

— THE DISTRICT — CHRONICLER

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

March 2024

PAGE TURNERS

Students Across The District Enjoy Read Across America Events

Students across the District took part in Read Across America this week as schools held different activities to celebrate the annual event.

Superintendent Laurie W. Newell visited the preschool program at the Paterson YMCA.



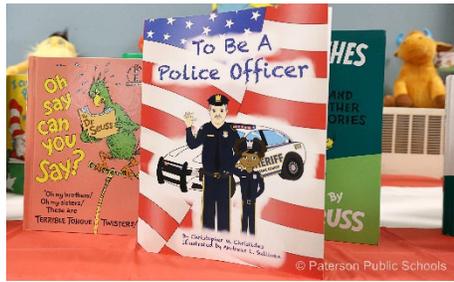
The Senator Frank Lautenberg School (School No. 6) was visited by author, Zollyann Howell, to read and discuss her book "My Momma's Glasses" with second and third graders. She spoke about how this book was written based on everyday events in her own life and encouraged the students to write down their own stories and possibly their own books one day. Mr. Raditch, reading specialist at SFLS, said, "Our students were clearly inspired by Zollyann and genuinely enjoyed her visit."



School No. 24 had different clothing themes each day of the week. Third and fourth graders were treated to a visit to the Paterson Public Library. Other classes welcomed guest readers from the community, national honor society, and the administrative team. One of the highlights of the week was the Scholastic Book Fair organized by School Librarian Mrs. Draheim.

[Read Across America Week at School No. 24](#)

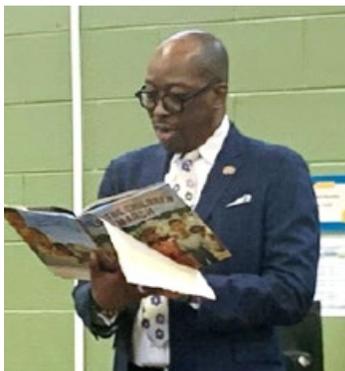
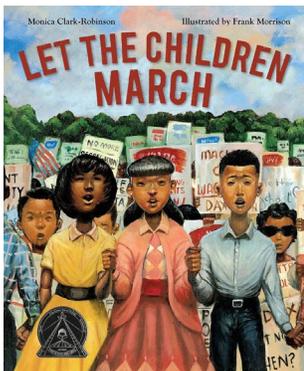
School No. 21 had a special activity fair in the gymnasium, providing different stations such as a bounce house, an obstacle course, ring toss, and more. They also hosted District officials and members of the Passaic County Sheriff's Department Community Policing Unit to read to children, one of whom, Christopher Christides, read a book that he authored, "To Be A Police Officer".



School No. 5 commemorated Read Across America Week with read-alouds, contests, and other activities. Guests that visited read to students included JFK students, Well-Point representatives, and District dignitaries, Deputy Superintendent Rodney Henderson and Assistant Superintendent Cicily Warren.

Students showcased their artistic talents in bookmark-creating and hat-creating contests.

First-grade classes had the pleasure of meeting authors Carol Selick and Doug Snelson, who shared their insights and stories with the eager young minds. Fifth graders were treated to a visit from Wil Mara, who conducted a creative writing lesson.



At Young Men's Leadership Academy, Pastor Kenneth Clayton spoke about the importance of literacy. The featured book was Let the Children March by Monica Clark-Robinson and Illustrated by Frank Morrison. Pastor Clayton's message to students underscored the importance of self-advocacy and the impact that they can have when unified in a worthwhile cause.

FOLLOW PPS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @PatersonPublicSchools

Twitter: @ PPS_Comm

Instagram: Paterson_Public_Schools_NJ

LinkedIn: PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Torch Bearers

Paterson Public Schools Celebrate Women's History Month

Women's History Month Panels At School No. 20 and No. 28

Schools No. 20 and No. 28 each held a panel discussion for Women's History Month



On Friday, March 15th, School No. 20 hosted NJ Assemblywoman Shavonda E. Sumter, Paterson Councilwoman At-Large Lilisa Mimms, Superintendent Laurie W. Newell, and Paterson Public Schools Director of Guidance & Counseling Tamisha McKoy. They spoke of their experiences and answered students' questions. Vice Principal Wanda Kopic was the master of ceremonies.



