

Paterson Post

Paterson — A Promising Tomorrow

Together We Can

March 2022

Shafer Here Another Year

Board commissioners extend superintendent's contract to June 30, 2023

Board of Education commissioners on Monday approved a one-year extension of the employment contract of Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer, making her last day with the district Friday, June 30, 2023. The decision gives Shafer the ability to focus on completing district goals including the restructuring of high schools and the learning acceleration initiative for elementary school students.

At the special Board meeting on Monday, Shafer thanked the commissioners for their decision.

"The Board Commissioners, with great care and consideration, have approached the question of district leadership pragmatically while focusing on the interests of the district's students, families, and staff," said Shafer. "By granting me the ability to remain at my post for an additional year, I will be able to serve the students, families, and staff of Paterson Public Schools by putting the district in the best possible position to resume the great momentum of student achievement we had before the pandemic and to complete the important work we have started for the future of the district."

"The Board commissioners will carry out the responsibility of searching for and appointing the next Superintendent of Paterson Public Schools with great care and diligence," said Vice-President Nakima Redmon. "In every step during this process, we will be holding the needs of Paterson students and families in the highest priority."

All members of the public who spoke during the meeting supported the contract extension.

"Superintendent Shafer is probably the most visible superintendent that I've seen in my 28 years here in Paterson," said N.J. Community Development Corporation President and CEO Robert Guarasci. "Her connection to the community is genuine and impactful. Her stewardship of the district during the past two years as the pandemic raged is evidence of a steady hand during a time of enormous uncertainty."

Other speakers included Paterson Education Fund Executive Director Rosie Grant, former Board of Education member Waheeda Muhammad, New Destiny Family Success Centers Executive Director Carolyn McCombs, Paterson Alliance Executive Director Inge Spungen, and Gladys Santiago, a parent of three children at Public School No. 2.



Superintendent Shafer *File photo*

IHS Senior Accepted to Johns Hopkins

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Juan Marrero, Robotics Team captain and Class of 2022 salutatorian, is the second IHS student to be accepted to prestigious university in two years



Juan Marrero
Photo courtesy of staff

International High School (IHS) Senior Juan Marrero, salutatorian of the school's Class of 2022, has been accepted to Johns Hopkins University. He is the second IHS student to be accepted at the prestigious university in two years.

"Juan has earned acceptance into one of the world's premier colleges, particularly for those who want to pursue a medical career, and that is truly a remarkable achievement," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "I want to congratulate Juan and his mother, and thank his teachers, administrators, and his principal for everything they did to support Juan's goal of being accepted to Johns Hopkins."

"For Juan, attending Johns Hopkins has been a lifelong dream," said International High School Principal Dr. Catherine Forfia-Dion. "He has worked very hard to achieve his goal, and he has been an outstanding student at International High School. I have no doubt that he will be successful in college, and I look forward to everything he achieves as he pursues a career as a surgeon."

Marrero was born in the Dominican Republic, where he said, "Education is for those who are able to pay the exorbitant price." He spent most of his childhood in a barrio called Hato Del Yaque and immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was 11. At IHS, Marrero has participated in a wide range of extracurricular activities, most notably the school's Robotics Team, of which he is the captain. Forfia-Dion said he is on track to being named the Class of 2022 salutatorian.

Marrero, whose mother works as a company salesperson selling beauty products to salons, will be the first in his family to attend college. He has one sibling, a younger sister.

"For me, going to college means having the opportunity to leave a trail for other Latinos and people from my communities who want to make it to college, but don't know how to," Marrero said. "It would mean having access to new opportunities through which I would be able to realize my dream of becoming a surgeon and helping others. Ultimately, it would mean having the opportunity to continue striving to become strong, bright, useful, and true for myself and my community."

Another IHS graduate will be on the Johns Hopkins campus when Marrero begins his studies in the fall. Emily Cruz, who graduated in 2020, is currently pursuing her undergraduate degree at Johns Hopkins University.

"I want to attend this school because it provides me with the opportunity to learn under the tutelage of world-renowned professors," said Marrero, who intends to major in neuroscience. "Furthermore, Johns Hopkins gives me the chance to become part of a community of scholars who are constantly striving to move forward with innovating ideas, diverse backgrounds, and a sense of duty towards the world."

