

Paterson Post

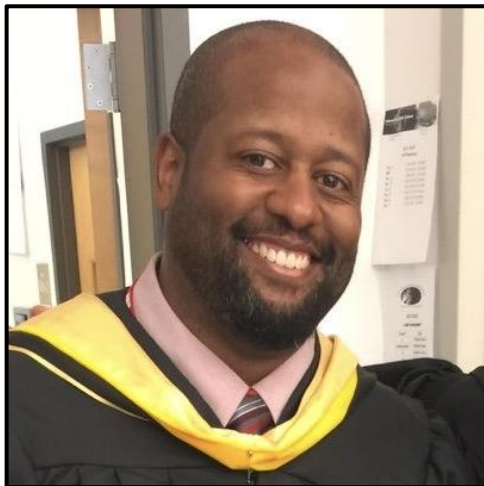
Paterson — A Promising Tomorrow

Together We Can

May/June 2022

For A Departed Friend

Christopher Lewis honored by colleagues after untimely death



The Central Office building's Climate and Cultural Committee accomplished what might have been impossible for most event planners: throw a terrific end-of-the-year party for everyone in the building while paying a fitting tribute to a friend who is no longer with them.

The Back-Lot BBQ was held in the building's rear parking lot following the untimely death of Christopher E. Lewis. Lewis, the district's executive director of technology who had worked in the district for 17 years, died on May 11th. He is survived by his wife, Vivian, his children, Jayden and Kasey, his parents and his brother.

As Lewis' friends and colleagues gathered, there were remembrances of him everywhere. The tables were decorated with cardboard motorcycles and orange warning cones as centerpieces on top of tablecloths that looked like the open road – all references to Lewis' love of motorcycle riding.

The fact that the event was a BBQ was in tribute to Lewis' reputation among his family and friends as a grillmaster who was said to have done amazing things with a brisket in his backyard smoker.

A slide show of photos played on a Promethean Board and Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer presented a special memorial Adirondack bench with a plaque that described Lewis as, "Dedicated to ushering 21st-century technology and learning into the District, Cherished by his Family

and Friends, Missed by all who knew him." The bench is now a permanent fixture near the outdoor tables at the Central Office building.

Everyone who attended the Back-Lot BBQ received a wristband that read, "Chris Lewis. Always In Our Hearts 5.11.22."



IHS Student Earns Full Scholarship For Eight-Year Medical Program

Edwin Luna will attend Montclair State University and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

International High School senior Edwin Luna has received a full scholarship for an eight-year college and medical program held at Montclair State University and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. At the end of the eight years, Luna will have earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree and a Doctor of Medicine (MD). Luna is one of only four students in New Jersey to be awarded a scholarship for the program.

"When one of our students fulfills the promise of their potential, it raises all of the students of the District. That student shows what is possible with the education that they are offered; that when it is coupled with a strong work ethic, any student can reach their own goals," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "Mr. Luna has provided another fine example of Paterson's youth taking control of their future. On behalf of the whole district, we are proud of his accomplishment and wish him the best. I know that his parents must be very proud and that their support helped him in his success. Also, I would like to thank the teachers, administrators, and staff for guiding and caring for all of our students."

Washers, Dryers Coming To Eight Schools

Washers and dryers are being installed at eight district schools as part of the district's efforts to combat student absenteeism. With the help of \$94,000 in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding, the machines are being installed in the Alonzo "Tambua" Moody Academy, S.T.A.R.S. Academy, Public School No. 12, Public School No. 21, and Eastside High School. HARP Academy, International High School, and the New Roberto Clemente School.

Laundry bags and supplies including detergent will be made available to the students.

"No student should have to choose between going to school or staying home because their uniform is dirty. With laundry facilities available at these schools, fewer students in our district will need to make that choice." Shafer thanked Director of Climate and Culture Nicole Payne, Marguerite Sullivan, and Devon Troxler of the Federal Programs Department for their work in obtaining these amenities.

"This is about removing barriers between students and school and maintaining a positive climate and culture in our schools," said Payne. "Students wearing school uniforms give them a sense of identity, purpose, and belonging. When their uniforms cannot be cleaned, they become a source of embarrassment that can erode their self-esteem and, in the worst cases, make them a target of teasing or bullying. In the long run, we hope to have laundry facilities available in all district school buildings."

The new washers and dryers are coming to the district after laundry facilities were installed at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex in 2019. The two washers and two dryers at that high school were acquired through a federal Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) grant that had been awarded to the district.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see News 12 NJ's story on the washers and dryers.

NJ Senator Pou, Superintendent Shafer Tour Outdated School Buildings

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Facilities Chief Mapp show officials, press the need for increasing schools funding

N.J. State Sen. Nellie Pou joined Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer on a tour of three district school buildings to build a case for the need for increased funding for school building maintenance and construction.

