FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 24, 2022

DISTRICT REACHES NEW HIGH IN SUMMER GRADUATES

Contact: Paul Brubaker

973-518-2298

98 diplomas conferred at summer graduation ceremony

Photos Attached: See end of release for captions.

PATERSON – Paterson Public Schools officials today conferred diplomas on 98 high school graduates who completed their requirements for graduation this summer. The number is nearly triple the number of summer graduates in 2019 when the district revived its summer graduation program.

"Today we celebrate nearly 100 people whose lives are back on track now that they have earned their high school diplomas," said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. "Every year we catch more high school students who may have missed their high school graduations because of only a couple of unfulfilled requirements – usually due to hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. I thank Assistant Superintendent Joanna Tsimpedes, Director of Secondary Education William Graulich, the principals, and everyone on the district's credit recovery team for creating the opportunities to help these students make the most of the past few months to become high school graduates."

In June, Paterson Public Schools officials made a concerted outreach effort to students who had only a couple of course requirements to complete before being eligible to receive a high school diploma.

Today's graduation ceremony at Bauerle Field was a result of teachers' and administrators' outreach efforts, and even more so, the efforts of the graduates and their parents who worked through the summer in order to be able to receive their diplomas.

In 2019, the district held its first Summer Graduation ceremony since 2005 and conferred diplomas on 33 high school graduates.

- Photo 1: Summer graduates turn their tassels at today's ceremony at Bauerle Field.
- Photo 2: District administrators applaud the 2022 summer graduates.
- Photo 3: District administrators and Board of Education commissioners confer high school diplomas and congratulate summer graduates.