



THE PULSE

The Heartbeat of the District.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

OCTOBER 2025 | VOL. 5

October 1 – 31

NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 
*Paterson - A Promising Tomorrow
Together We Can*

Greetings Paterson Public Schools Community,

This week, I want to dedicate this space to the principals that represent Paterson Public Schools.

October 1st marks the beginning of National Principals Month, a time to recognize the hard work and unwavering dedication that principals bring to their schools and districts. Here in Paterson, our principals are committed to student success each and every day. From supporting teachers, to managing daily operations, to ensuring student well-being, the impact our principals have on our school communities is indescribable. Happy National Principals Month and thank you for all you do!

Thank you all for reading and enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Laurie W. Newell
Superintendent of Schools

THANK YOU, PRINCIPALS!

UNIT I

School 2 Dr. Vanessa Serrano
School 8 Gisela Adorno
Charles J. Riley School/School 9 Domenico Carriero
School 13 Nicole Booker-Toney
School 20 Michael Hill
María Magda O’Keefe School. Dr. Florita Cotto
School 25 Antoinette Young
Anna Iandoli Early Learning Center. Stanley Sumter
Dr. Hani Awadallah School Bridget Naveira
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Complex Dr. Jalyn E. Lyde
Young Men’s Leadership Academy. Marc Medley

UNIT II

Renaissance One Dr. Michael DuBose (Vice Principal)
School 10 Dr. Tiffany McBride
School 15 Ramona Garcia
School 16 Nancy Tavarez-Correa
School 18 Deyanira Cartagena
School 21 Edgard Nieves
School 26 Derrick Hoff
Edward W. Kilpatrick/Dual Learning Program Jose Correa
New Roberto Clemente/Newcomers Program. Sham Bacchus
Roberto Clemente School. Steven Rodriguez
. Carlita Rodriguez (Interim)
Frank R. Lautenberg School Althea Brown

UNIT III

School 5 Richard Sanducci, Jr.
School 7 Pamela Powell
School 12 Boblyn Ranger-Dobbs
School 19 Dewitt Evinger
School 27 Kelli White
School 28/Academy of Gifted & Talented Nancy Castro
Alexander Hamilton Academy. Cosmo Braico
Dale Avenue School. Rebecca Cecala
Dr. Frank Napier, Jr. School of Science & Technology Derwin Smith
Joseph A. Taub School Dr. Jorge Ventura
Norman S. Weir School Grace Giglio

UNIT IV

Alonzo “Tambua” Moody Academy Nicole Payne
Eastside High School Dr. Dorothy Douge
International High School. Dr. Catherine Forfia
John F. Kennedy High School. JoAnne Riviello
Newcomers High School Miguel Sosa
Paterson Adult & Continuing Education Amod Field
Paterson P-Tech High School Dr. Charla Holder
Paterson STEAM High School. Dr. Nellista Bess
Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts. Kaela Quince-McMillan
STARS Academy/STARS T.I.E.S. Program. Dr. Nellista Bess

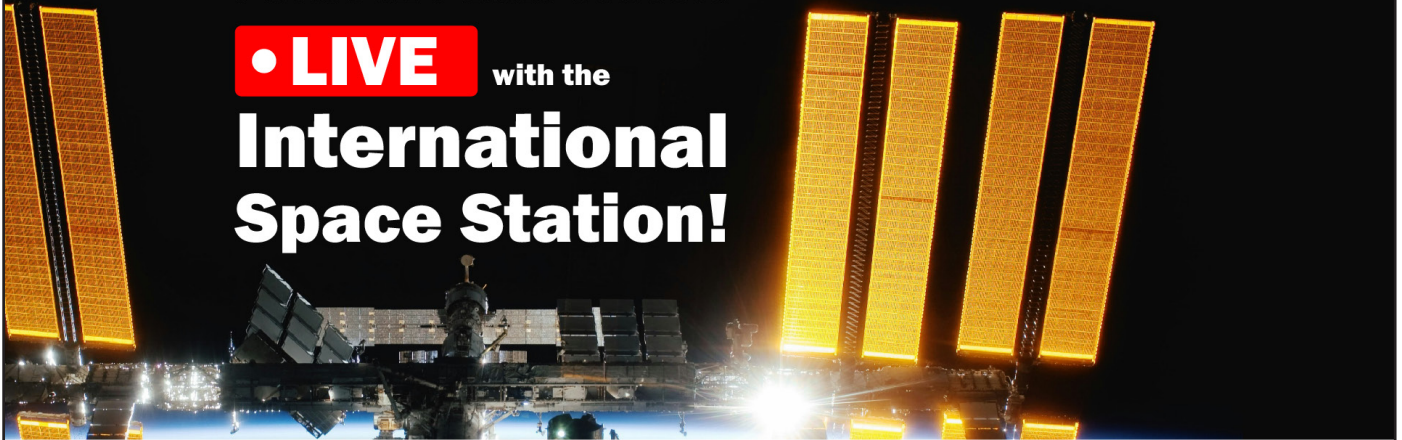


Live October 6th

Paterson Public Schools

• **LIVE** with the

International Space Station!



