



THE PULSE

The Heartbeat of the District.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

FEBRUARY 5, 2026 | VOL. 22

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Paterson Public Schools Community,

This February marks the centennial of Black History Month in the United States, commemorating 100 years of preserving, sharing, and recognizing Black stories.

Black History Month has grown from a week of reflection into a powerful call for learning, truth, and appreciation. From innovation and leadership to art, science, education, and advocacy, the influence of Black Americans continues to shape our city, our country, and our shared future. This month serves as a powerful reminder that American history cannot be discussed or analyzed without Black history and the essential role it plays.

Throughout this centennial year, our schools will engage in learning experiences that celebrate Black history and encourage thoughtful dialogue about where we have been and where we must go together. I invite our entire community to join us in recognizing this centennial with reflection, respect, and renewed purpose. May this month inspire us to continue building learning environments where all identities are respected, all voices are valued, and all students are empowered to succeed.



Sincerely,

Laurie W. Newell, PhD
Superintendent of Schools



NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK



FEB. 2-6
2026

**School Counselors
Amplify Student Success**

Paterson Public Schools recognizes the hard work and dedication of our school counselors during National School Counseling Week! Established by the American School Counselor Association, this year's theme is "School Counselors Amplify Student Success". The success of the district's students does not happen without the support of school counselors, who provide invaluable resources and guidance to our young learners.

DISTRICT HOLDS MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL COMMUNITY FORUM

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow



MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL

COMMUNITY FORUM

Tuesday, Feb. 3 | 5:30 PM | School No. 21

Paterson Public Schools held a community forum at School No. 21 on February 3 that discussed the district's Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) in detail for families and community members. The district recognizes that transitions can be challenging and remains committed to supporting students, families, and staff throughout this process. For more information about the LRFP, the redistricting of elementary schools, and the middle school model, please visit our [website](#).