Recent IHS college acceptances have included Stefany Morales, who in December received an early decision acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania where IHS alums Amaya Perez (Class of 2019) and Cindy Munoz (Class of 2020) are currently attending. Also from the Class of 2020: Nicole Velecela is at Cornell University, Abbey-Gale Brooks is at the University of Pittsburgh, Brigitte Garcia is at Brigham Young University, and Jalen Hargrove is at Rice University.

Five PAGT Students Advance to NHD State Competition

Five students from Public School No. 28/Paterson Academy for the Gifted and Talented (PAGT) have advanced to the National History Day (NHD) state competition after winning in specific categories at the virtual regional competition hosted by Rutgers University earlier this month.

Eighth-graders Alyson Betancourt, Danaliz Esteban and Alfriesy Jerez won the junior documentary film category with the film they created, *The Feminine Mystique: How Betty Friedan Changed the Debate of Women Empowerment*.

Meanwhile, seventh-graders Daniella Mendez and Maya MacCracken won the junior group website category for their website, *The New(sie) Kings of New York: Debate and Negotiations between Newsboys and Newspaper Kings*.

Both projects were created under the guidance of their faculty advisor Lizandaa Alburg, a PAGT social studies teacher. Alburg was advisor to 12 students who competed on March 5th. The statewide competition will be held virtually on May 7th.

"I want to congratulate Alyson, Danaliz, Alfriesy, Daniella, and Maya for winning in their categories on Saturday and I wish them the best of luck when they compete on the state level in May," said Schools Superintendent Eileen F. Shafer. "I also want to congratulate all of the students who competed in the National History Day regional contest. This is an annual event that requires students to delve into interesting topics, research them objectively, and present their findings creatively. Anyone who exercises those abilities in the NHD contest is a winner, in my book. I want to thank the students' parents for their support and Ms. Alburg for the dedication and guidance she gives to her students."



NHD-NJ Names PAGT Teacher "Teacher of the Year"

Lizandaa Alburg, 21-year veteran teacher, wins organization's top honor

Lizandaa Alburg's approach to teaching history is a far cry from telling her students the tired adage about those who fail to study history are condemned to repeat it. Instead, the 21-year veteran teacher tells her students that if they rise to the challenge of studying history, they can develop a wealth of skills that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

"For students to reflect upon what they are interested in, to pursue research in those interests, to formulate questions, to think critically about the information they gather and the sources it came from, and to present it clearly and creatively – these skills are the building blocks of success in the 21st century," said Alburg. "Students who engage in the study of history develop these abilities, and one of the most effective ways students can study history is through National History Day."

It's that ethos that led the Public School No. 28/Paterson Academy of the Gifted and Talented (PAGT) teacher to be honored as Middle School Teacher of the Year by the New Jersey National History Day organization.

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“She developed the National History Day program at School 28,” said Nancy Norris-Bauer, William Paterson University’s Director of Professional Development and School Community Partnerships and the head of NJNHD.

Norris-Bauer said that Alburg’s track record as School 28’s NHD faculty advisor was one of the reasons why she nominated Alburg as Teacher of the Year. Earlier this month, five of Alburg’s students advanced to the statewide competition which will be held in June. Alburg having students compete on the state level is something that has happened for nine of the past 10 years of competition. She has even had students compete on the national level in 2019 and 2021.

“This is an unexpected honor!” she said. “It’s been my pleasure to sow the seeds of research and analytical thinking during the past 10 years for approximately 1,000 middle school scholars.”

School 16 Student Accepted By NJ Intermediate Regional Concert Band



Blanca Navarrete
Photo courtesy of staff

For the first time in more than a decade, a Paterson Public Schools student musician has been accepted into the New Jersey Intermediate Regional Concert Band.

Blanca Navarrete, an eighth-grader at Public School No. 16, had to audition alongside some of the best student musicians from northern New Jersey in order to make it into the concert band. For the audition, she prepared rudiments – percussive patterns like drum rolls and flams – on several percussion instruments and she performed two pieces on snare drum and vibraphone, according to music teacher Jason Quevedo.

