MERRY
Everything!
VILLAGE FAMILY

Superintendent's Report
December 20, 2021
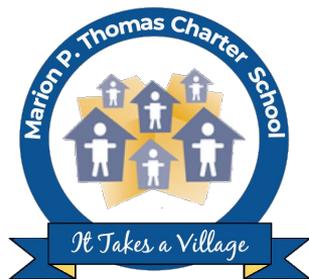
And now a word from our scholar…

**Student Council Representative, Ms. Lynne Abraham,
Grade 12
Student Council President**

Link Here!

American Rescue Plan
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

Use of Funds Plan

Program and Funding Period

★ **Funding Program:** American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ARP-ESSER)

★ **Funding Period:** The funds for this grant cycle MUST be encumbered by June 30, 2023. Remaining funds may be carried over into the next fiscal year for a complete period of availability through Sept. 30, 2024.

ARP-ESSER Funding Awards

★   **#1 - ESSER**: $6,890,857

★   **#2 - Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant**: $169,275

★   **#3 - Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant**: $40,000

★   **#4 - Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant**: $40,000

★   **#5 - Mental Health Support Staffing Grant**: $445,613

Details on the expenditure guidelines for each grant can be found on the MPTCS website.

#1 - ESSER: $6,890,857 - Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Area - 21.22.1: Teaching and Learning

★ ***Addressing Learning Loss***
  - Hiring of additional instructional staff members to support student outcomes (e.g. ESL teachers, special education aides, math certified personnel & support)
  - Updating HS English and Math curriculum and supports for grades 9 through 12
  - After school and Saturday programming at each campus as well as a variety of summer learning opportunities

★ ***Professional Development***
  - Partnering with a variety of professional organizations and local universities to support teacher and school leader development

★ ***Educational Technology***
  - Fully prepared for hybrid and remote learning as needed (e.g. purchasing additional camera devices and swivels for classrooms to support student needs in the event of a quarantine)
  - Upgrades to smart technology in each classroom to support student learning

#1 ESSER Continued: $6,890,857 - Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas
21.22.1: Teaching and Learning, 21.22.2: Climate, Culture, & Student Experiences & 21.22.4: Attendance and Enrollment

★ ***Support Services***
- Hiring district-wide elementary support counselors (i.e. guidance or SW), special education inclusion teachers, a district-wide attendance counselor, and a student support/restoration teacher

- Partnering with various professional organizations to support students' social and emotional well-being.
  - The goal is to increase access to mental health supports by offering individual, small group, and family support/counseling services

- Targeted focus and support of special education students - academic, social-emotional, and transition supports

#1 ESSER Continued: $6,890,857 - Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas
21.22.3: Systems and Operations

★ *Facilities*
  ○ Upgrades to increase indoor air quality
    ■ Upgrading the boiler at STEAM and PAC campuses
    ■ Purchasing of air conditioning units
    ■ Upgrading the air purification units in each classroom

  ○ Improving school facilities to reduce the risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards

  ○ Employment of additional custodians to clean and sanitize district facilities per CDC and NJDOH guidelines.

#1 - ESSER: $6,890,857 - Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas, 21.22.1: Teaching and Learning, 21.22.2: Climate, Culture, & Student Experiences, 21.22.3: Systems and Operations & 21.22.4: Attendance & Enrollment

★ ***High School***
  ○ Blackbox Theater makeover, media production upgrades
  ○ Strengthening culinary arts programming
  ○ Development of a Business & Finance Track and increased exposure to STEM based-initiatives

★ ***STEAM***
  ○ New curriculum for a STEAM-based track and related experiences across all grades
  ○ Addition of a makerspace/innovation lab
  ○ Addition of a computer lab to support acceleration and learning loss

★ ***PAC***
  ○ New musical instruments, upgrades to the dance room, & increased culinary experiences
  ○ Allocations to support theater programming (i.e. costumes, scripts, wireless microphones)
  ○ Addition of a computer lab to support acceleration and learning loss