District Chief of Facilities and Custodial Services Neil Mapp led the tour of John F. Kennedy High School (KHS), Public School No. 3 and the Roberto Clemente School. KHS Principal of Operations Michael Hill gave the group access to the basement to see the boilers, which have been in use since the building opened in 1965. School 3 Principal Jose Correa showed the need for a building expansion as temporary classroom units were still in use. He also showed a classroom that had been modified as a make-shift gymnasium. Later, Roberto Clemente School Principal Bridget Naveira

showed classes that had no walls, only partitions to separate students' learning experiences.

Also on the tour were Board Commissioner Emanuel Capers as well as a reporter and a photographer from *The Record*.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see The Record's story on the state of school buildings in New Jersey.



SOIT Students Win Statewide Poster Contest



SOIT Academy Spanish Honor Society members Ta'najah Jones (left) and Maria Pimentel won third place in the poster contest held by the N.J. Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Jones received the award for her submission in the digital poster category. Pimentel received the award for the hand-drawn poster category.

Their teacher, Marbel Tamayo, congratulated them both on a job well done.

22 RPHS Students Inducted Into International Thespian Society

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On May 12th, 22 Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts (RPHS) students were inducted into the International Thespian Society, an honor society for high school and middle school theatre students. It is a division of the Educational Theatre Association. Students are required to participate in theatrical productions to accumulate points to be eligible for induction. RPHS Principal Nicolette Thompson, District Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts Michelle Van Hoven, and Drama Teacher Tiffany Wilson congratulated the following thespians: I'Ymesshia Bethea, Nylasia Brenes Foster, Danyra Brooks, Keyra Campbell, TaJae' Chevannes, Shanaisa Fuller, Matt Gist, Na'Jae Green, Maricarmen Inoa Gonzales, Samuel Luciano, Ruben Me'Jia, Nevaeh Mims, Azure Morrison, Samuel Pittman, Soraldy Ramirez, Michael Rodriguez, Loreine Ventura, Martin Vela, Ilyssa Williams, Nia Williams, Kimberly Martinez, and Perla Leon Delgado.

During the induction, the following students recieved awards for their participation in past festivals:

- Ta'Jae Chevannes: 2020 1st Place VSA Monologue STANJ
- Cast of Promedy 2020: Martin Vela, Naveah Mims, Ruben Mejia, Kimberly Martinez, and Matt Gist: 2020 Finalist for STANJ group scene.
- Azure Morrison and Ilyssa Williams: 2022 Thespian Medals for Excellence for their virtual performance of Hurt Village, 2022.
- Matt Gist: Dedication In Theater Award, 2020.

Adventures With Harold, Pictures In Purple



Dr. Betsy Golden, William Paterson University Professor in Residence at Public School No. 12, visited Ms. Sharon Pierre's kindergarten class and ask students to name their favorite picture books.

A few days later, Dr. Golden returned to read aloud her own personal favorite, *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. The students loved the book and eagerly set about drawing their favorite parts of this delightful adventure story – using purple crayons, of course.

NRC Artists Ring In Summer's Dog Days

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The Dog Days of Summer have begun with New Roberto Clemente participating in Boonton Arts' annual Dog Days of Summer Art Exhibit.

Pieces by five students and two staff members were selected and sponsored, (left to right): Justin Olivas-Herrera, NRC Vice Principal Ron Esquiche, Jalyn Martinez, Ayan Sosa, Art Teacher Monica Aramayo, Ruth Geronimo Saldana, and Sofia Cuazitl.

The art pieces will be on exhibit on Main St., Boonton, N.J. from June 3 to September.

Ghost Golfers Are Number One!



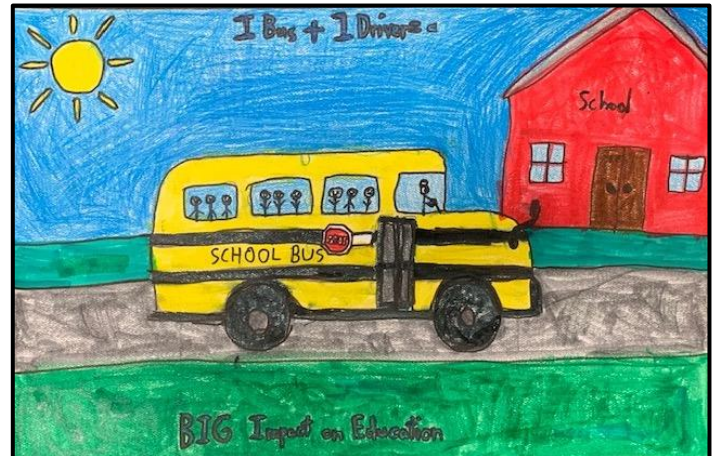
Eastside High School's Golf Team came in first place in the Passaic County Golf Tournament's B Flight for beginners. Pictured are, from left, Ellyott Zapata, Maria Mejia, Coach Salvatore Balsamo, Tiffany Simpson, and Marianny Diaz-Duran.