“Blanca worked tirelessly to be prepared and to shine during the auditions,” said Quevedo, who has been teaching Navarrete for the past three years. “She has made School 16 and the district very proud.”

“Estoy orgullosa de lo que he logrado, y espero poder lograr mas en mi carrera,” said Navarrete. (I’m so proud of what I have achieved, and I hope to go far in my career).

Quevedo said that Navarrete is the first School 16 student, and his first student, to be accepted into the regional concert band. The accomplishment is the result of a team effort, he said, that includes himself, School 16, and the Paterson Music Project (PMP), an afterschool music education program of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts that is housed at School 16. Quevedo is one of the PMP’s instructors.

“PMP is extremely proud of Blanca Navarrete. This is a product of a lot of hard work and dedication on her part,” said Elizabeth Moulthrop, Director of the Paterson Music Project. “We are also grateful for our partnership with the Paterson Public Schools and School 16.”

Navarrete has played percussion for four years. She started on the guiro, a Latin American percussion instrument consisting of an open-ended, hollow gourd with parallel notches cut in one side, in El Salvador before coming to the United States in 2019. Navarrete joined the PMP School 16 bucket ensemble three years ago. Quevedo, noticed that she had an ear for rhythms and started giving her extra lessons. She started taking lessons through PMP in the fall 2021, and she now meets with Quevedo whenever she gets a chance at school, such as breaks in class or during lunch.

PPS, NJDOH Partner To Make COVID-19 Vaccines Available To Children

11 school sites designated to provide vaccines beginning in April

Through a partnership with the N.J. Department of Health (NJDOH), COVID-19 vaccines will be made available to eligible Paterson Public Schools students at 11 school sites beginning in April. The NJDOH's Rapid Mobile Response Team will provide the vaccines.

"We are very pleased to enter this partnership with the state's Department of Health to make vaccinations available to our eligible students," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "It is our hope that by opening these vaccination sites in the district, it will be easier for parents to have their children vaccinated."

"COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective and approved for children age five and older," said New Jersey Department of Health Deputy Commissioner Dr. David Adinaro. "Vaccination remains the best tool to prevent severe illness and hospitalization from COVID-19. I encourage parents who have questions to speak to their pediatrician or visit <https://covid19.nj.gov>."

The vaccinations will be made available from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 11 schools, which have been chosen on the basis of their accessibility to Paterson families and their capacity to host a vaccination site.

The 11 schools, and the dates and times when the vaccination sites will be operating, are listed on the schedule below.

NJDOH COVID-19 Vaccination Sites

School	Address	Date	Time
Public School No. 28	200 Presidential Blvd.	Monday, April 4 & Wednesday, April 6	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
International High School	200 Grand Street	Tuesday, April 5 & Thursday, April 7	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Dr. Hani Awadallah School	515 Marshall Street	Monday, April 11 & Wednesday, April 13	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 9	6 Timothy Street	Tuesday, April 12 & Monday, May 2	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 24	50 19th Avenue	Monday, April 25 & Wednesday, April 27	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 21	322 10th Avenue	Tuesday, April 26, Thursday, April 28, and Thursday, May 26	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 5	430 Totowa Avenue	Thursday, May 5 & Wednesday, June 1	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
HARP Academy	764 11th Avenue	Monday, May 9 & Wednesday, May 11	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 27	250 Richmond Avenue	Tuesday, May 10 & Thursday, May 12	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Eastside High School Complex	150 Park Avenue	Monday, May 16 & Wednesday, May 18	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Public School No. 26	1 East 32nd Street	Tuesday, May 31 & Thursday, June 2	1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

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SEL Team Shows Their Spirit On National SEL Day

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Team's mission is to provide students and teachers with SEL support



From left: Lamar Miller, Varshawn Clark, Jennifer Harry, Nicole Brown, Niema Jones, Tamisha McKoy, Joanna Tsimpedes, Kimberly Johnson, Shanta Jones, Lorraine Williams, and Laurel Olson *Photo by Daniel Juan*

With bright colored t-shirts and bright (mask-covered) smiles, members of the Paterson Public School's new Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Team gathered at the Central Office Building to mark national SEL Day, which was Friday, March 11th.

