



# *A Public School*

The Newspaper of AUL Charter School, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861-- March 2019 Edition

## Interview With Ms. Morales

By Fanelly Caba and Tiffany Caba

Ms. Margaret Morales is the new chief administrator, or lead, for AUL. She arrived on January 2, 2019 and has been with us for two-plus months now. Her office is located in the Rectory.



### **How did you see the school on your first day?**

When I arrived, I went to the cafeteria to greet as many students as I could. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, I have meetings with students so I could know how things are going. I plan on doing the same thing in the middle school when Barkley fully opens.

### **What do you like about this high school?**

I like everything (the students, the staff and community). They are all willing to help me. I think the academic piece is pretty rigorous. I have looked at courses, course work and grading system. There are very high expectations for students.

### **What do you do as a superintendent?**

My goal is to increase student achievement and for students to be successful when they leave here. I reach out to parents and community members. I look at the funds we have and plan things we can do with the funds. I work closely with the board of trustees.

### **How do you feel about the new Barclay Street school?**

The building is beautiful. The 8th graders have moved in already and the 7th graders are coming soon. The building has two floors. The walls are half blue and half yellow. The floor is mostly white with some tiles being blue and yellow. We are going to do a lot of personalizing

### **What type of activities did you do in high school?**

I was a honors student, I took a lot of honor, advanced and AP classes. I was a part of the top 10 students in my grade. I went to Harvard University as a junior in high school for a specialized program in economics. In seventh grade, I was part of the cowtown program in John Hopkins University and took the SAT. I was in NHS (National Honor

. We want to add murals and the school logo. The building has a lot of windows. There is a cafeteria/gym.

**What is your advice for high school students?**

Take the most aggressive classes. Even if you are going to get a B in an honors, but an A in a regular class. You want to push yourself . Take advantage of that extra hour teachers stay after school. Make a plan for studying and homework. Always do your homework and try to study something every night. Reading is key and try to read a little every day. Take the PSAT during 9th grade instead of 10th. Start prepping for the SAT the summer of sophomore year. Borrow a book from the library or buy a book at Barnes and Nobles. Pace yourself. Complete all your college essays the summer of junior year.

**What do you recommend for students trying to apply for Ivy League schools?**

You have to make sure your grades are ready now and try to go aggressive with classes. Take as many honors and AP classes as you can. Be committed to clubs and do sports. Do more than what the high school requirements are. Apply early and to as many as you can. All of them communicate with each other. You have to do well on your SATs. Start prepping in 10th grade for the SAT's.

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**What was your biggest struggle in high school?**

My biggest struggle was trying to find time to do all the things I wanted to do.

**What college did you go to?**

I graduated from Yale University with a bachelor's degree in American history. And then I went to Kean University for my first master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on bilingual/ bicultural education and English as a second language.I got my second master's degree from Kean University in education administration. I got my substance abuse counselor certification. I went to Seton Hall University for my religious education credential.

**How many years were you in college?**

I started in 1991 and ended in 2008. It took me 17 years. I was doing college as a part-time student. I was at that moment a teacher.

**Why did you change your career from a teacher to a superintendent?**

So once I went back to school, I realized that I really liked teaching and school. I wanted to keep learning more about education as a whole. Even though, I felt really good about what I was doing in the classroom, I wanted to make a bigger impact. I wanted to help more students and more families.

# Softball & Baseball Teams Gearing Up

By Tiffany Caba



AUL high school offers two spring sports--softball and baseball. The coach for varsity softball is Coach Santana and for JV, it is Coach Manley and Coach Donnie. Varsity is going to have 16 games while JV will play eight games. The first game will be on April 2nd at 4 p.m. at the field behind Wendy's.

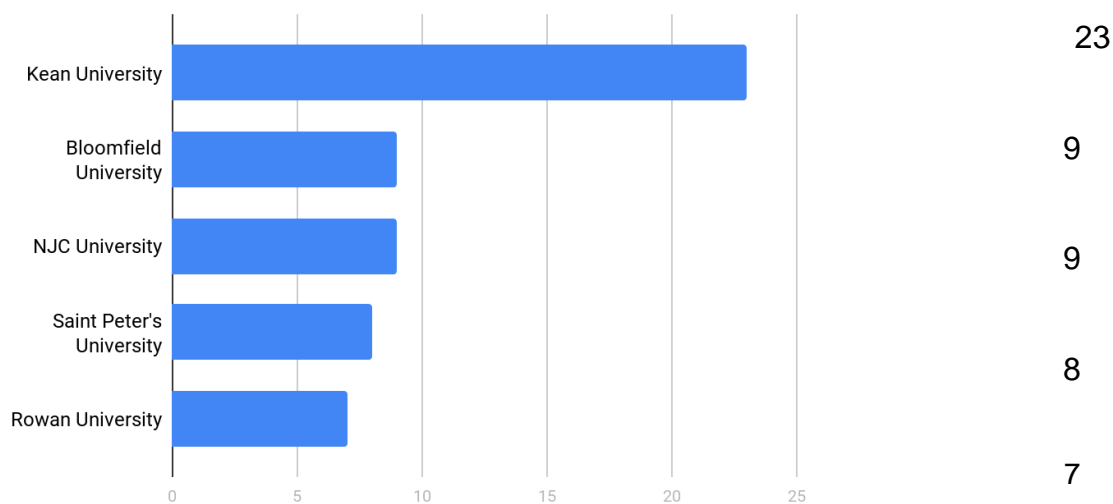
The coaches for baseball are

Coach Fisher and Coach Santana. Baseball only competes on a varsity level. The team will play 20 games. The first game will be on April 1st at 4 p.m. at Washington Park. There are 15 spots on the roster of each team.