District Students Attend First In-Person College Fair Since Start Of Pandemic

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Nearly 600 high school students attended a college fair at Passaic County Community College on May 13. The event, the first in-person college fair students were able to attend since the pandemic started, was held by the district's Guidance Department, Passaic County Community College (PCCC), and the Career Council. Forty-two college and university representatives were on hand to speak with students in grades 9 through 11. Special thanks to Director of Guidance and Counseling Tamisha McKoy, PCCC Associate Dean for Enrollment Management Rebecca Royal, and PCCC Coordinator of Admissions and Financial Aid Services Maritza Davila for making this opportunity available to the district's students.

STARS Academy Students Win Prizes In Transportation Poster Contest



Two STARS Academy students won top prizes in the STS New Jersey School Bus Safety Poster Contest. Mia Guillermo, grade 9, won a first place prize in the contest, which netted her a \$100 gift card. Samuel Cerda, grade 9, won a third place prize and a \$50 gift card.

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School 1 Fashionistas Go Green At Their Earth Day Fashion Show

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Students create clothing out of recycled materials



Students at Renaissance One School of The Humanities celebrated Earth Day with a unique fashion show. They created clothing out of recyclable materials: cardboard, paper bags, plastic bottles, cans, paper, and newspapers. Students first had to draw a design of their prototype before they could begin building their design. All of the student-created fashions were modeled down the School 1 runway.

School 24 Students Perform At Statewide Music Festival 8

For the first time in its nine-year history, four Paterson Public School students performed at the New Jersey School Music Association's Elementary Honor Band Festival.

The four students – all sixth-graders who attend the Fine and Performing Arts Academy at Public School No. 24 Jan Carlos Acosta, Sebastian Cortes, Kathelyn Hinostrroza, and Angel Pena. The four students were among the 203 students from across Northern New Jersey who auditioned for the performance.

Students were given four difficult pieces of music to prepare for the performance. Acosta, Cortes, Hinostrroza, and Pena worked tirelessly practicing every spare moment they had at school and at home. The music challenged them with new notes, rhythms, and even a new percussion instrument for Pena to learn. They met with students from 35 other schools, and dove into a full day of rehearsals and sectionals, culminating in a concert for their families.

"At the beginning of the day, I was very nervous. I was even shaking!" said Hinostrroza. "But as the day went on, I became more confident and really had fun playing with people from other schools. It was a good experience, and I hope to be able to do it again next year!"

"School 24 is so proud of these students' hard work and dedication to music. These four started their instruments in September online and are already playing at a competitive level," said School 24 Band Director Dana Nix. "We can't wait to see what their futures have in store for them!"

School 20's Girls Go "On The Run" In 5K At Lake Mohawk



On May 21, nine girls from Public School No. 20 participated in the Girls on the Run 5K at Lake Mohawk in Sparta. Girls on the Run is a national program for girls in grades 3 through 5. It builds their confidence and develops friendships with other girls.

The girls were coached by School 20 Teachers Judy Ritter and Paulina Olivares and School 20 Counselor Karyn Stephenson. They met twice a week for 10 weeks leading up to the 5K. Each day had a theme and a lesson followed by running laps. Girls on the Run has a partnership with Dick's Sporting Goods. Through Girls On The Run's partnership with Dick's Sporting Goods, each runner received a

new pair of sneakers.

Each runner completed the 5K at her own pace and had a running buddy with the goal of going the 5K distance. "We are so proud of all the girls!" said Stephenson.

School 2 Music Teacher Scores Fellowship 9 From Academy for Impact through Music



Public School No. 2 Music Teacher Jeremy Watson has been accepted into the Academy for Impact through Music (AIM)'s Firebird Fellowship program, a global music education fellowship that encourages teaching artists to bring radical innovation to the field of Music for Social Change.

"This fellowship is regarded as one of the most prestigious and competitive fellowships for global music educators and I couldn't be prouder to say I made it," said Watson.

Watson will join more than 50 other Firebird Fellows from around the world for a 15-month virtual intensive that will culminate with an in-person component in Lisbon, Portugal in August.

AIM believes in a "golden combination" of music and great teaching to empower young people. With that in mind, AIM has established five pillars of practice that provide direction and focus for the teacher training and describe what Firebirds want to achieve for young people and for themselves: Holistic Development, Intrinsic

Motivation, Optimal Agency, Artistry Without Limits, and Community.

During a full academic year in their local program, they conduct action research and reflect on their practice by recording their teaching. Supported by AIM coaches who provide feedback, they discuss next steps to improve their teaching practice. At the same time, the training serves as a model for the kind of learning the Firebirds will take back to their own classrooms to multiply that knowledge within their local programs, which, for Watson, is the Paterson Music Project.

A Celebration Of Young Artists



Nabiha Rahman, a fourth-grader at Public School No. 5, and Ronald Espinal, an eighth-grader at Public School No. 12, were recently honored at the William Paterson University (WPU) Professional Development Schools Art Exhibit reception. The students were lauded by College of Education Dean Amy Ginsberg, and their masterpieces will become part of the permanent collection on display at the WPU Education Building. School 5 Art Teacher Denise Pelosi and School 12 Art Teacher Juderose Glore said they were very proud of their students.

Bilingual Math Classes at School 10 Make Hiloramas

Kelly Pina's fourth and fifth grade bilingual classes participated in a creative mathematics assignment called "Making Hiloramas."