The SEL Team is a new initiative in the district funded by the federal American Rescue Plan to respond to students' social-emotional needs. Team members are assigned to schools throughout the district where they help students develop skills to maintain their mindfulness and mental health, and help teachers develop methods of attending to their students' SEL needs.

"I want to commend the district's Director of Guidance Tamisha McKoy and Supervisor of Student Support Services Laurel Olson for their work in leading the SEL Team, and Assistant Superintendent Joanna Tsimpedes and Chief Academic Officer Nicole Brown for supporting their efforts," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer.

The members of the SEL Team, many of whom are new to the district, are:

- Varshawn Clark, SEL Interventionist
- Jessica Diffin, SEL Instructional Specialist
- Jennifer Harry, SEL Interventionist
- Kimberly Johnson, SEL Instructional Specialist
- Niema Jones, SEL Interventionist
- Shanta Jones, SEL Data Strategist
- Lamar Miller, SEL Interventionist
- Lorraine Williams, SEL Instructional Specialist

Rodney Marsalis Brings Jazz Workshop to School 28

The different instruments of a brass ensemble, the unique characteristics of jazz, and the history of the great Marsalis family were among the lessons learned during a special workshop on March 22 provided by jazz trumpet virtuoso Rodney Marsalis at Public School No. 28/The Paterson Academy of the Gifted and Talented (PAGT).



Rodney Marsalis performs at Public School No. 28 Photo by Daniel Juan

The workshop, initiated through a partnership with the Berrie Center of the Arts at Ramapo College of New Jersey, was made possible through the Arts Education Special Initiative Program (AESI), a two-year grant program within the New Jersey State Council on the Arts that will provide \$11,670 annually to support innovative arts education projects that make substantial contributions to arts education in New Jersey. The Marsalis workshop was the first live event introduced to Public School No. 28 as part of the grant.

"The goals of this project are to create direct encounters between students at School 28 and a Berrie Center guest performing artist and to present a diverse group of artistic disciplines that support the learning goals of the school's art curriculum," said

Berrie Center Director Lisa Campbell. "The program also hopes to provide opportunities for students to engage with artists from different cultural backgrounds exploring content from different life experiences and expose students to the opportunities provided by an education in the arts and how those experiences can lead to careers."

Marsalis is a New Orleans native who began taking classical trumpet lessons with his cousin, Wynton, at the age of 11. A graduate of one of the world's leading conservatories, The Curtis Institute of Music, Rodney Marsalis has worked under the guidance of many world-renowned conductors including Leonard Bernstein, and he received national attention at the age of 19 when he performed as a soloist with John Williams conducting the Boston Pops Orchestra.

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\$10,000 Scholarship To Jazz House Kids Will Aid PPS Student Musicians

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Funding will allow PPS students to attend JHK programs in Montclair



From left: Multi-Grammy Award winner Nat Adderley, Superintendent Eileen Shafer, Jazz House Kids Founder and President Melissa Walker, McDonald's Owner/Operator Angela Adderley Photo by Daniel Juan

Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer participated in the grand reopening of the newly renovated McDonald's restaurant at 160 Market Street, where a \$10,000 donation to further the music education of a number of the district's student musicians was presented.

The donation was made by McDonald's Owner/Operator Angela Adderley, who presented a \$10,000 McDonald's of Paterson and The Adderley Management Company Inc. Music contribution to Jazz House Kids Founder and President Melissa Walker. The funding will allow six to eight Paterson Public Schools students, ages 12 to 18, to attend Jazz House Kids' music education programs in Montclair.

"I want to thank Angela Adderley for making this scholarship funding possible and Melissa Walker for her dedication to the music education of Paterson Public Schools students," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "After many years of budget cuts to arts education, Paterson Public Schools has depended on partnerships with organizations like Jazz House Kids to help fill the void those budget cuts have left behind. This funding will help some of the district's motivated students to realize their potential more fully as musicians through Jazz House Kids' excellent music education programs."