#2 - Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant: $169,275
Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas
21.22.1: Teaching and Learning & 21.22.2: Climate, Culture, & Student Experiences
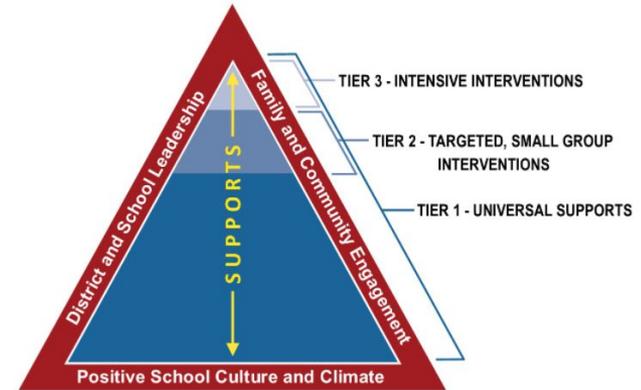
★ There were four New Jersey's Learning Acceleration Principles to support the use of this grant. MPTCS focused on the following:

  ○ *Principle 2:* Improve equitable access to grade-level content and high-quality resources for each student.
  ○ *Principle 3:* Prioritize content and learning by focusing on the depth of instruction rather than the pace.

★ Two partnerships to support this focus area includes:

  ○ Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) - Literacy coaches to work alongside teachers in grades K - 5
  ○ Research for Better Teaching by Jon Saphier - Expose instructional staff members and school leaders to courses to enhance the quality of teaching and learning such as the Skillful Teaching, Skillful Leadership, and Making Student Thinking Visible

#3 - Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant: $40,000
Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas 21.22.1: Teaching and Learning

★ Baseline data from the our September 2021 diagnostic indicated that many our are early readers in grades 1 and 2 were not reading on grade-level

★ The goal of our Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities program is to provide intensive literacy support to students in grades Pre-K to 3 through small group and one-to-one instruction

#4 - Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant: $40,000
Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas 21.22.1: Teaching and Learning &
21.22.2: Climate, Culture, & Student Experiences

★ Allocations here will be utilized to create additional beyond the school day activities including but not limited to the following:

- ○ Writer's Laboratories at each of our campuses
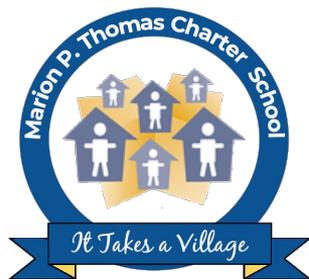- ○ Academic math support
- ○ Saturday MPTCS Boot Camps

#5 - <u>Mental Health Support Staffing Grant: $445,613</u>
Use of Funds Aligned to MPTCS Strategic Focus Areas 21.22.2: Climate, Culture, & Student Experiences, 21.22.4: Attendance & Enrollment

★ Contract with established mental health providers to implement Tier II and Tier III evidenced-based mental health interventions.

★ The following services will be provided:

- Group and individual counseling
- Educator training and workshops on mental health and self-care
- Parent training and workshops
- Staff will be located at each of the three campuses daily

★ Provide professional development opportunities for staff to support the whole child (Tier I)

TIER 3 - INTENSIVE INTERVENTIONS

TIER 2 - TARGETED, SMALL GROUP INTERVENTIONS

TIER 1 - UNIVERSAL SUPPORTS

District and School Leadership
Family and Community Engagement
SUPPORTS
Positive School Culture and Climate

Start Strong Data Report
December 20, 2021

Start Strong Test Design

Start Strong Fall 2021 assessments:

- Produced information to be used as a standards-based complement to evaluate the needs of students.

- The administration of Start Strong satisfied federal assessment requirements, replacing NJSLA for the 2020-2021 school year.

- Based on a **subset** of prioritized **prior-year** academic standards to provide a data point on the level of support a student may need to engage in grade-level content.

  - Example: Grade 4 ELA Start Strong assessment is aligned to a subset of the NJSLS for Grade 3 ELA.

- The NJSLA schedule will resume in Spring 2022.

Table 1: Grade and Content Alignment

Content Area	Grade/Course in School Year 2021 – 2022	Content of the Assessment
ELA	Grade 4	Grade 3
	Grade 5	Grade 4
	Grade 6	Grade 5
	Grade 7	Grade 6
	Grade 8	Grade 7
	Grade 9	Grade 8
	Grade 10	Grade 9
Math	Grade 4	Grade 3
	Grade 5	Grade 4
	Grade 6	Grade 5
	Grade 7	Grade 6
	Grade 8	Grade 7
	Algebra 1	Grade 8 (see Section 1.1.2.a)
	Geometry	Grade 8 (see Section 1.1.2.a)
	Algebra 2	Algebra 1
Science	Grade 6	Grades 3–5
	Grade 9	Grades 6–8
	Grade 12	Grades 9–11