A dozen Paterson Public Schools students will participate in a live, voice-only communication with the International Space Station (ISS) on Monday, October 6th! [Click here to watch the live stream that will begin at 9:20 AM](#), with students expecting to make contact with ISS at approximately 10:24 AM.

PPS RECOGNIZES BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



The PPS Central Office Culture & Climate Committee recognized the first day of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing pink on Wednesday, October 1st. The Committee setup an awareness table in the Central Office lobby that had Breast Cancer Awareness bracelets, encouraged staff to make a donation, and offered a place to share messages of hope and support. All proceeds were donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

VPS GATHER FOR FIRST MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR



Paterson Public Schools' vice principals gathered at Central Office for their first monthly vice principals meeting of the school year. Vice principals were briefed on multiple topics that ranged from payroll and budgeting, to leveraging leadership and student culture. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Rodney A. Henderson lead the professional development meeting. Words of wisdom were shared with this vital group of leaders during the morning and afternoon sessions.



Follow us on Social Media!



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@Paterson_Public



@paterson_public_schools_nj



@paterson-public-schools

OPEN ENROLLMENT HAS STARTED!



EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Paterson Public Schools' annual insurance open enrollment period is about to begin! Open enrollment runs from October 1-31 and the district offers multiple options to meet the individual needs of staff members and their dependents.

As a reminder, open enrollment is the one and only time of year when you can make any adjustments to your plan elections for the upcoming plan year. [Click on this to view benefit guides, benefits information, and enrollment information.](#)

JOB FAIR FALL SERIES CONTINUES LATER THIS MONTH

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In-Person Certified Teacher Job Fair Fall Series

Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Wednesday, October 29, 2025

4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

1st Floor Cafe
90 Delaware Ave
Paterson, NJ 07503

Join Us!

- On-site interviews and offers
- Competitive salary
- Generous benefits package
- Tuition reimbursement

Click or scan here to register today!

The Paterson Public Schools' Department of Human Resources will host its second In-Person Certified Teacher Job Fair at Central Office on Wednesday, October 29th, from 4 PM to 7 PM.

The department, led by Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Luis Rojas, hosted three in-person job fairs over the Summer which helped lead to a significantly reduced number of teacher vacancies at the start of the school year.

Along with hosting virtual teacher certification fairs, which offer invaluable resources to those interested in becoming a certified teacher, the Human Resources department will continue to hold job fairs at Central Office as the 2025-2026 school year continues.

OCTOBER SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Hello October 2025! October is here and with it comes pumpkins, costumes, and just a little spooky fun! But no tricks—only treats—from your Self-Care Calendar to keep your spirits lifted all month long!

As the days grow shorter and the nights get a little chillier, nature reminds us that change can be both mysterious and beautiful. Just like the falling leaves, October invites us to let go of what weighs us down and make space for renewal.

So light your candles, cozy up with a blanket and remember caring for yourself is the best kind of magic potion.

Mantra for October:

“I embrace the beauty of change as leaves transform, knowing that growth comes from letting go.”

Monthly Sunshine provides bite-sized doses of inspiration, contain powerful messages and take less than a minute to read, yet have the ability to light up the day, touch a life, evoke change and end limited beliefs.

[Click here to view your reflection for the month.](#)



OCTOBER 2025 SELF-CARE CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Write down 3 things you're looking forward to this month	2 Call or text a loved one you haven't spoken to in a while	3 Create a DIY Fall craft	4 Light a fall-scented candle or enjoy your favorite warm drink
5 Play a family board game or card game	6 Eat a healthy snack	7 Create a vision board	8 Spend 5 minutes practicing deep breathing	9 Drink an extra glass of water today	10 Do a screen-free hour with your family	11 Cook or bake something seasonal
12 Try a new recipe for dinner or dessert	13 Try a 10-minute stretch or yoga session	14 Declutter one small space	15 Write down 3 things you're grateful for today	16 Write down 5 qualities you appreciate about yourself	17 Make a to-do list and cross off one task	18 Watch a family-friendly fall movie together
19 Take a short family walk and enjoy the fall leaves	20 Do a quick stretch before starting your day	21 Share one positive thought at dinner	22 Start a journal	23 Start a "gratitude jar" with your family	24 Do something kind for a coworker or neighbor	25 Attend a local sporting event
26 Try a calming activity before bed	27 Carve a pumpkin	28 Spend 15 minutes reading something uplifting	29 Start a new routine	30 Write down one thing you've accomplished this month	31 Indulge in a sweet treat	