"It has been an honor to partner with Paterson Public Schools to help bring music instruction back into the classroom and put instruments in the hands of young people," said Melissa Walker. "We feel that jazz and jazz education can be a real gateway to happiness and long-term success, and we are enormously grateful to Angela Adderley for the great infusion of support for Paterson public school students to access our after-school and summer programs at the JAZZ HOUSE."

Among the programs the district's students will have access to with the help of the funding is the [Summer at the Jazz House Sessions](#), which will be

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held from June 6 to July 22. These sessions will include in-person weekly ensembles that focus on improvisation and skills-based classes that will be held in-person and online.

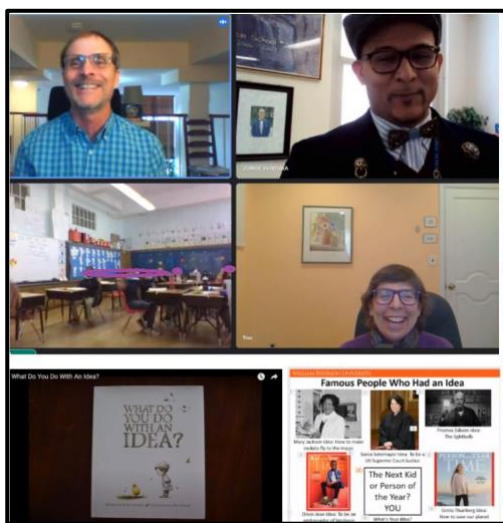
There will also be a two-week intensive [Summer at the Jazz House Workshop](#) that will be held at Montclair State University in August. The workshop will be led by Artistic Director and seven-time GRAMMY-winning bassist Christian McBride, Walker's husband, and Summer Workshop Director Ted Chubb. Students will receive top-notch instruction to develop key skills, including enhanced knowledge of fundamentals and jazz performance.

In January, JAZZ HOUSE KIDS launched the Music Scholars Program at the Senator Frank Lautenberg School, where 54 middle school students are receiving music instruction twice a week after school. JAZZ HOUSE KIDS has a long history of working with Paterson students, with the Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts jazz band participating in its annual "Inside the Jazz Note" program, where McBride and special guests would conduct an all-day masterclass for high school students and their music teachers in the region.

Adderley's husband, Nat Adderley, Jr., is a Grammy nominated artist who had worked as musical director for the late Luther Vandross. He is also the nephew of legendary jazz saxophonist Julian Edwin "Cannonball" Adderley.

WP's Real Men Read To Paterson Public Schools Students

William Paterson University (WP) Education and Curriculum Materials Librarian Neil Grimes spearheaded another successful Real Men Read program, recruiting men from campus and working with Nancy Norris-Bauer and the Professors in Residence (PIRs) to arrange for the volunteers to read aloud (on screen) in the schools in celebration of Read Across America week. WP Provost Josh Powers spent nearly two hours virtually visiting five different first grade classes at Public School No. 5 and reading aloud one of his favorite books, *What Do You Do With An Idea?* He shared examples of people who have had good ideas, such as Mary Jackson, Sonia Sotomayor, and Thomas Edison; and then encouraged the students to come up with their own good ideas. At Public School No. 12, two students – one of whom performed a song on his saxophone – as well as WP Dean of the Library Edward Owusu-Ansah read aloud. The dean read *My Dog Bob* to a kindergarten class and *The Whole Story Of The Donut* to a fourth grade class, where one student suggested they meet him at the library for a tour and a donut feast. The teacher and the school's PIR are going to try to make that event happen. In both schools, the virtual visitors modeled a passion for reading and the joy people can experience when sharing a good book.



WP Provost Josh Powers, upper left corner, reads to School 5 first-graders.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Betsy Golden

WNBC TV News Anchor Gives School 7 News Crew Master Class

David Ushery shares professional advice with student news team

For more than a year, students on Public School No. 7's "Channel 7 News" team have been broadcasting the latest national and local news, along with sports, weather, and pop culture reports. But the big news at School 7 on March 21st was when they were visited by one of the nation's top-rated evening news anchors, WNBC Channel 4's David Ushery.