On Wednesday, March 20th, School No. 28 held their *Celebrating and Empowering Women* panel. District officials, Superintendent Laurie W. Newell, Director of Guidance & Counseling Tamisha McKoy, and Supervisor Of Student Support Services Laurel Olsen, spoke of their experiences, views on what young women's opportunities are in current society, and answered questions from students.

Three eighth grade students hosted the event. Kamryn Cabrera, Paige McDuffie, Sanjana Ahmed were chosen as hosts due to their involvement in Student Council and the National Junior Honor Society.



Superintendent Visits School No. 2 For Women’s History Month Assembly



Superintendent Laurie W. Newell was invited to speak to the students of School No. 2 on Wednesday, March 20th. She shared her life’s story with the students and took questions from them.



International Women’s Day Celebrated At Eastside High School

The Eastside National Spanish Honor Society (ENSHS) students of Chapter Ester Forero sponsored the first annual “Women’s History Month Celebration” on Monday, March 18. A group of ENSHS students formed a ‘Woman Acrostic Poem’ in Spanish and danced to the song of the singer Marcos Yaroide “Por Una Como Ella.”

Prizes were awarded to the winners of the mask painting and poetry contests. Paterson Councilwoman At-Large Maritza Dávila received recognition for her excellent work helping and improving the quality of life in our city. “Women Who Inspire” certificates were also awarded to women serving in the administration of Eastside High School and the Paterson Public Schools District. ENSHS advisor, Mrs. Marbel Tamayo thanked all the participants for their hard work on behalf of the Eastside High School students.



Students At Four Schools Hold MS Walk

On Friday, March 15, students and staff of four different schools walked to show support and to raise awareness for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The students and staff of Senator Frank Lautenberg School (School No. 6) walked within the school's playground, School No. 15 walked to neighboring Baurle Field, and Renaissance One School of Humanities (School No. 1) joined School No. 26 to walk the neighborhood of their school building on East 32nd St. Organizers said these events are meant to "help amplify our messages of hope resilience, and support for the MS community. The collaboration also created opportunities for the community to unite and show solidarity, resulting in a collection of \$1,090.00 to be donated to the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America



Partners In Change

Mindful Schools Visits JATS

The Mindful Schools team visited Joseph A. Taub Middle School to help guide teachers through mindfulness exercises. Teachers are learning these techniques to help them pay greater attention to their student's emotional needs through observation and empathy. Mindful Schools originally was partnered with a few years ago to help school faculty, but had just joined efforts with the Youth Equity Stewardship program to create a more holistic experience for both teachers and students. For the last half of the teams' visit they attended a YES meeting for the school's delegation members. The students had a review and discussion about the projects with the faculty advisors.



YES Day

Students enrolled in the Youth Equity Stewardship program were hosted by School No. 16 to take part in the latest YES Day. Student groups and their faculty advisors from International High School, Joseph A. Taub, Schools No. 28, No. 24, and No. 16 took part in a daylong event held in the school's gymnasium. Activities included exercises in interpersonal power dynamics, teamwork, and creative engagement strategies, and building a tower made of spaghetti sticks and masking tape. The final YES Day will be in June, when the yearlong initiative will end.



Eastside High School Inducts Students Into The National Honor Society

Eastside High School added another wave of inductees into the National Honor Society. Twenty-eight students and their families attended the ceremony that was held in the school's auditorium. The advisors lined up on stage to shake each inductee's hand before the student went on to light a candle and then receive their certificate from Principal of Operations Edgard Nieves.



MAKING A NAME FOR THEMSELVES

Newest DECA Chapter Make Impressive First Visit To State Conference

Rosa Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts sent eight students and their advisor, Dr. Reggie Hall, to the state conference of NJ DECA. The conference was held March 4-6, 2024, at the Harrah's Resort and Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ. This was Rosa Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts first time attending the state conference and its students came back as winners.