This information is provided to you by:
 PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Department of Student Support Services
 200 South Street, Paterson, NJ 07651
 Office: (973) 321-6000 | StudentSupport@paterson.k12.nj.us

OCTUBRE 2025 CALENDARIO DE CUIDADOS PERSONALES						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Escribe 3 cosas que esperas con ilusión este mes	2 Llama o envía texto a un ser querido que no has hablado con.	3 Crea una artesanía de otoño	4 Enciende una vela con aroma a otoño o disfruta tu bebida caliente favorita.
5 Juegue un juego de mesa o de cartas familiar.	6 Come un bocadillo saludable	7 Crear un tablero de visión	8 Dedica 5 minutos a practicar la respiración profunda.	9 Bebe un vaso extra de agua hoy	10 Pasa una hora sin pantallas con tu familia	11 Cocinar u hornear algo de temporada
12 Prueba una nueva receta para cenar o el postre.	13 Prueba una sesión de estirar o yoga por 10 minutos.	14 Arregla un espacio pequeño	15 Escribe 3 cosas por las que estás agradecido hoy	16 Escribe 5 cualidades que aprecias de ti mismo.	17 Haz una lista de tareas por hacer y tacha una.	18 Vean juntos una película de otoño para toda la familia
19 Dé un breve paseo en familia y disfrute de las hojas de otoño.	20 Haz un estiramiento rápido antes de empezar el día.	21 Comparte un pensamiento positivo en la cena.	22 Empezar un diario	23 Empieza un "tarro de gratitud" con tu familia	24 Hacer algo amable para un compañero de trabajo o vecina	25 Asistir a un evento deportivo local
26 Prueba una actividad relajante antes de acostarse.	27 Labrar una calabaza	28 Dedica 15 minutos a leer algo inspirador.	29 Iniciar una nueva rutina	30 Escribe una cosa que hayas logrado este mes.	31 Disfrute de un dulce capricho	

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THE GROWING GARDENERS BLOOM AT RENAISSANCE ONE



Fall is here and the students of Renaissance One School of Humanities rolled up their sleeves to tend to their award-winning garden. Renaissance One's gardeners saw their own organically planted pumpkin patch survive the summer heat and they were excited to harvest a total of five pumpkins, with more on the vines.

From September 22-26, in celebration of New Jersey Agricultural Literacy Week, students read stories about the important work that farmers do. They also learned why New Jersey is called "The Garden State" and is a big part of the regional agricultural community. These studies connected School One's English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies curriculum while feeding their students' curiosity about the world around them.

The school garden has provided Renaissance One students with opportunities to engage in hands-on activities like planting, weeding, watering, pruning, and harvesting a crop. Teachers use these experiences to make real-world connections to text and make learning come alive.