"You know that I must care about you if I come to a place that has Channel 7 as a newscast," Ushery joked as he spoke to about 80 students in the school's auditorium. Ushery then admitted that he had worked at WABC's

Eyewitness News, a.k.a. Channel 7 news for 10 years.

School 7 Principal Rebecca Cecala worked with Communications Director Paul Brubaker in arranging Ushery's visit. In January 2021, Cecala had the idea for a student-run news broadcast as a way to engage students while school buildings were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After a few news broadcasts were made, Cecala hoped to have a broadcast news journalist speak to School 7 students, preferably in person. Ushery's visit became more viable with the district's return to in-person instruction.

Ushery's visit played out in two parts. He spoke with a large

group of students in the auditorium first, and then he followed the student news team – with WNBC's Howard Gowa, a cameraman, and John D'Urso tagging along – down to Computer Technology Teacher Christine Kober's Tech Room where the students put together their broadcast.

The students' questions caused Ushery to address some of the current ethical issues in the media. When a student asked where Ushery gets his information for the news, the news anchor cited the traditional sources of calling people on the phone and listening to police scanners. And then he took a smartphone out of his pocket.

"The big challenge for you is that not everything that flows through this thing (the smartphone) has been confirmed, verified, or is fair," he said. "You've got to do your homework, whether you're a reporter or not. Ask yourself, what is the source of the information? Can I trust that source?"

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WNBC News anchor David Ushery speaks to School 7 students. Photo by Daniel Juan

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When another student asked how Ushery became popular, he joked, “Some people argue that I’m not popular yet.” Then he talked about the subtle difference between being famous, the way pro athletes and pop stars are, and being recognizable, which is how he described himself.

“That happens over time, but it’s getting harder because not everybody watches the news for the information,” he said.

The time Ushery spent with the student news team in the Tech Room was, in essence, a master class in broadcast news. Some students volunteered to read their scripts and have their writing and delivery of the news critiqued by Ushery.



Student news anchor Janessa Tejada reads her script for David Ushery and Principal Cecala. *Photo by Daniel Juan*

“If we were in the cafeteria and you were telling me about that story, what would you say?”

Ushery asked a student who had just read his story about sportscasters Joe Buck and Troy Aikman’s multi-million dollar deal with ESPN. “How would you tell me if we were just talking,” asked Ushery, coaching the young reporter to be more conversational.

“Who or what inspired you?” a student asked Ushery.

“Walter Cronkite,” Ushery responded, cited the CBS Evening News anchor for 19 years and

became known as the most trusted man in America during the 1970s. “When I was a kid, my folks would watch him every night at 6:30.”

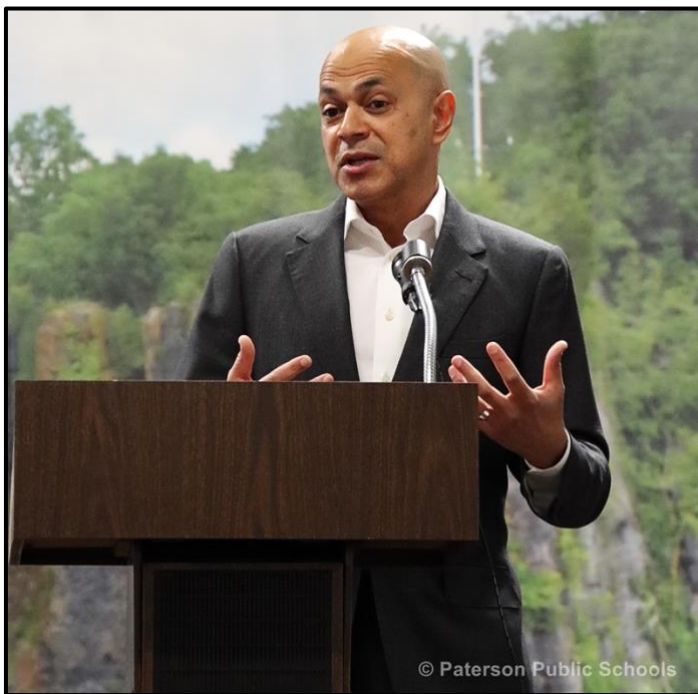
Ushery had a few questions for the students, including what they learned from doing their newscast.