- Freshman Chris Perez made it to the state semi-finals in his category of competition and eventually qualified to attend the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Anaheim, CA.
- Freshman Keisy Taveras was selected to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum (NYLF) this summer on the campus of Yale University.
- Senior Dayanara Menendez won a \$600 scholarship.

Rosa Parks is not only one of the newest schools with a chapter of NJ DECA, but is also currently the only high school of fine and performing arts in the state to be part of it. To make it to the state conference and have winners to qualify to attend ICDC the first time around is exceptionally rare, and the students have come to say, "we are just getting started"!



National Social Emotional Health Day

School No. 10 celebrated National Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Day on March 8 with a variety of activities focused on promoting emotional intelligence and well-being. Students participated in a rotation of SEL-based stations, each offering unique experiences to enhance their social and emotional skills.



MESSY CONVERSATIONS

In an effort to promote positive school culture and climate at the Joseph A. Taub School (JATS), “Messy Conversations” was implemented. “The goals of our ‘messy or unpopular’ conversations are to promote clarity, understanding and respect for all,” said organizer Principal Amod Field.



Staff and administration join together to have honest conversations while following agreed upon norms created by the JATS Climate and Culture team. The school holds meetings twice a month to discuss pressing issues and gain clarity. It’s considered “messy” because sometimes nothing is off the table for discussion. Staff members all understand that the discussion is for the greater good of the school. There is no hierarchy during the discussion and “I” statements are used while speaking to promote individuality. Staff members are also encouraged to voice their opinions, questions, or concerns in the JATS suggestion box anonymously.

TEACHING ON THE DANGERS OF DIGITAL DEVICES

The Passaic County Sheriff’s Department came to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School (MLK) on March 11 to talk to students about the dangers of Cyberbullying and Sexting. The objective was to communicate the consequences of Cyberbullying and Sexting on any electronic device when used in a threatening way. Over 240 students were attentive and surprised to hear how dangerous using their digital devices in a threatening way could be. The teachers and students asked if they could return and speak more on other topics that affect the staff and students.

The event was hosted by Student Assistance Coordinator Alvin Bush, with MLK Guidance Counselors Lashawn Cheatom and Erica Carrington.

SHOUT OUT!

Ilia Delgado is the secretary of School No. 20, the latest post in a 39 years long career with the District. She started as a student-worker before being offered a job with the District after graduation.

Apart from the first six months of her life, having been born in Puerto Rico, she has spent her entire life as a Patersonian. She started kindergarten at School No. 15, but was transferred to School No. 3 half-way through, staying there through sixth grade. She spent seventh grade at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. when it was still on Hamilton St., but then spent eighth grade at School No. 8. She eventually went to John F. Kennedy High School and is still proud to be a Knight.



In 1983, she entered the student-worker program and was assigned to the Cooperative Office of Education. She didn't see herself staying with the District after graduation, but she made an impression on someone in the Gifted & Talented Program.

Rosalind De Maria was a secretary in that department and fought to get a position for Ms. Delgado in the District. The next year, 1984, she began working for the Gifted & Talented Program. She would later move to Human Resources in April 2005, and stay there until it was reorganized. On July 1, 2016, she found herself back in school, having been assigned to School No. 2. In January 2019 she was moved across town to her current position with School no. 20.

Ms. Delgado never left Paterson, enrolling her daughter in the same school system that she grew up in. She served as the President of the Alexander Hamilton Academy PTO when her daughter was there from K-8, being very active in the school's activities. She jumped to the Garrett Morgan Academy PTO with her daughter's enrollment in that school, but found that she was the only member involved. Then principal, Michael McGinley, noted that she was the only parent to ever show up to a meeting.

Ilia Delgado has been a great part of Paterson Public Schools throughout her life, as the District has been a great part of hers. Even as she plans her eventual retirement, still a few years away, she plays with the idea of becoming a substitute teacher just to stay a part of Paterson's children's lives.

The Best Part of My Day

Ms. Delgado simply loves being in the schools. She enjoys watching the children grow up and move onward to high school, but is particularly happy to see them return for a visit.