This assignment entailed students researching the names of each teacher or administrator who is in direct daily with their class.



Once each name was researched for its meaning, the students created a hilorama for each person.

A hilorama is a picture made with nails and string. String of various colors is used to develop the image that the students chose to represent the meaning of each name.

SOIT Spanish Honors Society Marks World Spanish Day With Books Donations To Two PPS Schools



Spanish Honors Society Chapter at Eastside High Schools School of Information Technology (SOIT) observed World Spanish Language Day by donating 110 books and school supplies to Public School No. 26 and the Senator Frank Lautenberg School. The purpose of this donation was to promote reading in English and Spanish among the students at these elementary schools.



Gardens Grow At District Schools

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Students have been engaging in planting and gardening in projects at two of the district's schools. At Public School No. 20, students and staff united for Beautification Day just prior to Memorial Day weekend to beautify the school building's surrounding areas in an effort spearheaded by ESL Teacher Ilmadeliz Monto. Students removed litter, prepared soil for planting, and planted colorful flowers and plants in front of the school building.

Meanwhile, at the Alonzo "Tambua" Moody Academy more than 80 students have been working with the City Green urban farming and gardening nonprofit organization to create the school's Kimaada Garden, named after Moody's wife. The Kimaada Garden features a rain barrel and seven raised beds of strawberries, lettuce, basil, thyme, parsley, cilantro, eggplant, tomatoes, watermelon, brussels sprouts, cucumbers, and more. Special thanks to Principal Zatiti Moody, Science Teacher Alicia Acerra, Full Services Community Schools Site Coordinator Claudia Walker, and Director of Community Engagement and Advocacy Jasmine Moreano for their efforts in launching this initiative.



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High Tech Classrooms Coming To Three District Schools

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Students to get opportunities to earn college credits at PCCC via remote learning

Board of Education Commissioners have approved a partnership between the district and Passaic County Community College (PCCC) to establish a High Tech Classroom at three high schools that will allow eligible students to earn college credit while they are still in high school.

The High Tech Classroom will be installed this summer at John F. Kennedy High School, Eastside High School, and Panther Academy to allow students to virtually attend in real time classes that are taking place at PCCC.



PCCC President Dr. Steven Rose had the idea for the High Tech Classrooms concept, and it was presented at a meeting of all Passaic County schools superintendents last fall. Paterson Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer saw the initiative as a way to augment the availability of dual enrollment courses to students and allow for greater efficiency in assigning teachers to classes.

"This is a big win for our district and our students, and I thank Dr. Steven Rose for envisioning the High Tech Classrooms concept as a way to help Paterson Public Schools and all districts throughout Passaic County," Shafer said. "In our high schools, competitive courses like college-level physics or calculus can often have just a few students enrolled in them. The High Tech Classrooms will allow our students who want those competitive courses to take them and earn college credit while allowing our teachers to work with as many of our high school students as possible."

"PCCC looks forward to expanding opportunities for Paterson students," said Dr. Rose. "Getting a head start on college can motivate and open doors for students and significantly cut the cost of a college education."

Each High Tech Classroom will be equipped with high-definition televisions and cameras, sound bars, touchscreen control panels, microphones, a presentation system, wall mounts, and cables. This equipment is being acquired with the help of \$75,455.65 from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). The High Tech Classrooms will also be allotted up to \$10,000 from FIPSE for Maker Space equipment, which includes items such as 3-D printers and laser cutters.

Shafer and Rose thanked everyone who made the High Tech Classrooms possible including district Deputy Director of Accelerated Programs Rita Route, PCCC Vice-President of Finance Steven Hardy, PCCC Director of Special Projects Dr. Geoff Gordon, and PCCC Audiovisual Coordinator Christopher W. Mueller.

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Jazz House Kids Music Scholars Perform First Concert at SFLS

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Dozens of Senator Frank Lautenberg School (SFLS) students who had never held a musical instrument before January performed for the first time as Jazz House Kids Music Scholars. The students, all in grades five through eight, performed in their debut concert on May 20th, to an enthusiastic crowd – and some even stepped into the spotlight to perform instrumental solos. Multi-Grammy Award winning musicians Christian McBride (bass) and Nat Adderley, Jr. (piano) played alongside the young musicians. Also on hand were Jazz House Kids Founder and President Melissa Walker, Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer, SFLS Principal Dewitt Evering, SFLS Vice Principal Melanie Brown, Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Coy, Paterson City Council Members Ruby Cotton and Dr. Lilisa Mimms.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a video of the concert.



Foundation Helps PPS Students Turn Dreams Of College Into Reality

GOPA's top students to attend American University with \$70,000 in scholarships

The [Robert and Seth Memorial Foundation](#) provides Eastside High School and P-TECH at PANTHER seniors with hands-on college/university planning assistance. The volunteers of this foundation, Walter Ginsberg, Robin Ginsberg, Alan Dlugasch, and Vivian Gaines, meet virtually with students bi-weekly to assist with searching for colleges and applying for financial aid. They work with each student on an individual basis to discuss their personal strengths and weaknesses, career goals, and financial needs to find the perfect college/university fit. In addition, they advocate for students and collaborate with colleges and universities regarding student acceptances and financial aid packages.