“That the editors and other roles contribute a lot,” said one student. “It’s not just the reporters.”

“From editing, I learned patience,” another student said.

Before his visit, Ushery had watched a few of the school’s news broadcasts. When he recognized one of the student-reporters, he complimented her on the professional delivery of her story about Santa being sighted in the Paterson area around Christmastime.

“There was a moment when you turned to the live picture,” Ushery said. “You did that very well. It was perfect.”



Anna landoli Early Learning Center Officially Opens



The ribbon is cut at the Anna landoli Early Learning Center

Photo by Daniel Juan



Kathy landoli speaks about her mother's legacy.

Photo by Daniel Juan

and-a-half," she said. "This is my mother's work. I am her legacy."

Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer called landoli one of the district's icons of early childhood education.

"One of the greatest legacies a person can leave behind is that the people who knew you during your lifetime not only loved you, but consider themselves better people because they knew you," Shafer said.

Shafer, Board of Education Commissioner Emanuel Capers, and Principal Stanley Sumter presented Kathy landoli with the Board of Education's August 12, 2020 resolution, specially framed for the occasion, that officially named the Early Learning Center after her mother. "Her legacy will live on for years to come," Capers said.

District, local, and state officials welcomed the landoli family to 660 14th Avenue for the official opening of the Anna landoli Early Learning Center on March 15th.

The sign unveiling and ribbon cutting followed a ceremony inside where fond remembrances of the longtime PPS early childhood educator were given by her daughter, Kathy, and PPS Early Childhood Education Director Nancy Holtje, who was mentored by landoli.

"We know that she is here with us today and she's here with us every day," said Holtje, who lovingly remembered landoli as one of her most important mentors when she was beginning her teaching career in the 1990s with other young educators.

