendent Eileen Shafer commented, "Paterson students are proving that they are as able and talented as every other student across the nation, and that they have a very promising future." Our high school seniors who received these scholarships will be attending schools in New Jersey, Virginia, Massachusetts and Florida. We wish them much success!



Senator Lautenberg School Staff Presentation - Jaymie Paige Stein Green, Social Emotional Learning Coordinator, presented at the AERA (American Educational Research Association) Conference in April. The panel was entitled Arts Education, Community, and Social Justice. As a representative from PPS and Fordham University's Graduate School of Education's PhD program in Contemporary Learning and Interdisciplinary Research, Ms. Stein Green presented her research and paper published as *Adult Perspectives on Art Experiences in a Title I School Community*.



School 1 Walks for a Great Cause – May is Williams Syndrome Awareness Month and that was enough reason for School 1/Renaissance School to hold a Walk a Thon to benefit the Williams Syndrome Association (WSA). Under the leadership of Principal Joanne Barca, the students wore red shirts and made wonderful signs to show their support. The event was a big success raising over \$300! The students' signs will be on display at the WSA convention in Baltimore, MD in July.

Alexander Hamilton Academy's Spring Garden

Spring is finally here, and that means students at Alexander Hamilton Academy are outdoors working hard producing an impressive school garden! The AHA garden provides a place for students to make observations about everything from organisms to weather. It also provides students with the opportunity to work together as a team to consider and care for their school environment. Teachers were also working hard educating students on how to compost and repair garden beds.



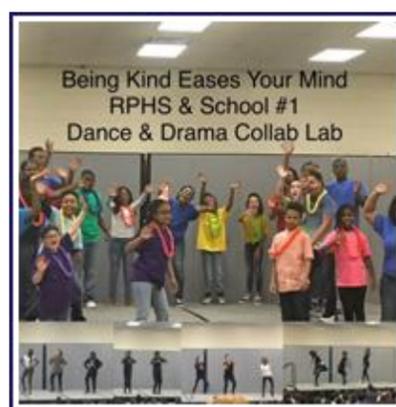
YMLA After PARCC Meditation – Meditating after PARCC testing is just what the YMLA school guidance counselor prescribed and what the students enjoyed after hours of testing. Learning how to mentally reset and return to a level of calm is very beneficial for all students. The guidance counselor was pleasantly surprised that the students asked if they could practice the relaxation techniques they had previously learned (and featured in previous issue of *Paterson Post*). The students communicated they felt both physically and emotionally drained after testing. This picture captures the YMLA students' mood as they transcended from being anxious to tranquil.

School 9's Recycling Project – School 9's Ms. Dailey, art teacher and Simone Sandler Professor in Residence from William Paterson University coordinated a water bottle recycling project. Students collected and used permanent markers to decorate the empty bottles. Afterwards, the bottles were cut in a spiral design and mounted on a chicken wire frame. Now they are looking for a place to hang the finished three-dimensional sculpture.



School 13's Teacher Appreciation Breakfast – The teachers of School 13 were treated to a tropical themed continental breakfast sponsored by the PTO of School 13. The menu included fruit, bagels, danish and coffee. Teachers basked in the tranquil sounds of relaxing music and a water fountain before beginning their school day. One teacher expressed that she appreciated the efforts of the parents to make the event extra special.

Schools Partner on Drama and Dance – Renaissance School One and Rosa Parks Fine & Performing Arts High School have created a special partnership. The elementary students under the guidance of the Rosa Parks students, have been working hard to create a drama and dance performance. These students have been practicing throughout the year building confidence to perform on stage in front of their peers and family. Job well done by all. A special thank you from School One to Rosa Parks!



Upcoming Events

June 5: Community Forum on Local Control

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Eastside HS Campus

June 6: Board of Education Workshop

6:30 p.m. at the District Offices, 90 Delaware Avenue

June 7: 2017-2018 Math Olympiad

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Charles J. Riley School 9

June 7: Superintendent Meeting with Parents

6:00 p.m.- 7:30 at International High School

June 11: Community Forum on Local Control

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at School 26

Effective Academic Programs • Creating & Maintaining Healthy School Cultures
Family & Community Engagement • Efficient & Responsive Operations