16

START STRONG PARTICIPATION RATES - ELA

	# of Students Who Tested	Enrollment	Participation Rate
4	91	102	89.22%
5	75	98	76.53%
6	91	106	85.84%
7	87	99	87.87%
8	105	126	83.33%
9	94	124	75.81%
10	79	91	86.81%
TOTALS	**622**	**746**	**83.38%**

START STRONG PARTICIPATION RATES - MATH

	# of Students Who Tested	Enrollment	Participation Rate
4	92	102	90.20%
5	80	98	81.63%
6	91	106	85.85%
7	88	99	88.89%
8	107	126	84.92%
9	96	124	77.42%
10	86	91	94.51%
11	96	106	90.57%
TOTALS	**736**	**852**	**86.38%**

START STRONG PARTICIPATION RATES - SCIENCE

	# of Students Who Tested	Enrollment	Participation Rate
6	90	106	84.91%
9	93	124	75.00%
12	116	122	95.08%
TOTALS	**299**	**352**	**84.94%**

Table 3. Start Strong Support Levels and NJSLA Performance Levels

Start Strong Support Levels	NJSLA-ELA Performance Level	NJSLA-Math Performance Level	NJSLA-Science Performance Level
Strong Support May Be Needed	• Did Not Yet Meet Expectations • Partially Met Expectations	• Did Not Yet Meet Expectations • Partially Met Expectations	• Below Proficient
Some Support May Be Needed	• Approached Expectations	• Approached Expectations	• Near Proficiency
Less Support May Be Needed	• Met expectations • Exceeded expectations	• Met Expectations • Exceeded Expectations	• Proficient • Advanced Proficiency

Start Strong - Overall Student Performance by Support Level
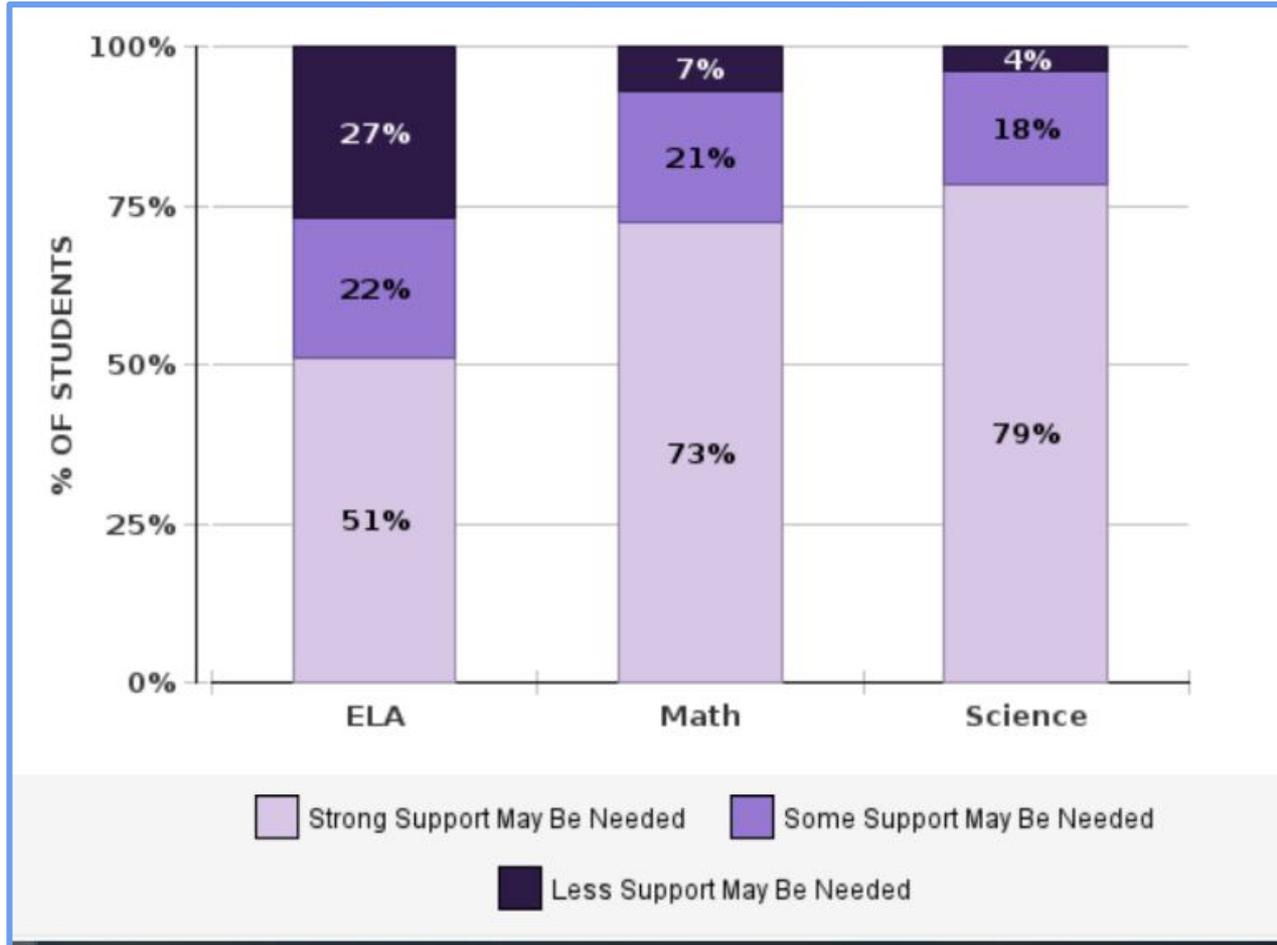
Start Strong - Support Level by Grade Level and Test