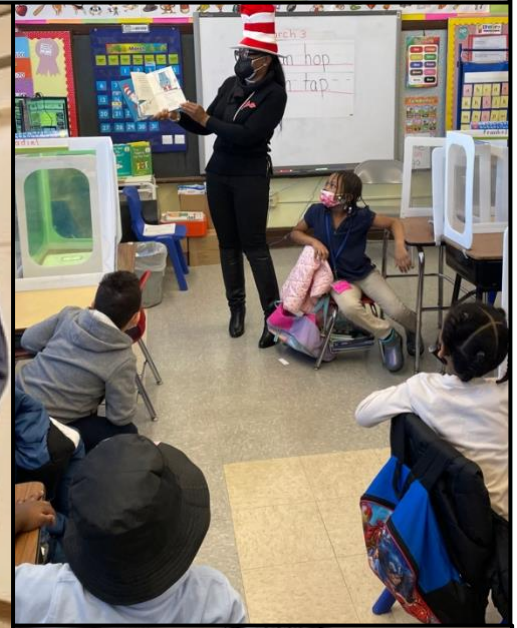
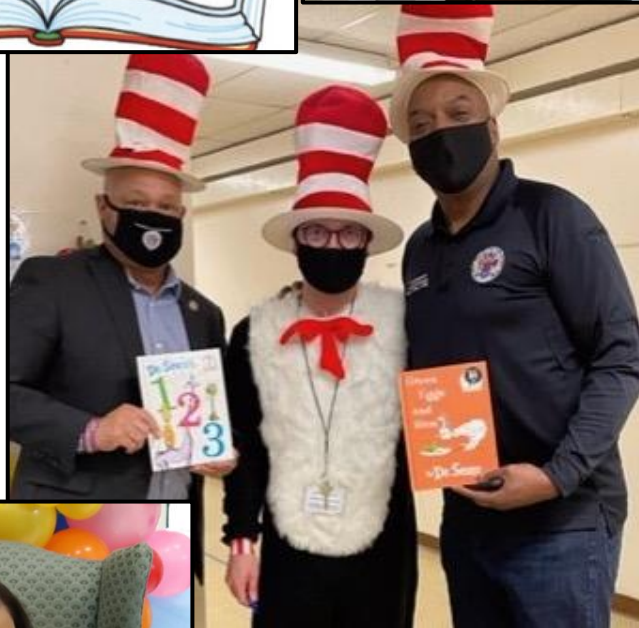
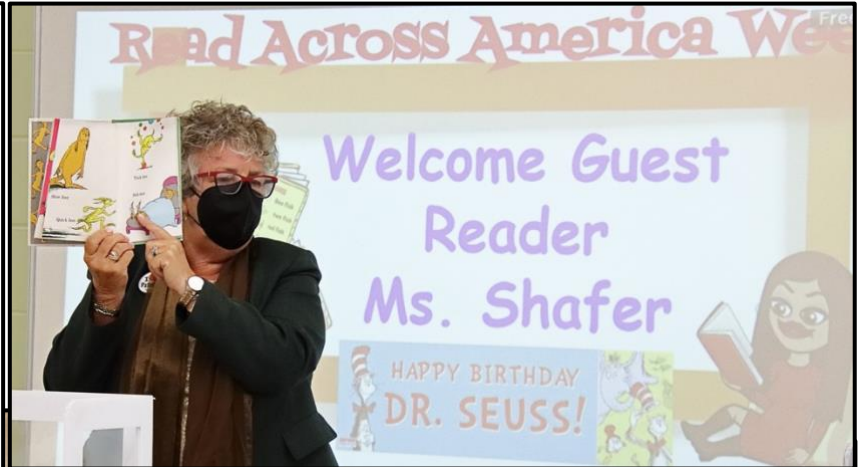
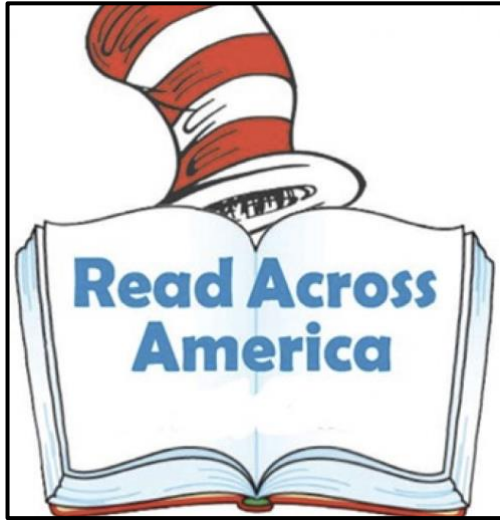
"We were the beginning of something special," Holtje said. "It was because of Anna landoli's expertise, her patience, her time, her love of the children, this city, and for us as teachers."

Kathy landoli remembered how her mother would test teaching strategies and activities on her when she was a child.

"There was a reason why I was walking at a year old and learning to read at two-



Nancy Holtje



A few highlights from PPS' Read Across America Week. Clockwise from top right: Superintendent Shafer, Dr. Jalyn Lyde, BOE Commissioner Vincent Arrington, NJ Secretary of State Tahesha Way, NJ State Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly with Teacher Michael Masefield and Commissioner Arrington.

Upcoming Events

- Apr. 1:** Staff in-service, 1:00 p.m. dismissal for students
- Apr. 6:** Board of Education Workshop Meeting*
6:00 p.m.
- Apr. 8:** Third Marking Period Ends
- Apr. 13:** Board of Education Regular Meeting*
6:00 p.m.
- Apr. 15:** Good Friday – District Closed
- Apr. 18-22:** Spring Break – District Closed
- Apr. 26:** Report Card Parent Conferences
Public School No. 7, JAT School, New Roberto Clemente
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 28:** Report Card Parent Conferences
Grades 9 - 12
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- May 3:** Eid Al Fitr – District Closed
- May 5:** Report Card Parent Conferences
Grades pre-K - 8
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

*All Board of Education meetings are live-streamed at pps.eduvision.tv/LiveEvents. Those who want to give public comment should register in advance by emailing public@paterson.k12.nj.us by 5:00 p.m. on April 6th and April 13th. Participants are asked to provide their name, address, and the phone number from which they will be calling.

The Paterson Post 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.