

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Graduations Return To Hinchliffe

Paterson Public Schools Seniors turn their tassels on Paterson's field of dreams

Captions for photos below

Today marked the return of Paterson Public Schools' graduations since Hinchliffe Stadium was closed in 1996. Graduates of the Class of 2023 took to the field to receive their high school diplomas in two separate ceremonies. For the morning ceremony that started at 9:00 A.M. the students of John F. Kennedy HS, International HS, and the S.T.A.R.S./T.I.E.S. program gathered under cloudy skies. There would be showers several times throughout the ceremony, but continued as planned. The afternoon ceremony that started at 12:30 P.M. would see better weather; occasionally having the sun shine through. The schools that took part were Eastside HS, Paterson STEAM, HS, Rosa Parks HS, Paterson P-TECH HS. Board of Education members, school district administration, school principals and faculty were joined by Paterson Mayor Andre Sayegh to take part in the ceremony.

This would also be the last graduation that Superintendent Shafer presides over as she is retiring at the end of the month. Reflecting on the event she said, "You can say it's a graduation for me as well; leaving behind all that I have come to know as I enter into retirement. For the past 32 years, I have served you and those that have come before, keeping your best interests as my guiding light."

Photo 1: Students of International High School stand ready to get on line to receive their diplomas.

Photo 2: Superintendent Eileen Shafer shakes hands and gives a diploma to a John F. Kennedy graduate.

Photo 3: Parents stand in the rain to cheer their graduates from the bleachers at Hinchliffe Stadium.

Photo 4: Eastside High School graduates wait for their turn to receive their diploma.