



MARION P. THOMAS CHARTER SCHOOL

Superintendent's Report

MAY 14, 2025

ANGELA MINCY, SUPERINTENDENT

Reimagining the Village

Agenda

- Welcome & Mission
- Attendance
- Initiatives & Recognitions
- On the Horizon
- Closing

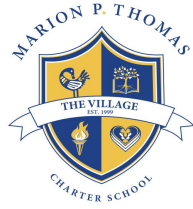


Reimagining the Village



The MPTCS Mission

Reimagining Education - It takes a Village!



The mission of Marion P. Thomas Charter School is to build culturally rich, transformative educational spaces that cultivate successful, lifelong innovators who use their passions, character, and intellect to better themselves, the greater Newark community, and the world beyond.



The Tree of Knowledge



The Torch



The Sankofa



The Tiger

Attendance Data

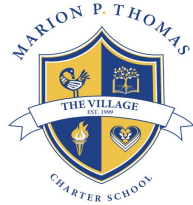


Performance & Operations



Attendance, Academics, & Attitude

Keep it 100%



Strategic Plan Progress			
Campus	Strategic Plan Goal	YTD (8/26-5/13)	+/-
HS	94.00%	92.00%	-2.00%
PAC	94.00%	92.07%	-1.93%
STEAM	96.00%	93.87%	-2.13%
SANKOFA	95.00%	93.52%	-1.48%



Attendance, Academics, & Attitude

Keep it 100%



CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM (YTD)

Campus	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	MAY 2024	MAY 2025
HS	48.20%	32.15%	19.40%	21.16%
PAC	55.30%	36.01%	23.00%	19.77%
STEAM	33.80%	27.01%	24.10%	16.17%
SANKOFA	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.00%
DISTRICT	44.30%	30.50%	22.10%	19.15%