The team serves as advocates to ensure that each student obtains a financial package that consists of both federal and state aid, college grants, scholarships, and any additional financial aid that a college or university can provide. They work diligently with colleges and universities to make attending school affordable to the inner-city community by attaining a financial aid package that will minimize the debt of any Eastside senior college or university to below \$5,500 per year. To help ease the cost of housing as students transition to living on campus, each

participant receives a laptop and/or furnishings for their college or university dormitory.

This year, the volunteers virtually met with more than 40 students to complete their college application process. These students successfully applied to more than 50 colleges and were awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships and awards. The foundation is extremely excited to announce that two students from the School of Government and Public Administration (GOPA) at Eastside High School, Tashania Gill, the Valedictorian, and Mia Baez, the Salutatorian, will be attending American University in Washington, D.C., and received scholarships and awards totaling \$70,000 a year.

Even after a student has graduated high school and enrolled into college, The Robert and Seth Memorial Foundation is still available to assist students with further college planning. Debra Pacheco, a 2017 GOPA graduate, received college planning assistance from the foundation while she was a high school student. Today, she is enrolled in a graduate program to earn her Ph.D., in which the organization will provide her with a scholarship to help her accomplish her dream of completing this degree. This organization truly stands behind its mission which is to make dreams become a reality.

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District, Paterson Reads Celebrate First Book Club with *Darius Daniels: Game On!*



District officials joined Rosie Grant of the Paterson Education Fund and Paterson Reads at the Senator Frank Lautenberg School on June 8th to celebrate the completion of its first book club called the Hungry Readers Book Club. More than 100 students throughout the district participated in the book club. Also at the celebration was Caroline Brewer, a children's book author who wrote *Darius Daniels: Game On!*, which has been a favorite of the Hungry Readers. As part of the event, Brewer, Grant and others went to three other schools – Public Schools No. 2, 15, and 27 – to

meet and read with Hungry Readers members. Special thanks to Oasis – A Haven for Women and Children and the Boys and Girls Club of Paterson and Passaic who were of great assistance in running the book club this year.



Parents, Students Get Mindfully Creative At School 12 Workshop



Public School No. 12 hosted an Art & Mindfulness workshop for parents, guardians, and students on May 12th. The event was facilitated by Celeste Banks of Activism Through Arts. Parents and students had a great time painting in the relaxing atmosphere. The school anticipates hosting another art and mindfulness event in the fall.

School 12 Educators Use Stop Animation To Develop Students' Writing Skills

Anissa Conyers, a 22-year veteran teacher at Public School No. 12, and William Paterson University's Dr. Elizabeth Brown have been encouraging the use of stop-frame animation techniques to help develop the writing skills of the third-graders in the field-based literacy course they teach.

Stop-frame animation, a.k.a. stop motion animation, strings together multiple single-framed images to create the impression of movement. The technique can be seen in Rankin-Bass holiday specials like *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, Nick Park's *Wallace and Gromit* series, and Wes Anderson's feature films *Isle of Dogs* and *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.



Through stop-frame animation, writers can visually watch their narratives unfold, critique missing or misleading details, and then revise their writing. At School 12, teacher candidates helped students identify one personal, small moment that occurred in a specific location. Next, the students sketched their settings and began describing them in writing. The students' sketches helped them explain in writing the settings' colors, textures, smells, and objects. Next, the students designed 3-inch tall paper puppets representing the people in the small moment. Teacher candidates encouraged the students to write about their characters' feelings, the

dialogue among them, and their actions. At times, the students used the puppets to re-enact the small moment to retrieve necessary details or dialogue for the narrative.

For example, a teacher candidate named Molly worked with a student named Dee whose small moment took place on a mountain where she took a skiing lesson. Dee moved her characters along her drawn ski mountain setting, and Molly captured the images. Dee then returned to the writing process and wrote about her fear of falling during the ski lesson and the instructor's encouragement.

"I chose the word, 'inspired' because the ski instructor truly inspired me to keep skiing," Dee said.

The biggest obstacles to broadening the use of stop-frame animations were time and equipment, according to Conyers and Brown. They worked with WPU Professor In Residence Dr. Betsy Golden to start a Donors Choose campaign to get a laptop and the HUE animation software for the class, they said. Conyers's students are now independently using stop-frame animation for other writing projects.

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EHS' JROTC Win 11 Trophies At First Raiders Competition

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Eastside High Schools JROTC students had a successful outing at this year's Raiders competition hosted by Seton Hall and Fordham universities at South Mountain Reservation in West Orange on May 1.



The JROTC Raiders competition is held within Junior ROTC programs around the country and is the junior version of the Army ROTC Rangers competition. Designed for high school students, it focuses on citizenship and leadership, as well as physical, mental and emotional wellness.

