

Paterson Post

Paterson — A Promising Tomorrow

Together We Can

January 27, 2020

International Baccalaureate Senior Accepted Early Decision at Ivy League School

Cindy Munoz, a senior in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at International High School (IHS), has been accepted early decision at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). Munoz will begin attending the Ivy League university in the fall. Munoz is a first generation American. Her parents immigrated from the Dominican Republic. Family is very important to Munoz. Her father passed away when she was seven. Her mother, who attended college in the Dominican Republic, always stressed the importance of education while working very hard to support Munoz and her younger sister. Munoz is a Paterson Youth Council member, a National Honor Society member, and National Chinese Honor Society member. She is also an alter server at her church. Munoz will be majoring in nursing at UPenn, where the graduate nursing program has been ranked the third best in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*. "I'm very excited to live in a new city and experience what UPenn has to offer," said Munoz. "I believe the IB Program at International High School has prepared me for the college environment through rigorous courses and an emphasis on time management."

JFK Educational Complex Opens as New Jersey's First Full Service Community High School

Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer joined with many other local officials and community leaders on January 21st to open the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex as the state's first



federally-funded Full Service Community High School. In September 2018, the Paterson Public School District was awarded a \$2.5 million grant to start two new Full Service Community Schools, one of which was the John F. Kennedy Education Complex. Every Full Service Community School has a partnering lead agency. The John F. Kennedy Educational Complex's partnering lead agency is the New Jersey Community Development Corporation (NJCDC), a Paterson nonprofit organization led by Robert Guarasci. Health care and behavioral health services are provided in the school building through Health N Wellness Services, LLC, which is led by Denise Hajjar. The St. Paul's Community Development Corporation, led by Richard Williams, provides food pantry services. Academic support services for students are provided through the efforts of Dr. George Abaunza, Dean of the Felician University School of Arts and Sciences. At a news conference on Tuesday, Superintendent Shafer acknowledged the efforts of the district's administrators who oversee the district's Full Service Community Schools including Deputy Superintendent Susana Perón; Kemper McDowell, executive director of Family and Community Engagement and Full Service Community Schools Department; Gilman Choudhury, supervisor of Full Service Outreach and Special Projects in the Family and Community Engagement and Full Service Community Schools Department, and Full Service Community Schools Director Jenna Goodreau. Among those who participated in the news conference were U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ-9) and Paterson Mayor Andre Sayegh. The news conference was followed by a tour of all of the areas in the school building where services are provided.

New Jersey's Teacher of the Year Meets Paterson's Teachers of Tomorrow

A career that gives you relationships that last forever, will challenge you like no other profession, and needs you for the future of the state and the nation. That is how 40 students heard the teaching profession described by New Jersey's Teacher of the Year, Kimberly Dickstein Hughes. Hughes, an English Language Arts teacher of 11 years at Haddonfield Memorial High School, kicked off her tour of schools all over New Jersey on January 15th by visiting the School of Education and Training (SET), the district's academy for future educators. She was welcomed by Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer, Principal Nicolette Thompson, Student Government President Zianny Suarez and Vice President Jazzmieka Wortham. The conversation between Hughes and the students ran through a variety of education issues, including the plight of English Language Learners and the fact that so many Paterson students have responsibilities outside of school. They also talked about how badly teachers are needed, not only for the impact they can have on students, but on the impact they can have on their communities as well. "Our country needs you. New Jersey needs you," Hughes said. "You probably don't hear that enough."



District Officials Applaud State Banning Flavored Vaping Products



Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer and Supervisor of Student Assistance Programs Laurel Olson applauded a statewide ban against flavored vaping products that was signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy last week. New Jersey is the first state in the country to institute such a prohibition. “This law cuts through the clouds of misinformation surrounding vaping to send a clear message to young people that vaping is harmful, even deadly,” said Shafer. “The law is right in line with our school district’s anti-vaping campaign,

which is aimed at making sure students and families know the facts about vaping’s deadly effects.” Olson said, “We have been working hard in Paterson Public Schools to make sure students understand that flavored vaping cartridges are one of the ways kids are being targeted by the makers of vaping products.” The components of the district’s anti-vaping campaign include [a page on the district’s website](#) with vaping facts and information resources.