Climate & Culture



*Recognitions, Events,
& Initiatives*



Thank you





**Vice-Principal
Appreciation
Week**

April 7-11, 2025





May 7, 2025



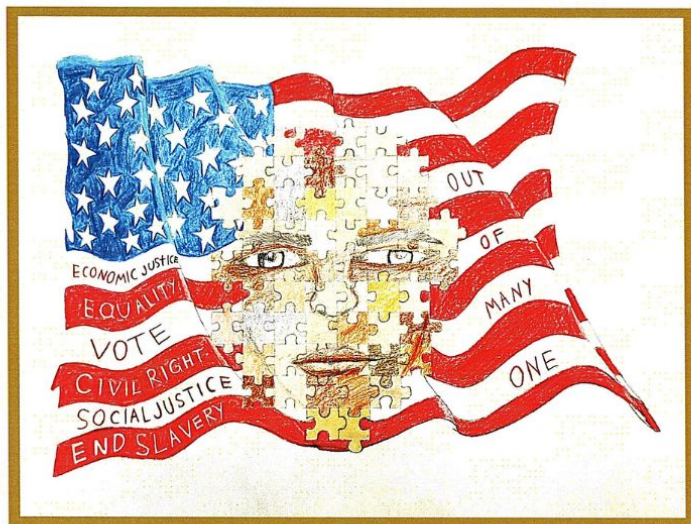
HAPPY
NURSE
DAY





Art Contest

First Place

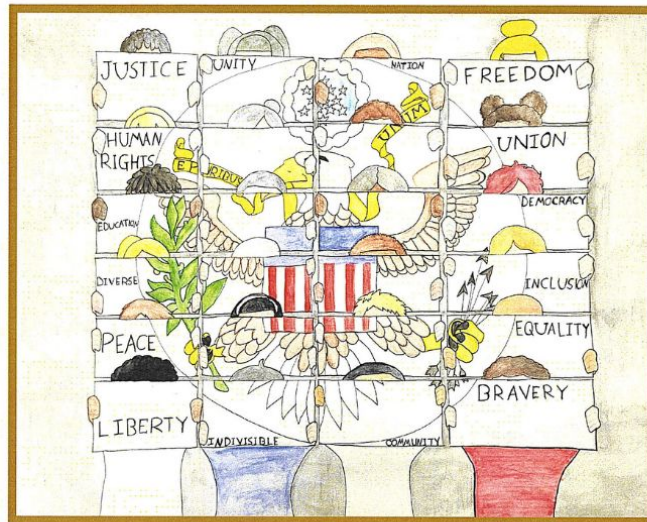


Mubarak Towobade
12th Grade
Marion P. Thomas Charter High School

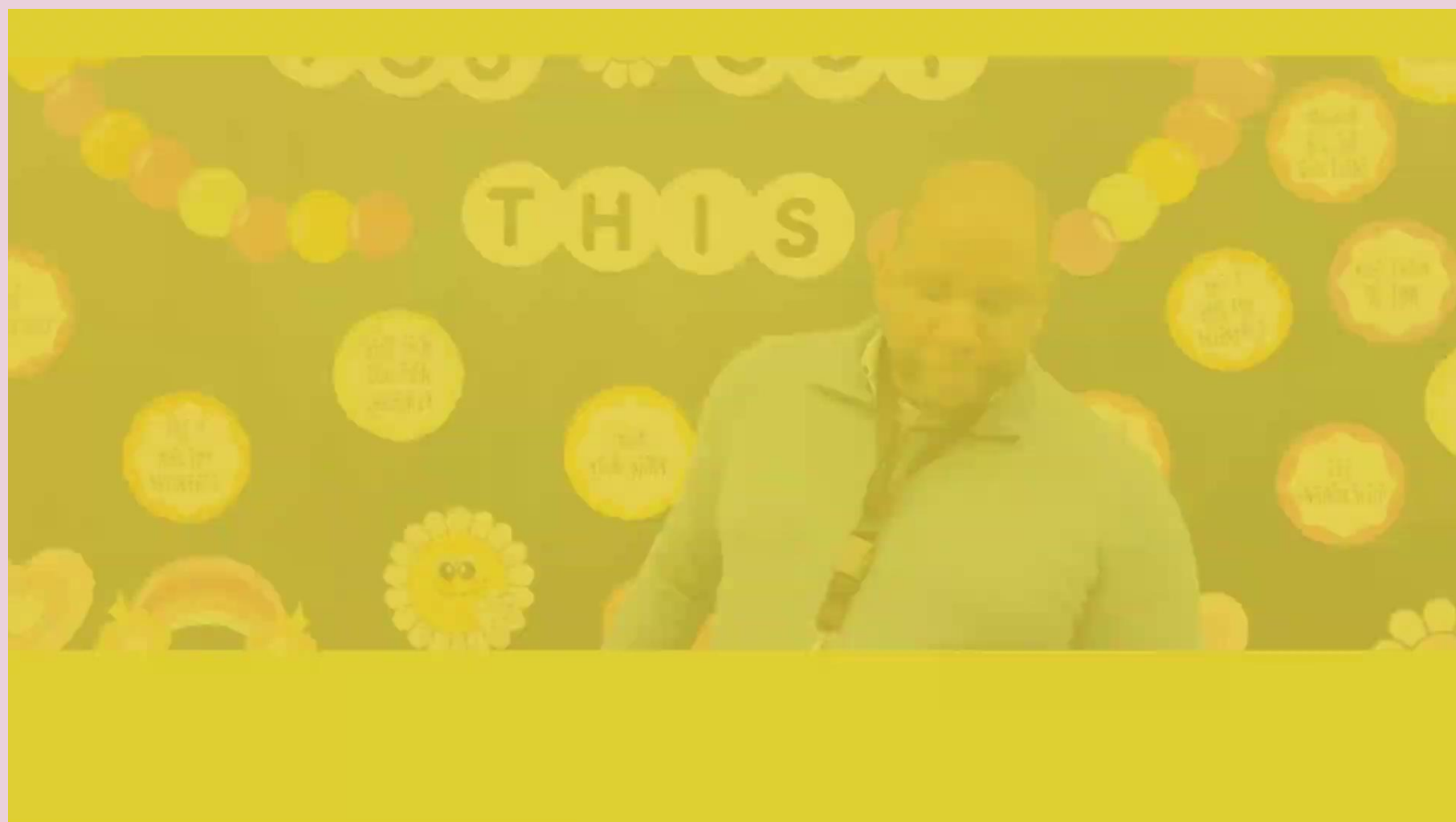


Art Contest

Second Place



Dona Alahasan
12th Grade
Marion P. Thomas Charter High School





Writing Contest

First Place Essay

A Promise Unfilled

By Marie Noel

11th Grade - Marion P. Thomas Charter High School

At the age of three, I left Haiti and arrived in America, a country that was supposed to offer opportunities and unity under one Constitution. Growing up, I quickly realized that while the U.S. prides itself on the idea of *E Pluribus Unum*—"Out of Many, One"—the reality is far more complicated. The Constitution, while foundational to American democracy, has not always promoted unity. Instead, it has often been used to uphold divisions, leaving immigrants like myself in marginalized communities, feeling more excluded than included.

Coming from Haiti, where political instability and economic struggles are common, I was hopeful that America would be different. However, I soon recognized the deep inequalities embedded in American society. From racial discrimination to economic disparities, the Constitution has not prevented division; in many cases, it has reinforced it. Laws originally designed to protect freedom have, throughout history, been used to justify segregation, restrict voting rights, and deny opportunities to those who do not fit the traditional American mold.

As an immigrant, I have personally experienced these contradictions. While the Constitution guarantees freedom and justice, the reality is that many immigrants are treated as outsiders, and their voices are often ignored. The Constitution promises freedom and equality, but those rights have not always been applied equally. I quickly realized that being in America did not necessarily mean I belonged. I had to learn a new language while also working twice as hard to prove myself.

For me, being American does not mean blindly accepting the promises of the Constitution—it means questioning them. It means fighting for a country where unity is not just an ideal written in a document but a reality experienced by all.



Writing Contest

Second Place Essay

Untitled Essay

By Milanie Allison

