



# THE PULSE

*The Heartbeat of the District.*

## PPS ENACTS EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

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

### PPS EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE

#### DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thousands of families in our community have been affected by the government shut-down and delay in receiving their SNAP benefits. The Paterson Public School District is committed to ensuring that our students and their families do not go hungry during this difficult time. Please support our efforts by donating essential items that will be distributed to families in need.

**ITEMS WE'RE COLLECTING:**


NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Canned goods
- Pasta, rice, and dry grains
- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Bottled water
- Shelf-stable milk
- Juice packs

Please ensure all food items are sealed and within expiration date

**DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

Donations will be accepted at all district locations



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

### PPS EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE

Paterson Public Schools has launched an emergency food drive to support district families affected by the temporary suspension of SNAP benefits, amid the ongoing federal government shut-down.

The district is committed to ensuring that our students and their families do not go hungry during this difficult time. We have organized the distribution of donated food as per the following:

## DISTRIBUTION SITE

**FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY CENTER  
(MADISON K)  
512 MARKET STREET  
PATERSON, NJ  
MONDAY - FRIDAY | 9AM - 6PM**



Food will not be distributed on the following dates due to school closure:  
November 6, 7, 11, 27, and 28, 2025

Paterson Public Schools has launched an emergency food drive to support district families affected by the temporary suspension of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) amid the ongoing federal government shutdown.

Food will be collected at all schools and district-affiliated locations. The food will be distributed at the Paterson Public Schools Full Service Community Center (Madison K), located at 512 Market Street in Paterson, from 9 AM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday. Due to school closures, food will not be distributed on November 6, 7, 11, 27, and 28.

Paterson Public Schools welcomes donations from staff, community members, vendors, and local organizations. Non-perishable food items—including canned goods, rice, pasta, cereal, peanut butter, and shelf-stable milk—are especially needed to help sustain families during this emergency.

Those wishing to donate may call the district's office of Family and Community Engagement at 973-321-0879 to arrange delivery or pick-up. For updates and more information about the emergency food drive, please visit the [Paterson Public Schools website](#).

## SCHOOL NO. 28 NAMED BEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN NEW JERSEY

**CONGRATULATIONS,  
SCHOOL NO. 28!**

**BEST**  
U.S. News & World Report  
**RANKINGS**

**#1 Elementary School  
in New Jersey**

**#2 Middle School  
in New Jersey**

Paterson Public Schools' School No. 28 has once again earned the prestigious title of Best Elementary School in the state of New Jersey, as announced by U.S. News & World Report. This marks the second consecutive year that School No. 28 has received this honor. The respected publication also ranked School No. 28 as the second-best middle school in the Garden State.

"I want to congratulate the staff and students at School No. 28 on this amazing accomplishment," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell. "To sustain this level of excellence year after year is a testament to the work that Principal Nancy Castro, teachers, parents, and our young learners put forth every day. The staff and students at School No. 28 continue to set the standard for what is attainable for all our district, as Paterson Public Schools continues to raise the bar for student achievement."

Visit our website to read the complete [press release](#).

## SUPPORT THE BUNDT CAKE FUNDRAISER!

The PPS Central Office Culture & Climate Committee is partnering with Nothing Bundt Cakes in support of the End of Year Barbecue! All proceeds from this fundraiser will help offset event costs and ensure a memorable celebration for all.

All orders and payments must be received by Friday, November 7th. Orders will be ready for pick-up on Tuesday, November 25th. [Click here to order](#).

8" BUNDT CAKE

BUNDTLETS

10" BUNDT CAKE

*The Sweetest Way to Support*

## DISTRICT CONCLUDES CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Paterson Public Schools' collective celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month came to a triumphant conclusion this week as the district presented its Hispanic Heritage Month video at the Board of Education workshop meeting on November 5th.

The video features dozens of district schools and it proudly showcases student artwork, performances, and presentations. [Click here to view the district's Hispanic Heritage Month video.](#)

## HUMAN RESOURCES TO HOLD VIRTUAL CERTIFIED TEACHER JOB FAIR

Paterson Public Schools' Department of Human Resources will host a Virtual Certified Teacher Job Fair on November 18th from 3:30 PM to 6 PM via the Brazen/Radancy Virtual Job Fair Platform.

