

Paterson Post

Preparing All Children for College and Career

Together We Can!

June 17, 2019

STARS Academy Student Wins Honor from Paterson Athletic Group



STARS Academy student Izhir Allen was presented with the Vic Felano Memorial Special Olympic Award by The Old Timers Athletic Association of Greater Paterson on June 2. Allen has participated in the Paterson Tigers Special Olympic bowling and track teams for four consecutive years. He has won many gold and silver medals throughout his time with the teams. Allen, a super senior, is a phenomenal athlete and also a phenomenal student. When asked

if he had any advice for other student-athletes, Allen responded, "Always do your best and never give up!"

South Korean Educators Visit Public School No. 28

Paterson Public Schools officials welcomed a delegation of educators from South Korea to Public School No. 28 last week. The visit was requested by the Global Policy Institute on behalf of South Korea's National Education Training Institute, which provides training for faculty and other public education officials. The group received a training session on best educational practices



at Public School No. 28, which became the district's first school to be awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education in 2018.

NRC's Young Donors Collect Eyewear for the Needy



New Roberto Clemente Middle School students in the Young Donors Club collected eyewear to donate to the Lions Recycle for Sight organization. The donations were collected during May, which was “Healthy Vision Awareness Month,” and the donations were delivered on June 6. The students, with the help of their faculty advisor Vilmary

Hernandez, helped sort the glasses, which were later cleaned and prepared to be sent to needy groups and individuals. For more information about the Lions Recycle for Sight organization, please visit their website at www.njlerc.org.

Public School No. 27 Students Hold Food Drive

Students in Marianne Ferrandino's sixth grade resource class collected 30 boxes of food in a drive they held in May to help families who may find themselves in need during the summer. “Summer is a difficult time for many families,” Ferrandino said. “Most schools are closed and cannot provide breakfast or lunch for the students of Paterson. We wanted to help our community.”



The food they collected was donated to CUMAC, one of Paterson's largest food pantries.

RPHS Students Thrill Audiences with *Rent*

Students at Rosa L. Parks School of the Fine and Performing Arts thrilled audiences with their production of *Rent*, the Broadway musical based on Giacomo Puccini's opera *La*

Boheme and set in Manhattan's lower east side. The show ran for two nights and featured a live pit band and many of the singers from the school's chorus.

Two Students Accepted Into Competitive Mechanic Program



Two district high school students were accepted into the state's competitive IAM CREST District 15 Automotive/Diesel Technicians Pre-Apprenticeship Program. Board of Education President Oshin Castillo made district officials aware of the program two years ago. Kevin



Rivera, a senior at the School of the Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism, and Alexander Ruiz, a senior at the School of Architecture and Construction Trades, worked through a rigorous application process over the course of several months. With their acceptance, the students will save the cost of attending trade school (approximately \$30,000 - \$40,000) and earn a wage while working alongside a union mechanic. During their daily on-the-job training, these students will take courses at Union County College on scholarship. These courses (approximately 24-32 credits) can also be rolled into earning an associate's degree. Upon completion of their formal training, the students will transition to a career as a union automotive mechanic/technician, affiliated with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, with full benefits, pension and job security. The students could achieve this status by the age of 22.

Twenty-four IHS Students Inducted into NHS

Twenty-four students who attend International High School were inducted into the renowned National Honor Society (NHS) at a ceremony held in the school's auditorium. It was the tenth such ceremony to be held at the high school. In her remarks at the ceremony last week, Superintendent Shafer thanked International High School Principal

Robina Puryear-Castro and NHS Faculty Advisor Courtney Dover for their leadership, and the students' parents and families for their support of their children's success.

Adult High School Has Its Largest Graduating Class



The Adult High School conferred high school diplomas on 92 graduates – which is believed to be the largest graduating class in the history of the program – at commencement exercises held at International High School last week. Adult High School Principal Nora Hoover attributed this year's high number of graduates to the waves of immigration that have come to the city in recent years. "People from all over the world come to

Paterson to pursue the American dream," said Hoover. "The opportunity to get an education was not available to many of the people where they previously lived. It is a great honor to know that the Adult High School is playing an integral part of its students' pursuit of a new life in America."

Students Compete in Poster Contest to Promote Census

More than 140 Paterson Public Schools students in grades K to 8 competed in the "I Count" poster contest, which was run in partnership by the district and the City of Paterson to promote city residents' participation in the 2020 U.S. Census. The top three finalists for each grade were named at the U.S. Census community meeting on June 10 at



Public School No. 24. In September, the district will have lessons on the U.S. Census as part of the social studies curriculum in elementary schools and high schools.