7th Grade - Marion P. Thomas Charter School

The U.S. Constitution serves as the foundation of American democracy, ensuring that the rights of individuals are protected and that the country remains unified despite its diversity. One of the most essential aspects of the Constitution is its amendments, which allow for the evolution of laws to meet the needs of a changing society. Without amendments, individual rights would be at risk, and marginalized groups might not have the protections they need. Amendments, such as those in the Bill of Rights, safeguard freedoms like speech, religion, and equality, reinforcing the nation's commitment to justice and democracy.

The phrase "Out of Many, One" reflects the idea that the United States is a nation built from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs, yet it functions as a single, united country. This motto aligns with the Constitution's approach to diversity by emphasizing that differences should not divide people but rather strengthen the country. The Constitution promotes this unity by granting rights and protections to all citizens, regardless of their origins. By embracing diversity, the United States fosters innovation, growth, and a sense of national identity that unites people despite their differences.

However, maintaining unity within such a diverse nation presents challenges. The Constitution must balance the rights of individuals with the interests of the collective, which can be difficult given the wide range of political, social, and cultural perspectives in the country. Disagreements over interpretations of constitutional rights, such as free speech and gun ownership, often create tension. Despite these challenges, the Constitution provides a framework for resolving conflicts through democratic processes, ensuring that the nation's unity is preserved while allowing for debate and change.

The preamble of the Constitution begins with the phrase "We the People," which signifies that the government derives its power from the people it serves. This phrase embodies the idea that the United States is a collective effort, where individuals from all backgrounds contribute to the nation's success. By emphasizing inclusivity and shared responsibility, the Constitution envisions a country where diverse groups work together to build a just and prosperous society. The phrase continues to inspire movements for civil rights and social justice, reinforcing the nation's commitment to equality.