FOLLOW PPS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @PatersonPublicSchools

Twitter: @ PPS_Comm

Instagram: Paterson_Public_Schools_NJ

LinkedIn: PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RING CEREMONY

School No. 2 held an event to celebrate the academic achievements of its 8th grade students, and to celebrate their transition to high school. The ceremony was attended by special guest Superintendent Laurie W. Newell and hosted by Principal Vanessa Serrano. With both peers and parents gathered in the auditorium, each 8th grade student was invited on stage and presented with a ring to commemorate their achievements.



BE ALL THAT YOU CAN BEE

The Paterson Police Department's Community Policing Division is teaming up with Paterson Public Schools to implement the "Bee Program" initiative.

Designed to foster positive peer culture, promote student engagement and leadership, and reduce occurrences of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, the Bee Program will be rolled out across various schools within the district.

[Read the TAPinto Paterson article for full details!](#)

FLYING CARPETS TAKE CENTER STAGE

Norman S. Weir (NSW) School's Math & Jazz program presented their rendition of "Disney Aladdin Kids" on March 26th. Directed by Grade 4 teacher Patricia Tookmanian, the musical is based on the classic Disney animated feature, but is adapted to involve elementary-aged performers.

Special thanks were given to Music Teacher Bernie Visto for helping to create NSW's sustainable musical theater program.



TAUB-DOBY NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Panthers defeated the Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology Lions in the NCAA Championship held at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. on Tuesday, March 19



By The Way...



On February 27, 2024, 11 STARS/TIES students, accompanied by staff and Ms. Crystal Cox-Tober, District Transition Coordinator, embarked on an enlightening journey to Passaic County Community College's Wanaque Campus, where they were greeted with warm hospitality from the moment they stepped through the doors. Under the guidance of Lamont Williams, the Culinary Transition Program director, the students delved into an immersive tour, gaining insights into various classes and experiencing the meticulous process of uniform maintenance firsthand. Excitement peaked as they observed a live culinary class in action, and their pride swelled upon discovering a familiar face in the program's highlights video—a soon-to-graduate T.I.E.S. alum. Culminating their visit was an enticing feast prepared by the students, featuring dishes like roasted chicken, savory potatoes, and a tantalizing charcuterie board.

BLACK HISTORY ART AND ESSAY 2024 CONTEST WINNERS

Listing of contest winners from the 20th Annual Black History Art and Essay Contest.
Sponsored by InnerFaith Performing Arts Center and Councilwoman Ruby Cotton's Office.

CONTEST WINNERS	
<u>High School</u>	<u>Elementary</u>
<u>Art</u>	<u>Art</u>
First Place	First Place
Nour Yahya - 9 th Grade JFK HS – Teacher: Lym	Lorianny Camacho Villar MLK – Teacher: Beckford
Second Place	Second Place
Ismely Fernandez – 10 th Grade Int'l HS – Teacher: Fabor Muhammad	Rosmary Capellan School No. 16 – Teacher: Capers
Third Place	
Lorainy Gonzalez – 10 th Grade RPHS – Teacher: Rothenberg	<u>Honorable Mention</u>
<u>Honorable Mention</u>	Ahziya Greene School No. 19 – Teacher: Jack
Shari' A Cross – 10 th Grade EHS – Teacher: Little	Scarlette Disla School No. 16 – Teacher: Capers
Ciarra Bailey – 10 th Grade RPHS – Teacher: Rothenberg	
Destiny Beltran – 10 th Grade RPHS – Teacher: Rothenberg	
Tania Azcong – 10 th Grade JFKHS – Teacher: Lym	
Edwin Ocasio – 12 th Grade Int'l HS – Teacher: Fabor Muhammad	
<u>Essay</u>	<u>Essay</u>
First Place	First Place
Ahziere Clerveax- 12 th Grade P-Tech – Teacher: Panzant	Fernelis Rojas Lantigua School No. 13 – Teacher: Blue/McCollum
Second Place	Second Place
Christopher Baez – 12 th Grade P-Tech – Teacher: Panzant	Yojanny Santos School No. 16 – Teacher: Capers
	Third Place
	Darius Haley School No. 16 – Teacher: Capers