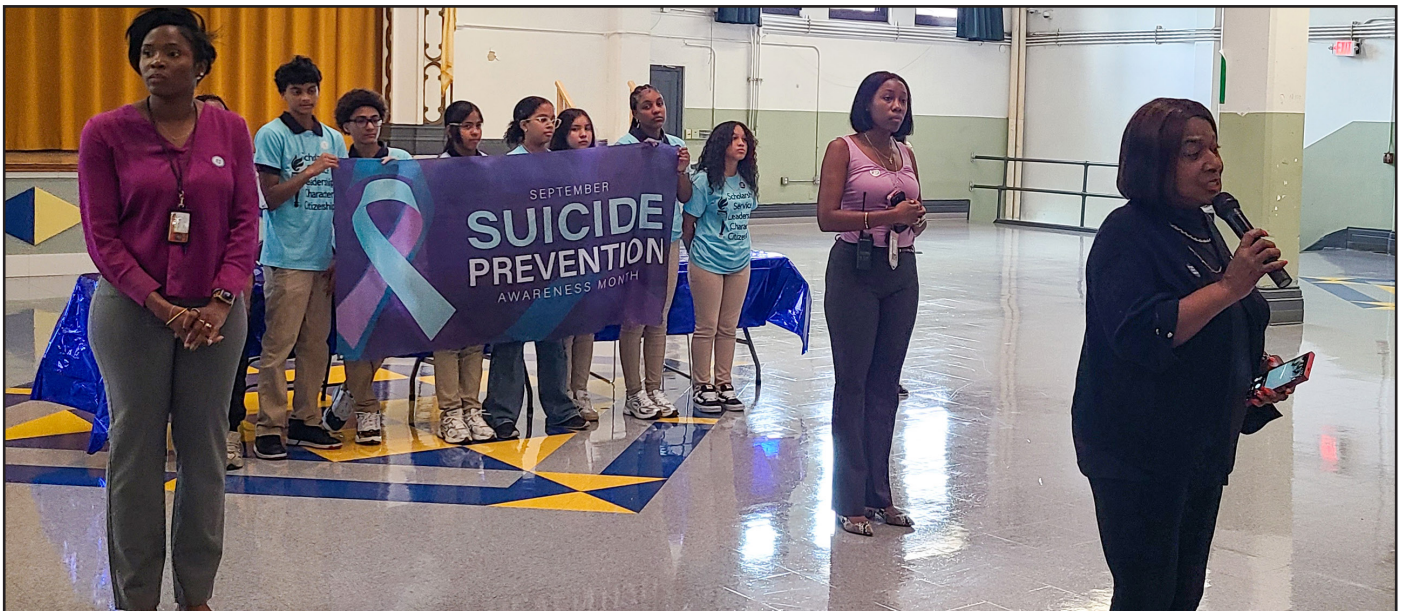


JFK FAMILIES GATHER FOR ANNUAL DADS WITH DONUTS EVENT



As families dropped students off at John F. Kennedy High School last week, staff members engaged with fathers, uncles, and grandfathers as part of the school's annual Dads with Donuts event. JFK staff served donuts, coffee, informative literature, and friendly conversation about their children's education and future.

SCHOOL 10 HOSTS TITANS WALK OF HOPE



The School 10 community gathered on September 29th for the Titans Walk of Hope, a meaningful event dedicated to raising awareness for suicide prevention and promoting mental health. Students and staff walked side-by-side to honor those we have lost, support those who are struggling, and spread a message of hope.

Present was the Community Police of Paterson and Councilwoman Ruby Cotton as they stood united in breaking the silence, ending the stigma, and reminding everyone that help is always available.

EASTSIDE MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE UP FOR USA FOOTBALL AWARD

**2025
NOMINEE
VOTE NOW**

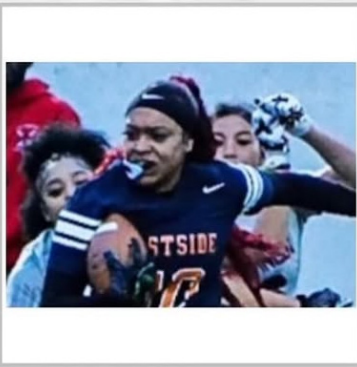


Eastside High School junior Khori Muckle is one of 20 high school students from the Tri-State Area who are nominated for the USA Football Heart of a Giant Award.

The award, which is sponsored by Hospital for Special Surgery and the New York Giants, recognizes high school students from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut who demonstrate an unparalleled work ethic and passion for the game of football.

Muckle is a model student-athlete who excels on the field and in the classroom. An Honor Roll student through the first four marking periods of her high school career, Muckle plays volleyball, flag football, and basketball for the Ghosts. She earned all-league recognition on the basketball court and stars at wide receiver for the Eastside flag football team. Muckle is also heavily involved in multiple local initiatives, volunteering the little free time she has to give back to her community.

One vote is permitted every 24 hours and voting closes on October 12th. [Click here to vote for Khori!](#)



NOMINEE



Khori Muckle

Paterson Eastside High School
Paterson, NJ

Inspiring Greatness
On & Off The Field

EASTSIDE, JFK GET SET FOR PASSAIC COUNTY TOURNAMENT



John F. Kennedy High School and Eastside High School's soccer teams will represent their schools in the upcoming boys Passaic County soccer tournaments.

Eastside boys soccer won their play-in game, 1-0, at Hawthorne High School on September 27th to advance in the bracket. They'll next head to ninth-seeded Manchester Regional High School on October 1st to play its next preliminary round game. JFK boys soccer earned the number four seed and a bye to the quarterfinal round where they'll play their first county tournament game by October 11th.

PPS IN THE NEWS

Eastside Girls Soccer Dominates East Orange, Earns First Win of Season
September 27, 2025

Eastside's Boys Soccer Edges Hawthorne 1-0 for First Win of Season
September 28, 2025

Technology, Paterson Eastside battle to tie -- Girls soccer recap
Sep. 30, 2025

Technology, Eastside Girls Soccer Teams Battle to 2-2 Tie
October 1, 2025

Paterson Students to Speak Live with Astronaut Aboard International
Space Station
October 3, 2025



Have a story you'd like to share?

- Stories highlighting school activities or recognitions (i.e., awards)
- Inspiring stories involving students, teachers, and staff
- Fun events that took place at your school or in the community involving students, teachers, and staff

[Use our Newsletter Submission Google Form](#)

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

October 10. Progress Reports (Grades PreK-12)

[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.

Those wishing to provide public comments for the **Board of Education Regular Meeting** that will be conducted virtually on Wednesday, October 15th 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 **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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