

Paterson Post

Preparing All Children for College and Career

Together We Can!

June 3, 2019

CAHTS Student Scores a Perfect Score on the National Spanish Exam



Natalia Almonte, a junior from the Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism School (CAHTS) at Eastside High School, scored a perfect score on this year's administration of the National Spanish Exam. This annual exam, taken by students studying Spanish as a second language across the country, measures students' performance in interpretive communication and proficiency of the Spanish language.

Alexandra's Playground Donates New Playground to Public School No. 12

It was a great day on Saturday at Public School No. 12 as Paterson Public Schools officials joined representatives from [Alexandra's Playground](#) and the [New Jersey Community Development Corporation](#) (NJCDC) in opening the playground donated by Alexandra's Playground. Plenty of youth volunteers and families showed up to beautify the new playground. Superintendent Eileen Shafer, Board of Education President Oshin Castillo and Assistant Superintendent Sandra Diodonet were joined by Mayor Andre Sayegh, NJCDC CEO Bob Guarasci in welcoming Alexandra's Playground Executive Director Lori Hrbek and founders Michael and Andrea Vitale and their family. The playground is the sixth the organization has donated to Paterson Public Schools.



It's a Bird! It's a Plane! It's the Battle of the Junior School Safety Patrols!

Paterson Public Schools hosted its first ever Battle of the Junior School Safety Patrols at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex on Saturday. The Junior School Safety Patrol members from district schools competed against each other in completing an obstacle course that was laid out in the gymnasium. Anthony Traina and Steven Olimpio of the district's Security Department led the organization of the event, which was supported by a sponsorship from the Paterson Police Department's Community Policing Division. The Junior School Safety Patrols are groups of student volunteers who assist in promoting safety and keeping order in their schools.



“All In Parents” Honored at Breakfast Conference

It was a packed house at the district's Breakfast Conference and Parent of the Year Awards on Saturday. Keynote Speaker Gian Paul Gonzalez spoke of the importance of being an “All In Parent” – a parent who does everything they can to help their children succeed in school. Later, 52 parents were honored by their Parent Teacher Organizations with Parent of the Year Awards. The event was produced by the Family and Community Engagement Department.

Now Seal This! Nine HARP Academy Students Earn New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy



Nine seniors at HARP Academy of Health Sciences have qualified for New Jersey's "Seal of Biliteracy," a distinctive honor that will be noted on their high school diplomas and transcripts. The New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school seniors who demonstrate a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. The nine HARP students provide their proficiency in Spanish. The Seal of Biliteracy includes a certificate prepared by the New Jersey Department of Education as well as a notation on the student transcript that the seal will be awarded in a specific language. The ability to communicate in more than one language is a vital skill that will help a student meet the demands of the 21st century. "This seal opens the door to many opportunities

for those pursuing higher education or entering the workforce," said HARP World Language Teacher Michelle Clements.

Kennedy Basketball's Dynamic Duo, the Gilbert Siblings, to Play for Same College

Taniesha and Avante Gilbert, who each were the top-scoring players on the girls and boys teams in the John F. Kennedy Knights basketball program, will continue playing for the same school in college as they both have signed with St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, New York. They both were awarded full athletic scholarships. Taniesha Gilbert, who will graduate from Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts, scored more than 1,000 points in her high school career. Her brother, Avante, a senior at International High School, averaged 14 points per game – more than any other player on the Knights boys basketball team. The Knights boys team finished the season winning their 13th title as Passaic County champions, more county titles than any other team.



“To see the Gilberts win is a thrill, to see them go to college makes us proud, and to see them go to the same college to continue their basketball careers is the icing on the cake that we simply didn’t expect,” said Schools Superintendent Eileen Shafer. “We are proud of Taniesha and Avante, but I also want to acknowledge their parents, coaches, teachers and administrators who gave them all of the support they needed to get to this point. I know the Gilberts will carry their ‘Paterson Pride’ onto the courts and into the classrooms of St. Thomas Aquinas. We all look forward to seeing what they will accomplish in college.”

Public School No. 10 Recognized for 15 Years of Cancer Research Fundraising



The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer, has awarded Public School No. 10 its Top School Award for the 2018-2019 school year. The award was bestowed on the K-8 school in recognition of its fundraising efforts in the LLS' Pennies for Patients campaign for 15 consecutive years.

Schools Superintendent Eileen F. Shafer thanked Principal Lolita Vaughn and School Counselor Karen Patterson for their leadership. The Pennies for Patients program is for elementary and middle schools that would like to support the LLS' mission to create a world without cancer by conducting a fundraising campaign. By participating in Pennies for Patients, teachers and administrators will have opportunities to incorporate a unique STEM curriculum into their classrooms that gives students an insider's look into LLS-funded

research, and where their money gets invested.

Paterson Educator Plays at Carnegie Hall in Honor of Asian-American Pacific Islanders History Month

On May 6, Public School No. 13's Roneea Bundick participated in a musical production called "3.1. Movement Centennial Anniversary Concert Korea Fantasy" at Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium/Ronald O. Perelman Stage. The production, which was sponsored by Asiana Airlines and produced by JH Arts Corporation, featured inspirational compositions performed by various choirs, choruses and an orchestra. Bundick accompanied the Grammy-award winning choir, Reverend Stefanie Minatee and Jubilation, that evening as they sang inspirational songs. They received a standing ovation. Bundick, an elementary school teacher for 21 years in the district, has 40 years of experience as a musician, songwriter, and producer of inspirational music. "Music is a wonderful gift that transcends all cultures and has the potential to unify us all," said Bundick.