Public School No. 12 Third-Graders Make Contact with Machu Picchu

Public School No. 12 third-graders in Anissa Conyers’ English Language Arts (ELA) class got a thrill when Conyers’ daughter, Alicia, Facetimed her class from Machu Picchu in Peru. The students were able to see and hear the Incan citadel set nearly 8,000 feet high in the Andes Mountains.

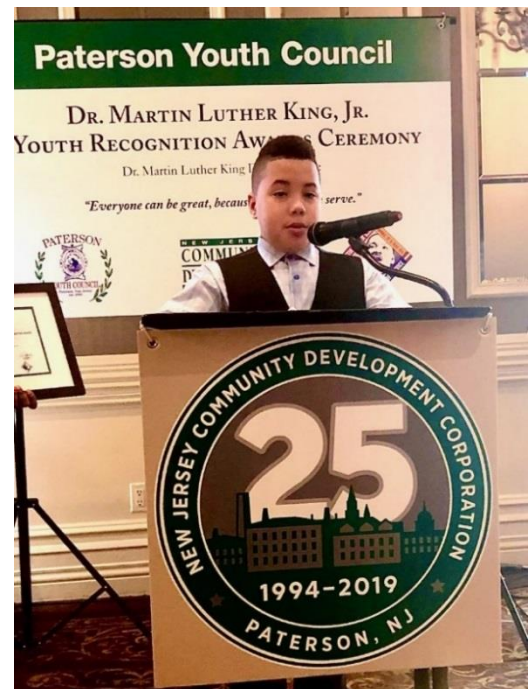
Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far they can go.”

– T.S. Eliot



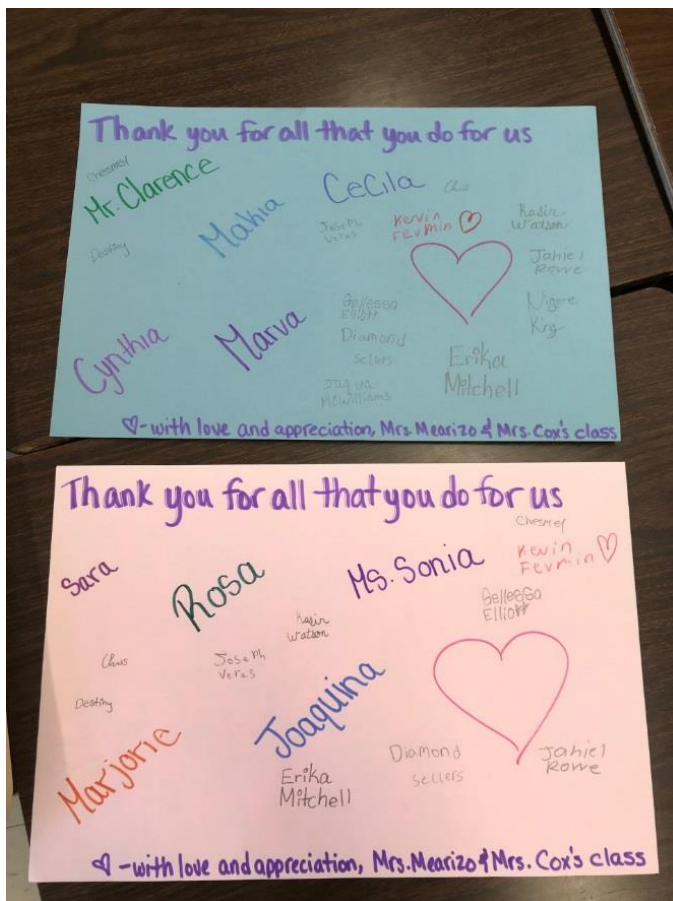
PPS Students Receive MLK Youth Recognition Awards

Four Paterson Public Schools students received the Dr. Martin Luther King Youth Recognition Award from the Paterson Youth Council (PYC) of the N.J. Community Development Corporation (NJCDC) on January 20th. The PYC selected the award winners after receiving numerous nominations from schools, organizations, and Paterson residents. The award recipients were selected for their dedication to making Paterson a better place through their extraordinary community service activities. The student recipients were Adrian Mejia, a seventh-grader at Public School No. 10; Raheem Ashmeade, an eighth-grader at Public School No. 6 – The Senator Frank R. Lautenberg School; Isabela Gonzalez, a 10th-grader at International High School; and Gianfranco Romani, a 12th-grader at STEM Academy at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex.