** This essay has been condensed to fit the page.*

March Student Spotlight



STEAM Academy

STUDENT
spotlight



Sankofa Academy

STUDENT
spotlight



PAC Academy

STUDENT
spotlight



High School

STUDENT
spotlight

April Student Spotlight



Sankofa Academy



STUDENT
spotlight



PAC Academy



STUDENT
spotlight



High School



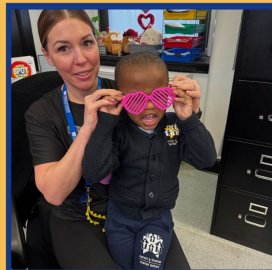
STUDENT
spotlight

March Staff Spotlight



Robert James
High School

EMPLOYEE
spotlight



Lynette Dinardo
PAC Academy

EMPLOYEE
spotlight



Ms. Hinds
Sankofa Academy

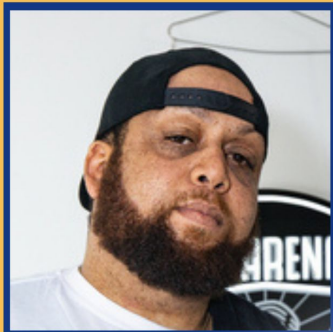
EMPLOYEE
spotlight



Maritza Paisley
STEAM Academy

EMPLOYEE
spotlight

April Staff Spotlight



Mr. Merriweather
High School



EMPLOYEE
spotlight



Diane Romano
PAC Academy



EMPLOYEE
spotlight



Ms. Simmonds
Sankofa Academy



EMPLOYEE
spotlight

March & April Parent Spotlight



Clyde Parker
PAC Academy



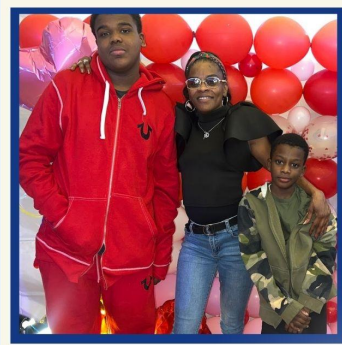
PARENT
spotlight



Mrs. McCoy
Sankofa Academy



PARENT
spotlight



Khalilah Boyd
STEAM Academy



PARENT
spotlight

Not Pictured: Indira Singh, HS; Tashekia Williams, PAC; Jones Family, Sankofa; Chrystal Addison, STEAM Academy

2025 Summer Academy @ PAC

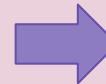
We are excited to partner with Teach for America (TFA) for our 2025 Summer Academy @ PAC!

This is a FREE program open to all students in PreK - Rising 9th Grade from all campuses (PAC, Sankofa, STEAM).

We will offer academic instruction, Social & Emotional Learning (SEL), and enrichment such as art and dance.

Ensure your child is prepared for the next grade and set up for academic success!

Want to learn more? Please join us for our **VIRTUAL Info Session on Tuesday, May 27th.**
Scan the QR Code to register.





PAC Academy
Pre-K Moving Up Ceremony
Thurs., June 12th, 9:00am
Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony
Thurs., June 12th, 11:00 am
8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony
Fri., June 13th, 9:00 am
PAC Auditorium

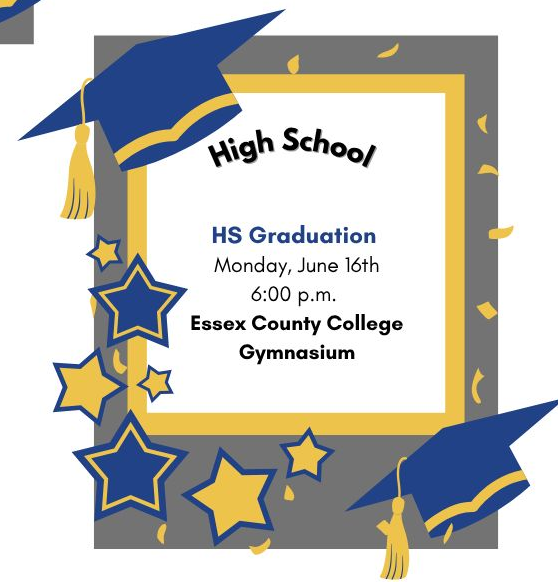


STEAM Academy
Pre-K Moving Up Ceremony
Thurs., June 12th, 11:00 am
Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony
Thurs., June 12th, 9:00 am
8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony
Fri., June 13th, 9:00 am
STEAM Gymnasium

*Congratulations
to the Class of
2025*



Sankofa Academy
Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony
Thursday, June 12th
9:00 am
Multipurpose Room



High School
HS Graduation
Monday, June 16th
6:00 p.m.
**Essex County College
Gymnasium**






THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

Reimagining the Village

Moving Up Ceremonies & Graduations in The Village

June is a time for CELEBRATION and we are proud of all of our scholars who are 'Moving Up' or Graduating!