This year's competition hosted seven schools from the tri-state area. The Eastside JROTC Raiders team earned 11 trophies across two divisions, male and female, and

ranked second overall. The Raiders Head Coach, SFC Mauricio Branwell, with instructor CSM Ricardo Garcia, and Eastside's JROTC Department Chair Major Luis Barraza accompanied the team. For seniors Cadet Command Sergeant Major Angel Ventura, the Raiders' captain, and Cadet Sergeant Major Saul Dient this will be a great memory for their last year at Eastside.

"Their success continues to establish Eastside's JROTC program as one of the most competitive, successful, and well-rounded programs in the tristate area," said Barraza.

Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer congratulated the team.

"When our students go out to meet their peers from other school districts in competition, they not only display their skill, character, and hard work, but also represent their school and city," Shafer said. "I want to thank all of the teachers, administrators and parents that support our students in their endeavors."

DHA Mathematicians Win Imagine Contest

Carmen Coldiron's second-grade class at Dr. Hani Awadallah School was named one of twenty winners of the Imagine Learning Hero Contest, a math challenge that took place throughout the month of April and included classes pre-K to second grade.

Every day, students logged on to partake in lessons, of which a required two per week had to have been completed. Using district-created math tools to help them accomplish the lessons and with the steady encouragement of their teacher, the students actually completed two lessons a day.

The program is designed to adapt to the user's skill level, so the lessons became more challenging as the students improved.

"My students are phenomenal, to say the least," said Coldiron, "I encourage them every day to do their very best. I always encourage them to do more than what is expected."

Superintendent Eileen Shafer said, "Even without capes and costumes I know that our students can be superhero learners. The whole district is proud of Ms. Coldiron class's accomplishment. I am thankful for their teacher's, principal's and parents' support in reaching their greater potential."

As a reward for their efforts, the class chose a pizza party from a list of prizes offered from the Imagine Learning Hero program, which provided a gift card to pay for the celebration.

HARP Academy Holds Gun Violence Awareness Walk In Remembrance of Robert Cuadra

Senior was slain days after receiving college acceptance letter

Paterson Public Schools officials, U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr. and Mayor Andre Sayegh were among those who joined Ivernys Santiago, mother of slain HARP Academy student Robert Cuadra, and his classmates in participating in HARP Academy's Gun Violence Awareness Walk in Cuadra's honor.

Cuadra was a HARP Academy senior who had been accepted to Montclair State University on scholarship. In January, he was killed by gun violence while helping his grandmother with groceries.





EHS Student-Athlete Wins Honor From Bergen County Umpire Association

21

Yuri Quinonez lauded for overcoming obstacles, being a team player

Citing her overcoming economic hardship, academic challenges, the loss of her father, while maintaining a team player's attitude and tireless work ethic, the Bergen County Umpire Association gave its Warren "Pops" Tashian Award to Eastside High School student-athlete, Yuri Quinonez.



The Warren "Pops" Tashian Award is given to high school students who have overcome some difficulty in their life and have contributed to their respective high school team.

"As a student-athlete, and manager, Yuri understands the true meaning of a team player and role model, said Eastside Supervisor of Athletics T.J. Hill. "She is a hard worker who never gives up on herself. She holds the principles that her father instilled in her to keep her focused and motivated. Yuri is a young woman of few words, but she leads by example every day."

Quinonez, who will be a senior in September, attends Eastside High School's Culinary Arts, Hospitality, and Tourism School and plays softball, volleyball, and bowling. While she struggled in elementary school, she now has a 4.39 grade point average and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has also been elected president of her school's graduating class. She also works full-time as a store manager, and on weekends volunteers at a food bank and a local residential facility for at-risk youth.

During her freshman year, Quinonez's father died, which was a devastating loss to her. Their close relationship motivated her to continue to strive both academically and athletically, Hill said.

As a high school senior, Quinonez will be enrolled in college courses in pursuit of her future career as a sonographer. She is pictured with her mother in the photo.

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School 16 Holds Induction Of National Junior Honor Society Members

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On a windy April 29th, Public School No. 16 inducted a new group of National Junior Honor Society members into the Phoenix Chapter. This was School 16's first in-person induction ceremony since the chapter was started in Fall 2019. The group consisted of a mixture of sixth, seventh and



eighth graders representing the National Honor Society's five pillars of Scholarship, Character, Citizenship, Service & Leadership.

The keynote speaker was Kelly B. Lewis, who is the great niece of the famous NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson of *Hidden Figures*

fame. Lewis is a storyteller, producer and creative artist and in her remarks she reminded the new members to set the tone wherever they go.

She encouraged them to "show up", "don't fit in" and "remember you."

Superintendent of Schools Eileen Shafer was also present and spoke to the group about what she described as "a very proud moment."

Food Services Veteran Takes Helm of Department



Krystal Tanner has been appointed executive director of the district's Food Services Department and comes to the district with 28 years of experience in food services, 22 of which were in public school districts.

"We're very pleased to welcome Ms. Tanner to our district and look forward to working with her in meeting the nutritional needs of our students," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer.