January is Kindness Month at Public School No. 13

January has been designated as the month of kindness throughout Public School No. 13. The goal is to infuse the school with kindness, as well as to support the work of the Guidance Department. Each day students and staff engage in an act of kindness. For example, on January 16th, each classroom wrote a thank you note to the kitchen staff and lunch monitors.



From the NFL to PPS: Hill Gives Inspiring Message to Young Men at Public School No. 21



T.J. Hill, a technology teacher at Public School No. 29, returned to his alma mater Public School No. 21 to speak to the young men in grades six through eight. Prior to becoming a teacher, Hill played professional football for the Kansas City Chiefs and the New York Giants, as well as for several teams in the Canadian Football League. He spoke to the students about the challenges he faced growing up in the inner city and the support system he established in

grade school and maintained through high school, college and his professional football career. Hill encouraged the young men to begin developing their support system now; and to enlist friends, family and teachers who want them to be their best.

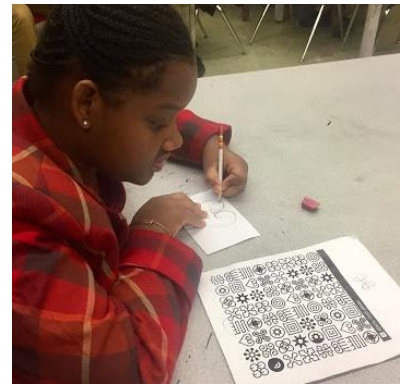
A Day of Service at Public School No. 13

Public School No. 13 hosted a Day of Service on January 20th, Dr. Martin Luther King Day, in coordination with [Jersey Cares](#), a nonprofit organization that coordinates volunteers from corporations to benefit schools and other organizations that are in need. More than 200 volunteers worked on a variety of projects at the school, including motivational murals painted in the hallways and cafeteria, and student/teacher incentive kits.



Art Projects at Don Bosco Technical Academy

A collaborative metal engraving project that began last fall is evolving at Don Bosco Technical Academy (DBTA) in art teacher Patty Kaminski's classroom. The broad inspiration for this project is the artist El Anatsui, a Ghanaian sculptor active for much of his career in Nigeria. His art projects involve community collaboration, recycled metal scraps, and are created on a large scale. This project was conceptualized by Kaminski with William Paterson University (WPU) Professors in Residence Triada Samaras and Robin O'Brien. Other DBTA students have been engraving small squares of copper foil in a process called [repoussé, or tooling](#). Students used a pencil, pen and a wood stylus on both sides of the copper foil to transfer the design and then emboss the copper foil. Next they used colored, permanent markers to highlight their designs.



School No. 28/PAGT celebrates the 80th Day of School by "Bringing Back the 80s!"



Upcoming Events

Jan. 28: 2nd Marking Period Ends

Jan. 28: Teacher Job Fair

4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Paterson Board of Education, 90 Delaware Avenue

Jan. 28: Strategic Plan & Action Steps Community Forum

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at PS 25, 287 Trenton Avenue

Jan. 29: 2020 School District Budget Community Forum

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex, 61-127 Preakness Avenue

Jan. 31: Staff In-service

1:00 p.m. Student Dismissal

Feb. 3: Strategic Plan & Action Steps Community Forum

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at PS 26, 1 East 32nd Street

Feb. 4: 2020 School District Budget Community Forum

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 575 East 18th Street

Feb. 17 & 18: Presidents Day Weekend

All district schools and offices closed

Paterson Post is a publication of the [Department of Communications](#).
We welcome your submissions on school and district related events. [Click here](#) to submit stories and photos.