APRIL 2024



SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Direct your attention to your breath and body	2 Fix a healthy meal	3 Set an attention to act lovingly	4 Think of 2 people you are grateful for	5 Call someone you've been meaning to call	6 Go explore something in your town today
7 Each hour take a moment to fully notice something to be grateful for	8 Try some Spring recipes	9 Make that appointment you need to make	10 Take time for solitude	11 Give yourself a hand massage	12 Drink more water than usual	13 Take a slow relaxing morning
14 Create a sacred space in your home	15 Journal for 15 minutes	16 Write down something positive that happened today	17 Schedule self-care time	18 Do an errand for a loved one	19 Make your favorite snack	20 Go on a walk or hike and smell the flowers
21 Watch the sunrise	22 Plant something today	23 Be active outside	24 Laugh	25 Focus on eating a rainbow of vegetables	26 Make sleep a priority	27 Plan a day trip
28 Turn your housework or chores into fun	29 Meet a friend and take a walk	30 Make a list of summer goals				

This information is provided to you by:



PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Student Support Services
SAC and Social Emotional Learning
90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson NJ 07753
Office: (973) 321-0694 tolson@paterson.k12.nj.us



ABRIL 2024



CALENDARIO DE CUIDADO PERSONAL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Dirige tu atención a tu respiración y a tu cuerpo.	2 Preparar una comida saludable	3 Establecer una atención para actuar con amor	4 Piensa en 2 personas por las que estás agradecido	5 Llama a alguien a quien has querido llamar	6 Ve a explorar algo en tu ciudad hoy
7 Cada hora, tómate un momento para darte cuenta de algo por lo que estar agradecido.	8 Prueba algunas recetas de primavera	9 Haz esa cita que necesitas hacer	10 Tomate tiempo para la soledad	11 Date un masaje en las manos	12 Bebe más agua de lo habitual.	13 Tómate una mañana tranquila y relajante.
14 Crea un espacio agrado en tu hogar	15 Escribe en su diario por 15 minutos	16 Escribe algo positivo que haya pasado hoy.	17 Fijar tiempo de cuidado personal	18 Hacer un favor a un ser querido	19 Haz tu bocadillo favorito	20 Sal a caminar o una caminata y huele las flores.
21 Mira el amanecer	22 Planta algo hoy	23 Estar activo afuera	24 Reír	25 Concéntrate en comer verduras diferentes	26 Haz el sueño una prioridad	27 Planificar un viaje de día
28 Convierte tus tareas domésticas en diversión	29 Conocer a una amiga/o y dar un paseo	30 Una lista de metas de verano				

This information is provided to you by:



PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Student Support Services
SAC and Social Emotional Learning
90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson NJ 07753
Office: (973) 321-0694 tolson@paterson.k12.nj.us



Important Dates

March 29 thru April 5	Spring Break – District Closed
April 10	Eid Al Fitr (Obsv.) – District Closed
April 12	3rd Marking Period Ends
April 19	1:00 Dismissal Student/PD for Staff
April 22	Report Card Parent Conferences (JAT and NRC) 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
April 23	Report Card Parent Conferences (pre-K-8) 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
April 24	Report Card Parent Conferences (grades 9-12) 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.



Board of Education Meeting

The April 17th Board of Education Workshop meeting will be held at 90 Delaware Avenue.

Those who want to give public comment must do so in person.

The April 24th Board of Education Regular meeting will be conducted remotely.

It will also be live streamed at pps.eduvision.tv/LiveEvents.

Simultaneous Language Interpretation

All previously recorded Board meetings provided captioned translations in Spanish, Arabic, Bengali, and Turkish. Simply choose the preferred language at pps.eduvision.tv/LiveEvents.

The District Chronicler is a publication of the PPS Department of Communications. We welcome your submissions on school and district-related news. Submit stories and photos to

ppscommunications@paterson.k12.nj.us.

Mr. Daniel Juan, Interim Director of Communications Department

Mrs. Maria D. Rosado-Leon, Confidential Secretary to the Communications Department

FOLLOW PPS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @PatersonPublicSchools

Twitter: @ PPS _ Comm

Instagram: Paterson _ Public _ Schools _ NJ

LinkedIn: PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS