

November 13, 2018

## Paterson's Blue Ribbon School Goes To Washington



Administrators from Paterson Public Schools and Public School 28 went to Washington, D.C. last week to receive the honor that was announced on October 2nd: a National Blue Ribbon School award for Public School 28. It is the first time a Paterson Public School has received the honor, which has been bestowed annually by the U.S. Department of Education since 1982. The National Blue Ribbon Program recognizes schools that are achieving very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. Pictured are, from left, Public School 28 Assistant Principal Victoria Larosiliere, Director of the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program Aba Kumi, Public School 28 Principal Nancy Castro, and Assistant Superintendent Cicely Warren.

## Adams Becomes A Hall-Of-Famer

The Paterson Old Timers Athletic Association inducted Anna Pelosi-Adams, director of Physical Education, Athletics and Health Services, for her many contributions to athletics and her pioneering accomplishments in expanding opportunities for female athletes. The event was held at The Brownstone on November 1st, and it was the organization's 15th induction event. Pictured are, from left: Old Timers Hall of Fame President Steven King, who is also a Garrett Morgan Academy teacher, Pelosi-Adams, and Old Timers Chairperson William Vacca.



## Scholastic Author Comes To Public School 28



Joe Brown, an author of children's books, visited 3rd and 4th-graders at Public School 28 on October 30. Brown talked about the wonders of imagination, and how he created *The Flights of Marceau* series for Scholastic Books. Brown encouraged students to read as much as they could, and to try to write their own stories. At the end of his talk, Brown gave each student a copy of his book, *Race to the Rescue*.

## Kennedy Students Enter Video Contest

Student athletes at the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex created a video for a contest sponsored by Pepsi and the New York City Football Club in the hopes of winning a free soccer clinic with the professional soccer team.

The video, which was created with the help of teacher Richard Solis, depicts a group of Kennedy soccer players on their way to practice. When they get to the field, they see a sign saying that practice is delayed two hours. Dejected, the student athletes sit on a curb and they each take a can of their favorite soft drink out of their bags. As they drink, it occurs to them that the soda cans can be used to set up goals and boundaries right there on the asphalt. They end up playing soccer, building up a sweat. Just as they sit again to take a breather, the coach shows up and it's time for practice.

Winners are expected to be announced later in November. You can [view the JFK video here](#).

## WPU's Dean Ginsberg Visits Don Bosco

Don Bosco Technical Academy Principal Cecilia O'Toole-Frederick recently welcomed Amy Ginsberg, dean of the College of Education at William Paterson University (WPU), to Don Bosco, which is a WPU Professional Development School that received a STEAM grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Dean Ginsberg was joined by Nancy Norris Bauer, director of the WPU Professional Development Schools program, and WPU Professors in Residence Robin O'Brien and Triada Samaras.

O'Toole-Frederick led them through several classrooms where they spoke with teachers and students, and showed them the student installation of the ["Kindness Rocks" project](#), a STEAM art project that began last year and was inspired by an idea of the principal's.



## Rosa Parks High School Out In the Field

Rosa Parks High School (RPHS) students augmented their learning through a number of recent field trips. For Halloween, some RPHS students attended a performance of *Tales of Edgar Allen Poe* at the Pax Amicus Castle Theater in Budd Lake. Students saw a remarkable show where Poe's tragic life, violent passions and breathtaking tales of terror were all woven into a tapestry of drama, comedy, music, and horror. "The show was very exciting, and scary," said junior Jennifer



Guizar. "And as a writing student, I was able to learn a lot about his life and how he wrote his incredible stories."

Other RPHS students attended the Dodge Poetry Festival in Newark. The event, which took place from Oct. 17 through Oct. 21 at several venues, featured more than 60 poets and musicians. Students saw several established artists perform their pieces and took part in creative workshops that discussed the process of writing and performing poetry.

"The poets who performed had pieces that were really impactful with very human elements to them, making them hit really close to home," said junior Shiqira Poulson. "Once they were done performing, we could ask them questions based on their writings and personal experiences. Overall, it was a truly moving event."