Grade	ELA	Math	Science
04	53% 22% 26%	72% 23% 5%	
05	47% 21% 32%	79% 16% 5%	
06	54% 25% 21%	80% 13% 7%	72% 22% 6%
07	➡ 38% 32% 30%	65% 30% 6%	
08	51% 25% 24%	➡ 59% 32% 9%	
09	65% 10% 26%		78% 18% 3%
10	➡ 49% 21% 30%		
12			84% 14% 3%
A1		81% 15% 4%	
A2		70% 21% 10% ⬅	
G1		77% 15% 8%	

Legend:
- ☐ Strong Support May Be Needed
- ☐ Some Support May Be Needed
- ☐ Less Support May Be Needed
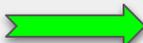
Start Strong - Support Level by Gender

Gender	ELA			Math			Science		
Female	44%	24%	32%	72%	20%	8%	80%	15%	5%
Male	59%	20%	21%	73%	22%	5%	77%	20%	3%

Legend:
- Strong Support May Be Needed
- Some Support May Be Needed
- Less Support May Be Needed

Start Strong - Support Level: Students with Disabilities
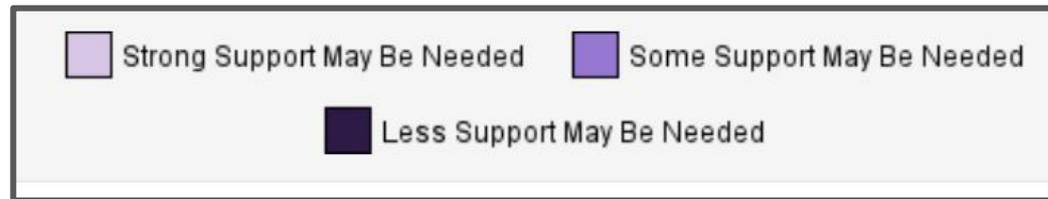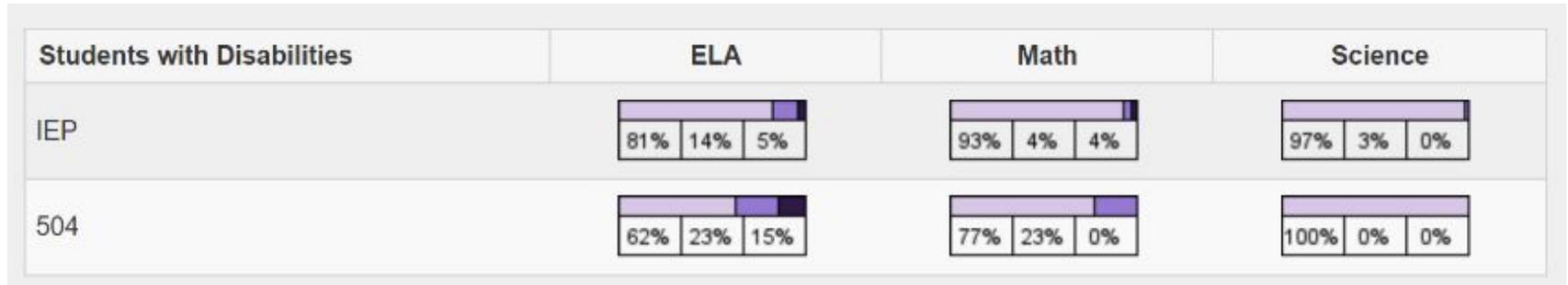
Students with Disabilities	ELA	Math	Science
IEP	81% | 14% | 5%	93% | 4% | 4%	97% | 3% | 0%
504	62% | 23% | 15%	77% | 23% | 0%	100% | 0% | 0%
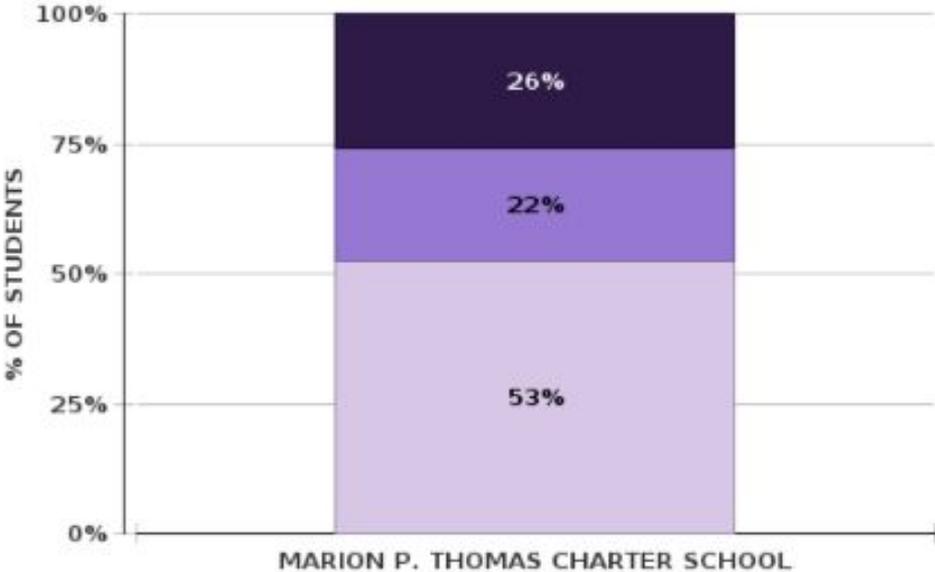
Legend:
- Strong Support May Be Needed
- Some Support May Be Needed
- Less Support May Be Needed

Grade 4 ELA Focus

Grade 4 ELA: Raw Scores

SAMPLE REPORTING FEATURE

SAMPLE REPORTING FEATURE

Student Performance Item Level

Organization*

MARION P. THOMAS C...   ✕   ▼

Subject

Test Name

Grade 04 ELA   ✕   ▼

Reporting Group

Select one or more

Support Level

Select one or more

Test Date (yyyy-mm-dd) Starts with

Starts with

Total Students Reported: 93   🖶 Print   Displaying   25 ▼

Student	Test Name	Performance	Test Date	Support Level
MARION P. THOMAS CHARTER SCHOOL, Grade 04 ELA				
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Strong Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Some Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Less Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Some Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Strong Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Strong Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Less Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/15/2021	Less Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Some Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Strong Support May Be Needed
	Grade 04 ELA	Show Responses	10/13/2021	Less Support May Be Needed