STEM Academy Awarded \$10,000 from PSEG for Greenhouse



The School of Science, Engineering, Technology and Engineering (a.k.a. S.T.E.M. Academy) at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex was awarded a \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey for Schools grant, funded by the PSEG Foundation, for the school's "Greenhouse Initiative" to restore and revitalize the school's greenhouse to

support biology and environmental science programs. The grant was one of four \$10,000 grants distributed to support sustainability building projects in schools and districts across New Jersey. The \$10,000 grant will allow school officials to begin the process of cleanup and refurbishment of the greenhouse, and purchase new equipment and supplies for S.T.E.M. Academy's biology and environmental studies programs.

BTMF Academy Art Teacher Exhibits Works at Montclair Art Museum

So Yoon Lym, an art teacher at the School of Business, Marketing, Management and Finance (BTMF) created an artwork that was displayed at the Montclair Art Museum. The work was a part of an exhibition entitled, "New Directions in Fiber Arts," which featured New Jersey artists who used contemporary and traditional fiber materials. The Montclair Art Museum also used an image of Lym's artwork in banners around Montclair promoting the exhibit. As someone who attended Montclair's Hillside School in the fifth grade, Lym was thrilled to be part of the exhibition that ran from February 9 to June 16.



WPU Holds Professional Development Schools Conference



The annual William Paterson University (WPU) Professional Development Schools Conference in May drew many teachers and administrators from Paterson. Assistant Superintendents Sandra Diodonet and Cicely Warren attended, along with nine teachers from the New Roberto Clemente

School. Anissa Conyers, a third grade teacher at Public School No. 12 and a WPU adjunct professor, co-presented two workshop sessions with her WPU colleagues. Clint Pulver, the keynote speaker and an internationally recognized musician, spoke about his inability as a child to stop tapping his hands in the classroom. He also spoke about his extraordinary fifth grade teacher who transformed Pulver's life by giving him his first pair of drumsticks and telling him that he was not a problem, he was a drummer.

Students + Legos + Software = Future Engineers, at Public School No. 29

Public School No. 29's fourth-graders have been learning how to create all kinds of motorized projects, like a moving and turning satellite, thanks to the new set of We Do Legos the school obtained with the help of William Paterson University (WPU)'s Professor-In-Residence program. PIR Betsey Golden, Principal Jorge Ventura and Technology Teacher Tororris Hill attended a WPU-sponsored Lego Conference where they agreed that students would love the new technology.



Training Given on Social Media Etiquette for Educators

Affirmative Action Supervisor Houry Yeganeh conducted a training session for all district volunteer building-based Affirmative Action representatives called, "Social Media

Etiquette for Educators” on June 6. The session included a think/pair/share activity where all participants discussed appropriate social media use as educators. The presentation also included images to determine if they were appropriate for social media use, videos of various scenarios of inappropriate and/or misuse of social media where educators were suspended, terminated or both. Educators in a public school setting are held to a higher standard and are always representatives of the district, Yeganeh said. The district’s social media policy – which prohibits staff members from engaging with students on social media – was reviewed at the session. Volunteer representatives are encouraged to share the information at their respective schools during an assigned professional development day, Yeganeh said.

STEM Academy Senior Works at Animal Sanctuary in Costa Rica



Jae'l Rumph, a graduating senior at the School of S.T.E.M at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex, travelled to Puntarenas, Costa Rica to volunteer at the NATUWA animal sanctuary with Ramapo College of New

Jersey. NATUWA is a rehabilitation place for exotic animals that were illegally kept as pets by people. She worked with the team at the sanctuary from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. feeding animals, building and fixing enclosures for them, and making the sanctuary more accessible for tourists. Among the animals there were green macaws, scarlet macaws, spider monkeys, marmosets, baby sloths, deer, an anteater, jaguars, ocelot, and tapirs.

Thank you for contributing to *Paterson Post!*

On behalf of all of us in the Department of Communications,
we hope you have a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer.

See you in September!

Upcoming Events

June 19: Board of Education Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex

June 24: Summer School Registration

June 24: Special Meeting of the Board of Education

5:00 p.m. at the Administrative Offices, 90 Delaware Avenue Board Notice

June 26: Last Day (Students)

June 26: Graduation Day

June 27: Staff PD

June 28: Last Day Staff

9:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m.

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

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We welcome your submissions on school and district related events. [Click here](#) to submit stories and photos.