



THE PULSE

The Heartbeat of the District.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

SEPTEMBER 2025 | VOL. 4



¡Feliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana!
Join Paterson Public Schools in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month.

Strong Start: District Hosts First Principals Meeting of the Year

Greetings Paterson Public Schools Community,

On Friday, September 19th, we welcomed all of our principals to Central Office for the first principals meeting of the school year.

Guided by the Five Levers for accelerating student achievement, as outlined in the Paterson Progress Plan, these monthly meetings are designed to keep principals informed on best practices for leading their schools, while also providing valuable updates from district leadership. They also create space for collaboration among principals – a time to share successes, identify areas for improvement, and engage in honest, solution-focused conversations. These important discussions often lead to real-time changes that directly support our students and staff.

It's always inspiring to see such dedicated and talented leaders coming together with a shared goal: to ensure that every student receives the highest quality educational experience possible.

The inaugural meeting of this academic year focused on programming aligned with Lever Four of the Paterson Progress Plan: Principal Capacity. From strengthening school safety protocols to refining instructional model implementation and enhancing leadership development, the work being done is designed to empower our principals to create strong, positive learning environments across the district.

The efforts of our principals and teachers in recent years have had a profound impact on student outcomes. We've seen measurable progress in academic performance and consistent improvement in student attendance – progress that begins in meetings like this one. Our school leaders remain open to constructive feedback and committed to continuous improvement, always keeping students at the center of their work.

Thank you for your continued support of Paterson Public Schools. Enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Laurie W. Newell
Superintendent of Schools



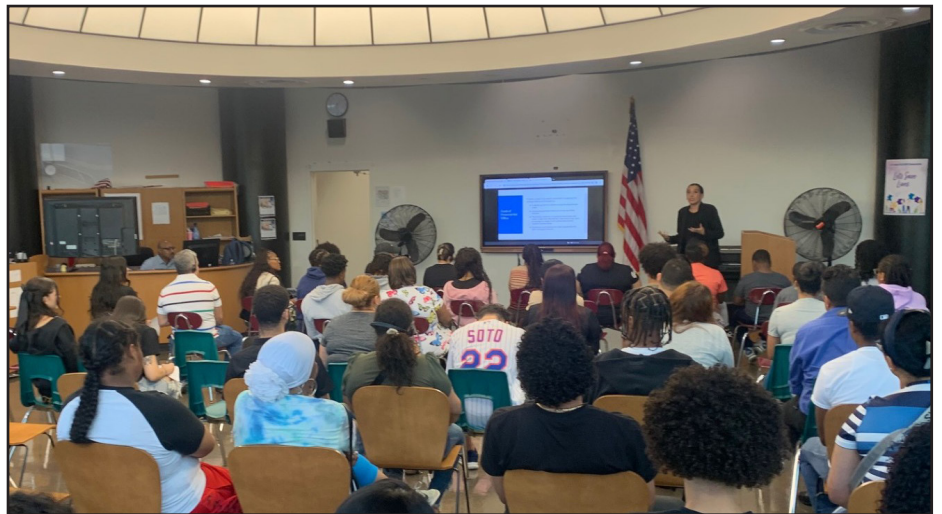
BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT: A FULL HOUSE OF FUTURE-READY STUDENTS



Paterson P-Tech High School was packed with energy and excitement during this year's Back to School Night. Thanks to the dedication of our Guidance Department, two of P-Tech's largest spaces were filled to capacity.

In the Planetarium, juniors were guided by Ms. Wisdom, who led an engaging session on graduation requirements, and important first steps in planning for college and career pathways. Meanwhile, the Media Center was standing-room-only as seniors and their families participated in a comprehensive session on financial aid, led by Ms. Bostick and supported by guest speakers.

The turnout was remarkable, with more than 120 juniors and seniors participating in these sessions—and that's not even counting the many freshmen and sophomore families who were engaged in activities downstairs. The evening was a huge success and reflected the strong commitment of P-Tech students, families, and staff to preparing for the future.



DR. FRANK NAPIER JR. SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY HOSTS BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



Dr. Frank Napier Jr. School of Technology put on a hugely successful Back to School Bash as over 280 people from its school community attended the event.

Families, students, and community members came together to kick off the school year with excitement and support. Thanks to the generosity of DFNS' partners and volunteers, students received free backpacks and school supplies. Organizations such as the Paterson Task Force, Boys and Girls Club, Hackensack Meridian Health, Girl Scouts of NJ, Renew Life Center, and many others, came together to share valuable resources to our entire community. The event also featured a sizzling BBQ, an Italian ice cream cart, fun activities, music, and a dance class by Essence Dance Studioz.

The DFNS community was grateful to everyone who attended the event and volunteered their time. Their support made the celebration possible.



JFK BOYS SOCCER STARTS THEIR SEASON OFF STRONG



Off to one of its best starts in years, the John F. Kennedy High School boys soccer team has looked impressive in the early part of the 2025 season, as the Knights own a 5-1 record entering this weekend. JFK won the Passaic County championship in 2022.

The Knights started this season with a 3-0 mark with wins over Teaneck, Eastside, and Passaic Tech. Despite getting tripped up in a 3-1 loss against Clifton on September 18th, JFK bounced back in a big way as it went on to post a 1-0 double overtime victory against East Orange on September 22nd, followed by a gritty 1-0 win over Bergen Tech on September 25th.

JFK is back in action on Tuesday, September 30th, as it hits the road to take on Passaic at 4:30 PM. [Click here to view the Knights' 2025 schedule.](#)

News Clips

[Kennedy Edges East Orange in Double Overtime Thriller](#)
September 23, 2025

[Paulino Goal Lifts Paterson Kennedy Past Bergen County Tech](#)
September 25, 2025



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COMING UP NEXT WEEK

October 2 Yom Kippur - District Closed

[Full 2025-2026 School Calendar Here](#)

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The **Board of Education Workshop Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, October 8th, at 90 Delaware Ave. Those wishing to provide public comments must do so in person and are required to register for the meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 PM.

The **Board of Education Regular Meeting** will take place virtually on Wednesday, October 15th. Those wishing to provide public comments are required to register for the meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 PM.

Online language interpretation is available for all pre-recorded Board meetings in Spanish, Arabic, Bengali, and Turkish. Simply select your preferred language at pps.eduvision.tv/LiveEvents.

The District Newsletter is a publication of the Department of Communications.

We welcome your submissions on school and district-related news.

Submit stories and photos by using our newly launched **Newsletter Submissions** form.

This form can be found on our Communications page at www.paterson.k12.nj.us

Questions? Email us at ppscommunications@paterson.k12.nj.us

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