RPHS drama students took their first of four field trips to see productions at Ramapo College. The production was *Anonymous* by Naomi Iizuka. This production was directed by Ramapo Professor Mary Ellen Allison and lighting was designed by Rachel Budin, who is also the coordinator of the partnership. *Anonymous* explores what it is like to be a refugee in the United States. The themes of the production were then reviewed with a 30-minute discussion with cast members.

### Great Pumpkins & Great Pudim at Public School 29

Public School 29’s Carla Prosperi found ways for her second-graders to celebrate autumn and bring books they have been reading to life. After every second-grader read a book that they chose, they completed character study reports, and then created pumpkins that looked like characters from the books they read. When they read *Maria Celebrates Brazil*, a story in the new Wonders series, the students’ learning was enhanced when they tasted a Brazilian dessert called Pudim de Leite Condensado. The treat was made by Nadia Almaita, an ESL teacher.



### Steps To End Breast Cancer

On Sunday, Oct. 28, 52 Academy of Health Science (a.k.a. “H.A.R.P. Academy”) students, six faculty members and Principal Kelli White made strides at the 16th Annual Making Strides for Breast Cancer Walkathon. The event was held at Overpeck County Park in Ridgefield Park. Walkers donned pink attire and raised more than \$1000 for The American Cancer Society.

A couple days earlier, students at The Dr. Frank Napier School of Technology held a walk of their own to end a week of activities to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Funds that were raised were donated to the St. Joseph’s Regional Health Care Foundation.



### Anti-Bullying and Martial Arts at Public School 7

Renshi David, the instructor from the Elite Martial Arts dojo in Rockaway, provided anti-bullying training to students at Public School 7 on Oct. 22. Through David’s different scenarios, students learned what behaviors are considered to be bullying, and what behaviors are not. David also taught students to think about what causes bullying and how to use those ideas to de-escalate a bullying situation without violence or arguing.

“I enjoyed it very much because the trainer made whatever he did funny,” said one seventh-grader, referring to how the event was filled with entertaining and probable scenarios. This student added how he immediately applied strategies he learned into his daily life. “You’ve got to be attentive wherever you go and keep your head up,” he said.



Finally, students were taught ways to mentally and physically demonstrate confidence as a proactive measure, which may reduce the likelihood of a bully attack, according to David.

“If this presentation is able to protect at least one student from being the victim of bullying in the future, then it was well worth it!” said Principal Rebecca Cecala.

### Collaborating And Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

The students from the New Roberto Clemente School and the Newcomers Academy recently collaborated on a Hispanic Heritage Research Project. The purpose of the project was to practice English and Spanish as well as learning to interact with one another. The students had to choose a Spanish-speaking country and research important facts about their country. They also had to create a poster with the relevant information, which culminated in a final presentation for their fellow classmates and the schools’ administrators.

### Last Halloween Hurrahs



To celebrate Halloween, Dale Avenue School students had a costume parade and dance party. Parents were invited and celebrated with their children. Principal Richele Neal dressed as Cruella DeVile and the staff as her 101 Dale Dalmatians. There were also a few staff members who made appearances as trolls.

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## Finding Educational Possibilities with Google

Public School 29 Principal Jorge Ventura recently gave a workshop at William Paterson University for Paterson teachers in using Google applications as part of instruction strategies. His workshop guided teachers in designing assessments with Google Forms, making them available on Google Classroom, and even using applications like Screencastify to create and post films.

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## Upcoming Events

### Nov. 20: Board of Education Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. at John F. Kennedy Educational Complex Rescheduled from 11/14

### Nov. 20: High School CHOICE Open House

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. at JFK Educational Complex (for all 4 academies) Open House

### Nov. 21: Early Dismissal

### Nov. 22 & 23: Thanksgiving

District Closed

### Nov. 26: Attend PCCC Information Session

3:30 p.m. at 90 Delaware Ave., cafeteria

### Nov. 27: Report Card Distribution

5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. for all other Pre-K-8

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