SAMPLE REPORTING FEATURE

Results by Question Report

Organization Name*

MARION P. THOMAS C...   ✕ ▼

Test Name*

Grade 04 ELA   ✕ ▼

Form*

Main/Human Reader/Paper Ti ⌄

Reporting Group

Select one or more

☐ Show Students

Total Students Reported: 93

🖨 Print

Question	Standards	Reporting Concept	Correct	Incorrect	Partial
Question 1 ⓘ	RL.3.1:RL.3.3 ⓘ	Reading Literature	28 (30%)	58 (62%)	7 (8%)
Question 2 ⓘ	RL.3.1:RL.3.3 ⓘ	Reading Literature	46 (49%)	27 (29%)	20 (22%)
Question 3 ⓘ	RL.3.1:RL.3.3 ⓘ	Reading Literature	33 (35%)	41 (44%)	19 (20%)
Question 4 ⓘ	RL.3.1:RL.3.7 ⓘ	Reading Literature	49 (53%)	33 (35%)	11 (12%)
Question 5 ⓘ	RL.3.1:RL.3.2 ⓘ	Reading Literature	19 (20%)	30 (32%)	44 (47%)
Question 6 ⓘ	RI.3.4:L.3.4.A:RI.3.1 ⓘ	Reading Information	50 (54%)	29 (31%)	14 (15%)
Question 7 ⓘ	RI.3.4:L.3.4.A:RI.3.1 ⓘ	Reading Information	39 (42%)	47 (51%)	7 (8%)
Question 8 ⓘ	RI.3.1:RI.3.2 ⓘ	Reading Information	22 (24%)	58 (62%)	13 (14%)
Question 9 ⓘ	RI.3.1:RI.3.2 ⓘ	Reading Information	1 (1%)	48 (52%)	44 (47%)
Question 10 ⓘ	RI.3.1:RI.3.2 ⓘ	Reading Information	7 (8%)	70 (75%)	16 (17%)

Performance Highlights

English Language Arts
- Overall in ELA, almost 50% of our students are in need of less support or some support

- Highest performing grade level - 7th grade with 62% of students in need of less or some support

- 10th grade performance in ELA - 51% of students in need of less or some support
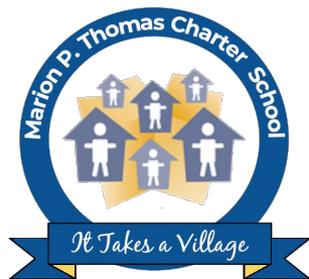 - Majority of their foundational 9th grade year was virtual

Mathematics
- Highest performing grade level - 8th grade with 41% of students in need of less or some support

- 11th grade performance in Algebra II - 31% of students in need of less or some support

Raising the Bar!

- **Student Attendance - Every day matters!**
  - Direct correlation between student attendance and academic achievement (safety first)
  - Monthly attendance letters, attendance incentives, district-wide attendance counselor (ESSER III)

- **Ensuring standards-aligned, culturally responsive curriculum across all grade levels**
  - Addition of HMH Into Reading for K-4 Literacy
  - Adding robust high school English and Mathematics curriculums
  - Increase student choice!

- **Beyond the School Day Interventions**
  - Afterschool programming is up and running at STEAM and the HS; PAC starting January 2022
  - Saturday academic boot camps - Starting winter 2022

- **Special Education Supports**
  - Targeted sub-group within our Annual School Plan - Increased vigilance and reporting
  - Professional development for staff (co-teaching strategies, IEP implementation, curricular modifications)
  - Parent workshops (e.g. supporting students with disabilities)

District Updates
December 20, 2021

Attendance Updates


[Dashboard](#)
& Campaigns

COVID Updates

- Recent uptick in cases [across the state](#) and all MPTCS campuses
  - Newark City Positivity - Approximately 12% as of this morning

- Increased remote learning across multiple grade levels

- After each case, we connect directly with the Newark Department of Health for guidance on how to proceed

- [MPTCS COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

- We need everyone's support! Please adhere to the CDC guidelines, get vaccinated if you are eligible to do so, stay home if you are unwell, and parents please sign the consent forms for students to be tested.

New - COVID Testing for Students
Friday - 12/17/21
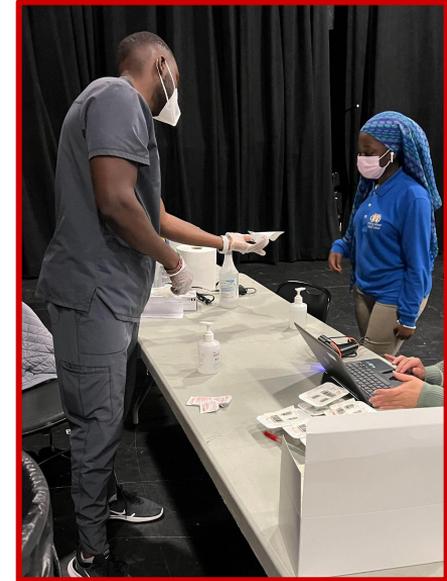
P.S.A. Attention All Parents!!!
Please get your consent forms in to
allow your children to be tested!
The Village needs your help.