The fair is for prospective teachers that are certified by the New Jersey Department of Education, or have recently applied for certification and are waiting for it to be issued. For information on job fairs and more, visit our [website](#).

Led by Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Luis Rojas, the Department of Human Resources also hosts virtual teacher certification fairs, which offer invaluable resources to those interested in becoming a certified teacher. Their hiring efforts helped lead to a significantly reduced number of teacher vacancies at the start of the 2025-2026 academic year.



# NOVEMBER SELF-CARE CALENDAR

November is here — a season of gratitude, comfort, and care! As the days grow shorter and the air turns brisk, it's nature's gentle reminder to slow our pace and nurture what truly matters. Just as we wrap ourselves in scarves and sweaters, let's also wrap our minds and hearts in kindness and rest.

This month, may we pause between the busy moments to notice the good — a shared laugh, a warm cup of coffee, a breath of crisp morning air.










Self-care doesn't always mean doing more; sometimes it's simply allowing ourselves to be.

Let's fill November with gratitude, gentleness, and a whole lot of self-care.

## Mantra for November:







Gratitude warms my spirit on even the coldest days. Kindness is the fire that keeps my heart glowing.

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

NOVEMBER 2025 SELF-CARE CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Try a DIY face mask
Journal for 15 minutes in the evening  2	Stretch for 15 minutes 3	Do a crossword  4	Play music and dance in the living room 5	Do a quick workout at home 6	Catch up on your favorite TV show  7	Soak your feet with epsom salt 8
Meal prep or meal plan for the week 9	Add some fairy lights to your living room 10	Call a loved one 11	Enjoy take out  12	Repeat positive affirmations 13	Watch a stand up comedy special 14	Work on a small DIY project you would enjoy 15
Host a game night with friends at home 16	Dance to your favorite song  17	Look through happy photos on your phone 18	Make your favorite dinner 19	Journal your goals 20	Meditate  21	Make your favorite brunch dish at home 22
Visualize the perfect day  23	Watch the sunset and think about happy memories 24	Start a new book  25	Write down things you are grateful for 26	Make a list of your achievements so far this year 27	Go for a nature walk 28	Have a movie night  29
Take an afternoon nap 30						



BE-LEAF  
in yourself

NOVIEMBRE 2025 CALENDARIO DE CUIDADOS PERSONALES						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Prueba una mascarilla facial casera
Escribe un diario por 15 minutos en la noche.  2	Estirarse durante 15 minutos 3	Hacer un crucigrama  4	Jugar música y baila en la sala. 5	Haz un entrenamiento rápido en casa 6	Ponte al día con tu programa de televisión favorito  7	Remoja tus pies con sal de Epsom 8
Preparación o plan de comidas para la semana 9	Añade algunas luces de hadas a tu sala. 10	Llama a un ser querido 11	Disfrute para llevar  12	Repetir afirmaciones positivas. 13	Mira un especial de comedia stand up 14	Trabaja en un pequeño proyecto que puedas hacer tú y que disfrutes. 15
Organizar una noche de juegos con amistades en casa 16	Baila tu canción favorita  17	Mira fotos felices en tu teléfono 18	Haz tu cena favorita 19	Escribe tus objetivos 20	Meditar  21	Prepara tu plato de brunch favorito en casa 22
Visualiza el día perfecto  23	Mira la puesta de sol y piensa en recuerdos felices. 24	Empezar un nuevo libro  25	Escribe las cosas que estás agradecido por. 26	Haz una lista de tus logros hasta ahora este año. 27	Sal a caminar por la naturaleza 28	Tener una noche de cine  29
Tomar una siesta por la tarde 30						

## CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM GROWING AT EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL



The culinary arts program at Eastside High School continues to grow with enrollment in the program rising and cuisine options multiplying.

Led by Pathway Associate Supervisor Mr. Justin Rogoff, culinary arts students operate in a full-service kitchen every day as they develop an ever-changing weekly lunch menu available to staff, create pastries and desserts, and continue to build a catering service capable handling events for over 300 guests.