## Top 5 College Destinations

(Number of seniors accepted)



# Tips for studying for the SAT

By Fanelly Caba

SAT season has arrived and many of you are understandably nervous. But it doesn't have to be that way. Here are some tips to help you study for the SATs:

- Go to the public library and check out some SAT prep books.
- If you prefer to buy SAT prep books, you can find them at Barnes and Noble.
- Take the practice tests on Collegeboard.org and khanacademy.org.
- Use your PSAT results to your advantage.
  - Look at what your weak points and strong points were.
  - Practice the areas that you didn't do as well on.
- Get better at time management.
  - Time yourself to spend a minute or less on each question.
- Do a lot of reading each week.
- Learn new vocabulary words.
- Familiarize yourself with grammar

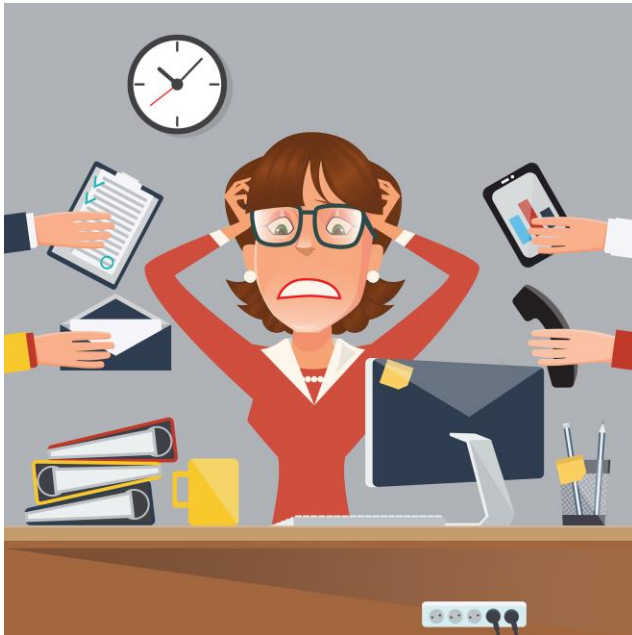


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## How to get rid of stress?

By Fanelly Caba

Life can get really busy at times.-- schoolwork, chores, extracurriculars and studying. Juggling many things at a time can lead to stress, but people don't seem to realize there are simple solutions. Here are some ways to get rid of stress:



- Read a book
- Do a jigsaw puzzle
- Play a board game
- Take a nap
- Meditate
- Breathe in and out
- Exercise
- Take a walk
- Go for a run
- Manage your time better
- Plan things ahead of time
- Don't procrastinate as much
- Limit your breaks to only a few minutes
- Eat some food/ snacks high in carbohydrates
- Such as crackers, bananas and apples.
- Get a good night's sleep

## SAT Vocabulary Word Search

By Tiffany Caba Abreu

S	U	O	R	E	H	C	A	E	R	T	E	E	E	S	E	E	D	K	V
B	O	H	M	X	B	A	T	C	Z	D	L	L	X	U	C	V	I	R	D
B	U	R	R	X	C	M	L	K	K	O	B	B	A	S	C	I	L	I	Y
Y	T	I	V	E	R	B	O	I	C	H	A	A	C	N	E	T	I	U	L
E	C	N	E	L	A	V	I	B	M	A	L	I	E	E	N	A	G	Q	G
F	C	T	N	D	B	G	F	F	K	E	I	T	R	S	T	R	E	E	N
K	M	B	G	O	Z	E	W	C	T	G	C	I	B	N	R	C	N	T	I
K	M	N	C	B	R	Y	E	A	A	S	N	P	A	O	I	U	C	A	R
J	Q	J	U	O	D	C	R	L	D	U	O	B	T	C	C	L	E	I	A
J	V	O	C	E	F	O	V	U	S	O	C	E	E	T	N	X	N	D	P
H	D	I	O	F	B	A	O	X	C	I	E	N	A	I	Y	M	G	U	S
L	T	H	P	O	N	U	Q	Q	D	N	R	E	R	B	N	J	X	P	J
Y	M	T	R	I	M	E	B	H	A	I	R	V	C	U	Y	Y	Y	E	X
X	B	R	Z	G	I	W	U	M	O	M	I	O	L	N	V	S	T	R	E
Z	O	I	C	A	V	N	G	W	X	O	S	L	P	A	C	S	M	C	D
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N	S	N	R	O	F	T	I	X	J	W	H	D	Q	N	K	W	D	X	K
M	Y	Y	I	X	E	X	T	X	S	Z	U	I	A	P	R	V	E	G	L

ABYSMAL, AMBIVALENCE, BENEVOLENT, BREVITY, CONSENSUS,  
CORROBORATE, DILIGENCE, ECCENTRIC, EMPIRICAL, EXACERBATE,  
FEROCITY, GALVANIZING, IGNOMINIOUS, IRRECONCILABLE, LUCRATIVE,  
OMNIPOTENT, PITIABLE, QUIRK, REPUDIATE, SPARINGLY,  
TREACHEROUS, VITAL

Definitions

Abysmal--extremely bad

Ambivalence--having mixed feelings  
Benevolent--kind-hearted  
Brevity--being brief  
Consensus--an agreement  
Corroborate--to provide evidence for  
Diligence--hard and careful work  
Eccentric--uncommon  
Empirical--based on observation or experience  
Exacerbate--to make worse  
Ferocity--violence  
Galvanizing--exciting  
Ignominious--shameful  
Irreconcilable--incapable of coming to a agreement  
Lucrative--making a lot of money  
Omnipotent--all powerful  
Pitiable--deserving forgiveness  
Quirk--a strange habit  
Repudiate--to refuse to accept  
Sparingly--in a restricted manner  
Treacherous--dangerous  
Vital--urgently necessary

## AUL Times Staff

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