Event	Date	Time	Location
PAC Pre-K Moving Up Ceremony	Thursday, June 12th	9:00 am	Pac Auditorium
PAC Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony	Thursday, June 12th	11:00 am	PAC Auditorium
PAC 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony	Friday, June 13th	9:00 am	PAC Auditorium

Event	Date	Time	Location
Sankofa Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony	Thursday, June 12th	9:00 am	Sankofa Multipurpose Room

Event	Date	Time	Location
STEAM Pre-K Moving Up Ceremony	Thursday, June 12th	11:00 am	STEAM Gymnasium
STEAM Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony	Thursday, June 12th	9:00 am	STEAM Gymnasium
STEAM 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony	Friday, June 13th	9:00 am	STEAM Gymnasium

Event	Date	Time	Location
HS Graduation	Monday, June 16th	6:00 pm	Essex County College Gymnasium

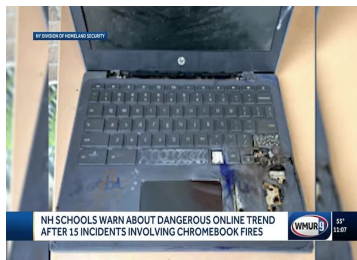


Responding to the "Chromebook Challenge"



What is it?

A dangerous trend where students damage Chromebooks to cause sparks, smoke, or fires.



In the news:

Belleville, NJ – 15-year-old charged with arson after inserting metal into Chromebook, causing fire and evacuation.

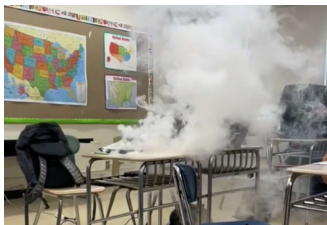
[Source](#)

Long Beach, CA – 13-year-old arrested for arson after participating in the challenge.

[Source](#)

Southington, CT – Two teens arrested for causing laptop fire; school evacuated.

[Source](#)



Our Response:

- ❑ A letter was sent home to all families warning them about the Chromebook challenge.
- ❑ School leaders will address this topic directly during convocations.
- ❑ Teachers received the same letter so they can reinforce expectations during homeroom and via ClassDojo.
- ❑ Tech specialists implemented increased monitoring of devices and encouraged staff to report any concerning incidents.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

I.T. DIRECTOR: ANTHONY AVERY

May 14, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to inform you of a **concerning and hazardous trend** circulating on social media platforms, particularly TikTok, known as the #ChromebookChallenge or #ChromebookDurabilityTest. This trend encourages students to insert metal objects, such as paper clips, pushpins, or mechanical pencil leads, into the charging ports of their school-issued Chromebooks, causing **electrical short circuits that can lead to fires**.

This behavior has already resulted in dangerous incidents across several states, including school evacuations due to fires and toxic smoke. The trend not only poses serious safety risks but also leads to significant disruptions in the learning environment and damage to school property.

Please understand that any attempt to tamper with or damage school property, including Chromebooks, is considered a serious offense. As outlined in the student handbook (page 26, paragraph 2): "Users may not intentionally or negligently damage computers, computer systems, electronic devices, software, computer networks, or data of any user connected to school system technological resources."

The consequences for engaging in such behavior will be significant. Students who deliberately damage their Chromebooks or engage in any form of property destruction may face **expulsion from school**. Parents or guardians will be held financially responsible for the full cost of repairing or replacing the device, as well as for any damage to school buildings or facilities. Fines for Chromebook damage range from \$190 to \$350, depending on the model. In addition, such actions may result in potential criminal charges.

We understand that students may sometimes engage in trends without fully understanding the potential consequences. Therefore, we **strongly encourage you to discuss this matter with your child**, emphasizing the importance of responsible device use and the serious ramifications of damaging school property. School-issued Chromebooks are tools for learning and must be treated with care.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Avery at AAvery@mpctcs.org.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter and for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

Sincerely,

Anthony Avery
I.T. Director