"I'm enthusiastic and excited to join the Paterson Public Schools family and I'm committed to providing the best meal experience possible to our students and staff," Tanner said.

Tanner is a native of Trenton who obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in nutritional science at Rutgers University's Cook College. She holds certifications as a dietary manager and food protection professional as well as being ServSafe certified. While her career began in the healthcare sector, she transitioned to K to 12 education. She has dedicated the past 22 years to providing well-balanced meals to students in diversified

districts, including Trenton Public Schools. Some of the districts were as large as 48 schools. Her experience includes working in districts with self-operating food services and districts with food services that were operated by contracted management.

County Champs EHS Lady Ghosts Win All-County Awards

23

Head coach Pilgrim named Coach of the Year

After a season that included winning the Passaic County Girls Basketball championship, the Passaic County Coaches Association named several Eastside High School student-athletes as All-County award winners earlier this month.

Head Girls Basketball Coach Brandon Pilgrim was named Coach of the Year at the All County Girls Banquet on June 13th while two of his players – Nyasia Pauldo and Symiaha Brown-Cobb (a.k.a. “Kool-Aid”) – won All County Girls Basketball honors.

Eastside’s Metzy Acosta was also recognized with the organization’s Female Scholar award.

Pictured below are, from left, Eastside Principal of Operations Edgard Nieves, Pauldo, Acosta, Brown-Cobb, Pilgrim, and Eastside Supervisor of Athletics T.J. Hill.



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EHS Male Student-Athletes Win All-County Awards

24

Honors awarded to players of football, basketball, wrestling and track

The Passaic County Coaches Association named several male student-athletes as All-County award winners at its annual banquet on June 14th.

Carnell Goodwin, Amir Smith, Ahsin Jabobs, and Jahsin Jacobs won All County football awards, with Smith also winning the organization's Male Scholar award.

Byrce Stokes and Preston Brown won the All-County award for basketball.

Elijah Carroll won the All-County award for Winter Track and Field, Arthur Edmonds won the All-County award for wrestling, and O'Shamair Majette won the All-County award for volleyball.

Picture below are, from left, Track & Field, Winter Track, & Cross Country Coach Eddie Hamilton, Assistant track & Field Coach Chaheen Payne, Goodwin, Stokes, Smith, Brown, Carroll, Edmonds, Head Wrestling Coach Clevans Robinson, Head Bowling & Head Boys Volleyball Coach Robert "Bobby" Black.



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DHA Student-Athletes Compete In Special Olympics

25

Hamilton wins gold medal in 400M and shot put, Izaguirre wins silver in 400M

On June 10th through 12th the Dr. Hani Awadallah School Wolf Pack Special Olympics team competed in the track and field summer games at The College of New Jersey.

The Dr. Hani Awadallah School (DHA) was proud to have two athletes participate and represent our school, who have been practicing since April. They competed at sectional events in order to advance to the annual state Summer Games.



Jayda Hamilton participated in the shot put and the 400 meter race, winning gold in both events.

Carlos Izaguirre participated in the long jump and the 400 meter race winning the silver medal.

The athletes were accompanied by their coach, DHA Physical Education Teacher Jacqueline O'Connor.

In addition to the competition, the athletes participated in the Olympic Village, fireworks, and dance parties. They also made friends along the way.



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Alexandra's Playground Donates New Playground to Public School No. 13

26

It was a great day on Sunday at Public School No. 13 as Paterson Public Schools officials joined representatives from Alexandra's Playground and the Jersey Cares organization in opening the playground donated by Alexandra's Playground. Plenty of youth volunteers and families showed up to beautify the new playground. Assistant Superintendent Cicely Warren, Principal Nicole Booker, and Board of Education Commissioner Vincent Arrington were joined by Mayor Andre Sayegh in welcoming Alexandra's Playground Executive Director Lori Hrbek and founders Michael and Andrea Vitale and their family. The playground is the ninth the organization has donated to Paterson Public Schools.



EHS' Jahsin Jacobs Wins National Football Foundation Honor

Ghosts' DT named to Team of Distinction by organization led by Archie Manning



Jahsin Jacobs, the Eastside Ghosts All-League, All-County defensive tackle, has been named one of 82 players on the National Football Foundation (NFF)'s 2022 Team of Distinction. Jacobs was chosen from a national pool of 3,500 student-athletes.

The members of the team all played their final high school football season during the 2021-22 school year. As part of the award, all of the honorees will be part of a permanent digital display at the Chick-fil-A College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta, [according to a NFF press release](#).

Criteria to make the team include but are not limited to academic achievement, athletic accolades and community involvement. Each chapter is limited to one honoree,

distinguishing them as the top scholar-athlete from all the high schools covered by the chapter.

Jacobs is a member of the National Honor Society, has a 3.60 GPA, and is ranked 12th in his graduating class in addition to being a three-time team captain and two-time all-state selection.