Academically, the program has adopted dual enrollment credits and student learning objectives from Passaic County Community College. Each successful year of the three-year course of study will earn students college credits from PCCC at no cost to the student. In addition, professional portfolios of diverse cuisines are being created by students to use for job interviews, professional seminars, and national culinary competitions. Students are also on track to earn their OSHA 10, SafeServe Food Handler, and SafeServe Food Manager certifications at no cost to the student by the time they successfully complete the program.

The program is for the students, by the students. It gives them real-world experience inside a non-traditional classroom setting to prepare them for immediate and lasting impact in the industry.

## STUDENTS CREATE VIDEO WITH AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Students from Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Complex came together and used their voices to promote suicide awareness and prevention in their school in a new video for the school's Recess Report.

Featuring interviews with staff and students, the video was written and edited by Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Complex's young learners. Staff and students commented on how important suicide awareness is and how it can be promoted in their school community. [Click here to watch the full video.](#)



## SMILES AND FUN ABOUND AT SCHOOL NO. 10'S HARVEST FESTIVAL



The young learners at School No. 10 celebrated Halloween with their Harvest Festival where they all enjoyed sweet treats and face painting while showing off their costumes. Organized by Ms. Maria Ruiz, the festival provided the students a day of bright colors, treats, and smiling faces.

## PARENT REMINDERS

### FREE FAMILY FLU CLINIC DAY SET FOR NOVEMBER 22ND

Paterson Public Schools Department of Early Childhood Education has announced that there will be a Free Family Flu Clinic Day for children and adults at the Full Service Community Center on Saturday, November 22nd.

The clinic will be open from 9 AM to 1 PM and parents or guardians must accompany children at the time of vaccination. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

**Protect Your Family This Flu Season**

Paterson Public Schools  
Department of Early Childhood Education and  
Full-Service Community Center invites you to  
a **Free Family Flu Clinic Day**  
for children and adults.

### UPDATED SCHOLARSHIP PAGE NOW AVAILABLE

Families and students can view the updated scholarship page for the 2025-2026 academic year on the Guidance and Counseling page on our [website](#).

The scholarship page will give applicants information on local scholarships, national scholarships, and scholarships requiring a school counselor nomination. The scholarship page will be updated as opportunities and application materials become available.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
DEPARTMENT OF GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

**Scholarship Opportunities**

## PPS IN THE NEWS

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Paterson Schools Awarded Over \$349K in State Literacy Grants to Boost Reading Programs

*TAPinto Paterson* | October 24, 2025

Paterson Girls' Artwork to Appear on Passaic County's New 'I Voted' Stickers

*TAPinto Paterson* | October 28, 2025

Top 20 Elementary Schools in New Jersey for 2026: See Which Towns Made the List  
*New Jersey Digest* | October 28, 2025

These are the best elementary schools in NJ, according to U.S. News and World Report  
*NorthJersey.com* | October 29, 2025

These are N.J.'s 25 best elementary schools, according to new ranking  
*NJ Advance Media* | October 29, 2025

Paterson's School No. 28 Named New Jersey's Best Elementary School for Second Consecutive Year

*TAPinto Paterson* | October 30, 2025

Paterson Schools Expand Career Training with CareerSafe Partnership

*TAPinto Paterson* | November 3, 2025

Paterson Public Schools Launches Emergency Food Drive as SNAP Suspension Impacts Families

*TAPinto Paterson* | November 4, 2025

Paterson Public Schools Announces 2025-2026 High School Student Government Leaders

*TAPinto Paterson* | November 6, 2025

## COMING UP NEXT WEEK

November 11 . . . . . Veterans Day - District Closed

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

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The **Board of Education Special Meeting** will take place virtually on Wednesday, November 12th. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:15 PM.

The **Board of Education Regular Meeting** will take place virtually on Wednesday, November 12th. 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](https://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](http://www.paterson.k12.nj.us)

**Questions?** Email us at [ppscommunications@paterson.k12.nj.us](mailto:ppscommunications@paterson.k12.nj.us)

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