District High School Students Attend "Soul Mechanism" Discussion at Carnegie Hall

Seventeen female students from four Paterson Public Schools high schools went to Carnegie Hall on Saturday to attend a panel discussion about how ideas migrate from one place to another, and through generations. The trip was arranged with the help of the Paterson Alliance. The panel discussion, Soul Mechanism: A Community Conversation, was held in the Resnick Education Wing of Carnegie Hall. It was led by celebrated musician and performer Toshi Reagon. The other panelists were writer and activist Natalia Aristizabal Betancur, civil rights attorney Anurima Bhargava, 14-year-old activist Marley Dias, and singer and ethnomusicologist AlSarah.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for Paterson students to see a Jersey girl their own age at Carnegie Hall," said Paterson Alliance Executive Director Inge Spungen. "Marley Dias is an inspiration to many, with her work on literacy and researching culturally appropriate books."

The students who attended were Camora Scott, Tanysia Kitchings, Daira Wilson, Jyn'a Cooper and Jyni Cooper from the School of Education and Training; Jada Wilson, Kaylah Chitty, Arneetra Smith, Aiyanna Trent, and Janaeah Duncanson from PANTHER Academy; Janaeya Smith, Ryonna Miller, Amina Cuascut, Janae Jackson, Jani Jackson, and Ty'Asia Johnson from the International Baccalaureate Program at International High School; and Brianna Goldson of the School of Business, Technology, Marketing and Finance. The students were chaperoned by district staff and attended the event free of charge.

CAHTS Students Raise Their Voices at Urban Youth Conference

Eleven students from Eastside High School's School of the Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism attended the City of Newark's First Annual Urban Youth Conference on May 9. The conference was held at the New Jersey Institute of Technology's Wellness & Events Center

with the theme of “Raise Your Voice.” The day consisted of students attending workshops that dealt with social issues urban youth are facing. The conference included a mayoral panel including the mayors of Newark, East Orange, Orange and Perth Amboy. It also included an entertaining leadership talk by SaulPaul.

YSD Dinner for SOIT Students

Six School of Information Technology (SOIT) students along with Principal Vivian Gaines recently attended a dinner at The Brownstone in Paterson that was sponsored by the Youth Self Development (YSD) organization. YSD is headed by Coordinator and Vice President Kathy Koop. YSD provides weekly SAT prep sessions to students. Upon completion of the program, students are awarded scholarships that are renewable from year-to-year during their college tenure. Former Paterson students Sebastian Mejia and Karla Morrebel talked about essential information regarding college life.

The Academy of Earth and Space Science Comes in 2nd at Robotics Tournament



The Academy of Earth and Space Science (PANTHER Academy) participated in the 18th Annual North Jersey Robotics Competition held at Passaic County Community College. Twelve schools competed in the competition. PANTHER Academy’s team was made up of 10 students and came in second place for the Modern Marble Challenge. In this challenge, students had to create a robot that could shoot golf balls to knock off small whiffle balls from a raised platform. The students worked feverishly designing, constructing and programming the robot.

PANTHER Academy also had impressive showings in the Giant Ring Toss Challenge, Science and Technology Presentation and the Obstacle Course Challenge. The competition gave the students real-world engineering challenges, and taught them the value of working collaboratively and meeting deadlines.

S.T.E.M. Students Make a SPLASH! At Princeton University

On April 27, 24 students from the School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex participated in Princeton SPLASH!! The Splash program allows students to take courses at Princeton University on a Saturday. Some of the courses included Labor and Environmental Economics, Freaky Fractals, Building a Personal Website, and Balloon Art 101. Students were also able to explore Princeton University’s beautiful campus and interact with current students. This was S.T.E.M.’s third trip to a SPLASH! program since April 2018.

Celebrating Inquiry through S.T.E.A.M.

Public School No. 5 had a successful S.T.E.A.M. night in which participants celebrated inquiry and innovation. The students and their families engaged in hands-on activities guided by Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (S.T.E.A.M.) and real-world applications. Using a

“passport,” the students traveled from station-to-station challenging themselves to think critically and creatively while problem-solving along the way. The event consisted of participants making catapults, cloud formations, whirly birds, “digging” into archaeological finds, analyzing wind strengths, and many more fun activities.

CAHTS Celebrates Top Students and Red Nose Day at Citi Field



The School of Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism (CAHTS) at Eastside High School travelled with their top 40 students in both the junior and senior classes to Citi Field to cheer on the New York Mets. Not only were the top students in the school recognized, but the school also supported “Red Nose Day” in dedication to ending child poverty in the United States.

NRC Students Lend a Hand to Those Who Need a Hand in New Orleans

The New Roberto Clemente School (NRC)’s Young Donors group, which was founded by the eighth-graders when they were in fifth grade, recently traveled to New Orleans to give assistance to the United Saints Recovery Project, a group whose goal is to “harness the power of volunteers to rebuild, repair, and beautify homes for disadvantaged homeowners.” NRC’s Full Service Community School Director Vilmary Hernandez and seventh grade teacher Sonaly Rodriguez along with AmeriCorp members Latasha Briggs and Genesis Garrafa joined the enthusiastic NRC student volunteers as they shared their skills and talents doing this important community service.



Rev. McDuffie Adopts Learning Center



Pastor Michael McDuffie, founder and president of I.A.A.M. Initiative has adopted 14th Ave. Early Learning Center as one of their family. They recently held a book drive and distributed over 100 books to the students at ELC.

Upcoming Events

June 4: Eid Al Fitr

District Closed

June 5: Board of Education Workshop

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

June 7-8: Rosa L. Parks Presents: *RENT*

7:00 p.m. at Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing

June 14: 4th Marking Period Ends

June 14: Multicultural Parent University Mini-Conference

5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Public School 25

June 15: Parent University Mini-Conference

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Oasis-A Haven –Women & Children on 59 Mill St.

June 15: FREE Medical Services Fair

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Full Service Community Center, 5212 Market St., Paterson

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

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