Please see,
"Football"
on p. 27

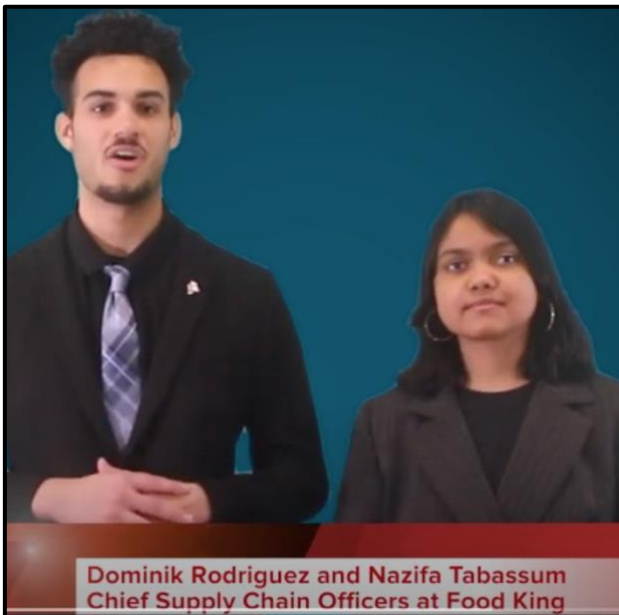
Football*Continued from p. 26*

"This honor is one of the most prestigious national awards that a high school player can receive," said NFF Chairman Archie Manning, the patriarch of the Manning Dynasty who preceded his sons Eli and Peyton as an NFL quarterback.

"We would like to congratulate all 82 honorees for their success on and off the field, especially with the challenges caused by the pandemic during their senior year. We also want to salute all of our NFF Chapters who continue to play an important role in promoting football in their communities," Manning said.

Jacobs will join his twin brother, Ahsin, at the American International College this fall where they will both play football for the school. They will both attend on full scholarships. Jacobs is pictured with his father, the Ghosts' Defensive Coordinator Lindsey "Coach K" Jacobs.

Two JFK-BTMF Students Win First Place In Rutgers Business School Supply Chain Management Competition



Dominik Rodriguez and Nazifa Tabassum, two students at John F. Kennedy High School's School of Business, Technology, Marketing, and Finance, won first place in the advanced division of a supply chain case competition held by the Rutgers Business School Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

The competition had students from 10 high schools demonstrating their knowledge of supply chain management in a competition that mirrored a real-world predicament for many businesses in the United States.

William McLaury, who teaches supply chain at Rutgers Business School, said the competition showcases the knowledge students gain from the program, which is offered as an elective. The aim of the program is to introduce students to a field that they can enter after high school or continue to study during college, he said.

McLaury and Rutgers supply chain professor Alok Baveja developed the program's project-based curriculum in a memorandum of understanding with the state Department of Education's Office of Career Readiness coordinated by Thomas Bacola. The program is taught in 39 secondary schools across New Jersey and in secondary schools in three other states, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see a video of their winning presentation.

PAGT Teacher Named NHD's Middle School Teacher Of The Year

Lizandaa Alburg becomes first New Jersey teacher to win NHD's top honor

Lizandaa Alburg, a 21-year veteran teacher who has led a series of district students to compete in the National History Day (NHD)'s state and national competitions, received the NHD Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award on Saturday. Alburg received the honor at a special ceremony at the end of NHD's national competition, which was held virtually. The prestigious national award is granted to one middle school teacher and one high school teacher annually, and Alburg is the first teacher from New Jersey to receive it.



"We are thrilled that Ms. Alburg has been named NHD's middle schools Teacher of the Year," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "For many years, Ms. Alburg has been dedicated to leading her students to develop their research, critical thinking, and creative skills through the National History Day contest.

It's wonderful to see her great work being recognized on the national level. I congratulate her and all of the students she has helped along the way."

Nancy Norris-Bauer, the head of New Jersey National History Day and William Paterson University's Director of Professional Development and School Community Partnerships, has credited Alburg with developing the NHD program at Public School No. 28/Paterson Academy of the Gifted and Talented (PAGT).

Norris-Bauer has also cited Alburg's track record in working with the students as one of the reasons she was deserving of the award. Through her work in coaching and advising students, Alburg has led students to advance to the state level for nine of the past 10 years of competition, and to the national

finals in 2019, 2021, and 2022.

Each year, more than half a million students throughout the country participate in the National History Day Contest. Students choose a historical topic related to an annual theme, and then conduct primary and secondary research. After students have analyzed and interpreted their sources and have drawn a conclusion about the significance of their topic, they present their work in one of five ways: as a paper, an exhibit, a performance, a documentary, or a website.

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Upcoming Events

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

July 4:	Independence Day – District Closed
July 5:	Summer School Begins
July 9-10:	Eid al-Adha
July 20:	Special Board of Education Meeting* 6:00 p.m.
Aug. 17-19:	Summer In-Service – District Leaders (Remote)
Aug. 23-25:	New Teacher Orientation
Sept. 1:	Staff in-service
Sept. 2:	Staff in-service – 1 p.m. dismissal
Sept. 5:	Labor Day – District Closed
Sept. 6:	Staff in-service
Sept. 7:	Opening day for students

*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 July 20th. 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.