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/#1

Facilities Updates

- We have made some changes to our facilities department and we are already seeing great improvements:
  - Switched to an internal cleaning company for our nightly service effective Monday, 12/13

  - Initiated a contract with Cintas for cleaning supplies (i.e. see pics installing new soap and touchless paper towel dispensers at sites

  - Buildings will undergo a deep cleaning during the break. We purchased 2 new sprayers to thoroughly sanitize each location.

  - Added a new Operations Foreman to expedite repairs and service projects in house

  - Circulating Pump at the high school for hot water- We received a $4,800 quote and Mr. Plaza repaired it for $40.00.
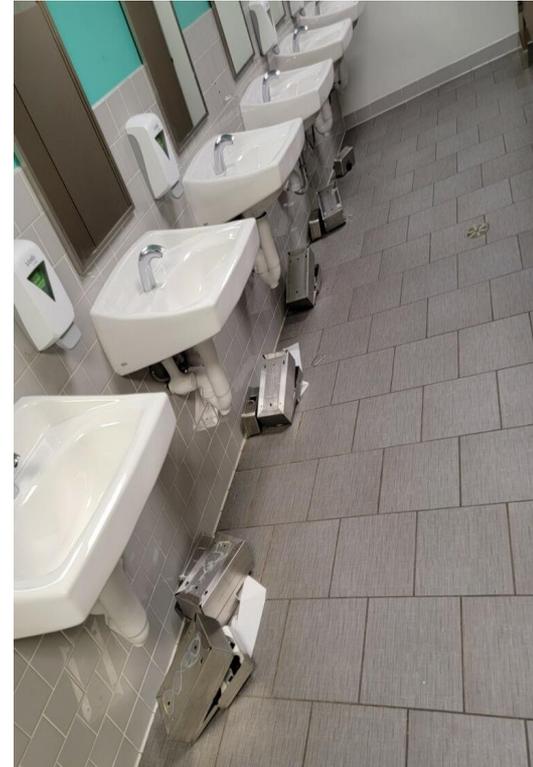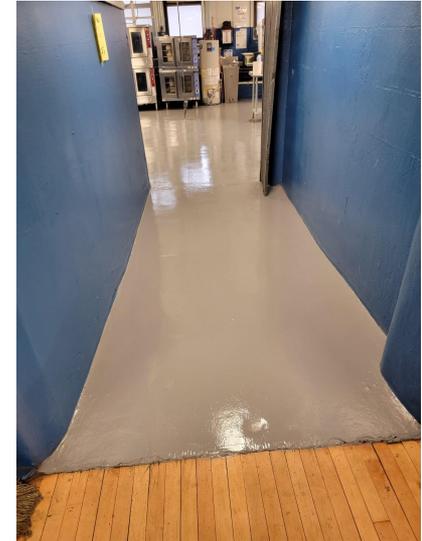
Facilities Updates

- Before & After Pictures of cleaning and floor painting of PAC's kitchen over the weekend.
  - The floors should shine like our scholars :).

Before   *After*

More to come…

Marion P. Thomas High School

Student Spotlight

Kharisma

Kharisma Franklin was nominated for Student of the Month because she is studious, always shows up on time; she diligently completes her classwork, homework, and performs very well on tests and quizzes. Her behavior is top notch while she remains sociable with her peers.

PAC Academy

Student Spotlight

Khriyah

Khriyah Williams is the PAC Student of The Month. She demonstrates exemplary work and exhibits model behavior inside and outside the classroom. She received the most Class Dojo points which further show the amazing work she is exhibiting throughout the day.

STEAM Academy

Student Spotlight

Penelope

Penelope Zapata-Herra is the STEAM Scholar of the Month. Penelope is an eighth grade scholar; she has been a part of our Village since sixth grade. Penelope likes to draw and read. She is extremely intelligent, sweet, and helpful. Penelope exemplifies the wonderful qualities of a STEAM Dream Team scholar.

Miracles in December
at STEAM!

A gift for every girl
and boy!

Holiday Dance
Performance at PAC.MOV

MERRY

Everything!

VILLAGE FAMILY

This concludes the report for this month. Thank you for listening.
Enjoy your time with family and be safe!