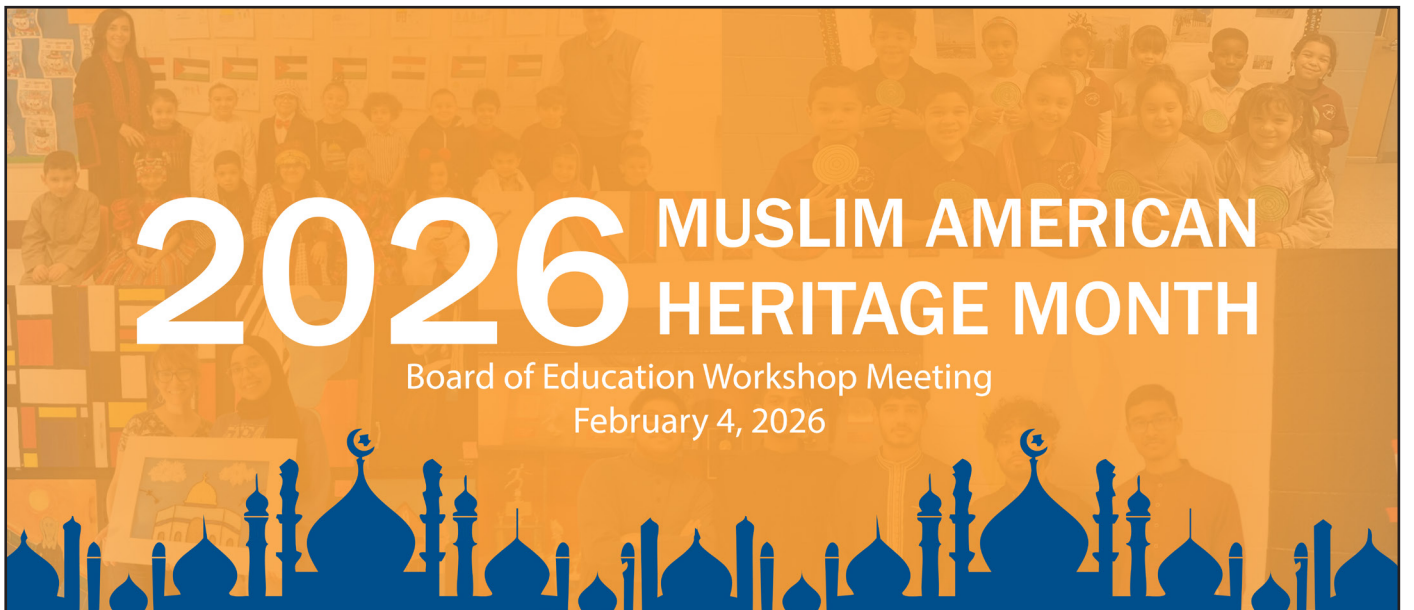
PPS PRINCIPALS GATHER FOR PRODUCTIVE MONTHLY MEETING



Paterson Public Schools' principals convened at Central Office on January 23 to review a packed agenda that featured multiple district staff members presenting on a variety of important topics.

Following informative presentations from Human Resources, Transportation, and Nursing Services, principals were prepped on information regarding the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments that will take place in late April. K-8 and middle school principals were then taken through a review of Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy (DIBELS) while high school principals learned about early intervention and involvement with 9th graders.

DISTRICT PRESENTS ITS MUSLIM AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH VIDEO



Paterson Public Schools proudly presented its [Muslim American Heritage Month video](#) at the Board of Education Workshop Meeting on February 4. Produced by the Communications Department, the video provided a glimpse at the vibrant activities and presentations that took place throughout the month of January across the district.

FEBRUARY SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Hello February 2026!

“Sometimes letting things go is an act of far greater power than defending or hanging on.”

February is often associated with reflection, renewal, and care. Rooted in the idea of cleansing and renewal, this month invites us to pause after a busy start to the year and gently reset. It’s a time to clear away what feels heavy, refocus our energy, and reconnect with what supports our well-being.

As routines settle and winter continues, February reminds us that tending to our minds and bodies is not a luxury — it’s a necessity. Through moments of rest, mindful breathing, and intentional self-care, we create space to restore balance and move forward with clarity and calm.

Let this month be a reminder to slow down, release what no longer serves you, and care for yourself with the same dedication you give to others.

Mantra for February:

I let go of what no longer serves me with curiosity, not fear. I embrace the new and release the old.

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



FEBRUARY 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Write down 5 things you are grateful for	2 Compliment someone today	3 Read a Black History Month book	4 Set a bedtime for tonight and stick to it	5 Perform a random act of kindness	6 Have a picnic in your living room	7 Detox from technology
8 Diffuse essential oils	9 Pack your lunch for work	10 Dance and sing to your favorite song	11 Share a message or video you find inspiring	12 Walk away from a toxic relationship	13 Bake cookies	14 Tell loved ones you love them
15 Do one thing that will make you feel more organized for the week	16 Take yourself out for lunch	17 Actively listen to what people say without judging them	18 Practice yoga or simple stretches	19 Drink a healthy smoothie	20 Do something that makes you smile	21 Clean out your closet and donate
22 Burn a candle	23 Look at the positive in people	24 Meditate for 15 minutes	25 Watch your favorite movie	26 Practice 5 minute belly breathing	27 Make a doctors appointment	28 Write a positive review for your favorite business

This information is provided to you by:
PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Department of Student Support Services
 SAC and Social Emotional Learning

FEBRERO 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Escribe 5 cosas por las que estás agradecida	2 Dile un piropo a alguien hoy.	3 Lea un libro del Mes de la Historia Afroamericana	4 Establece una hora para acostarte esta noche y cúmplela.	5 Realiza un acto de bondad a alguien.	6 Haz un picnic en tu sala de tu casa.	7 Desintoxicación de la tecnología
8 Difundir aceites esenciales	9 Prepara tu almuerzo para el trabajo.	10 Baila y canta tu canción favorita.	11 Comparte un mensaje o un video que te resulte inspirador.	12 Aléjate de una relación tóxica.	13 Hornear galletas	14 Dile a tus seres queridos que las amas
15 Haz algo que te haga sentir más organizado/a durante la semana.	16 Sal a almorzar a solas.	17 Escucha activamente lo que dice la gente sin juzgarla.	18 Practica yoga o estiramientos sencillos.	19 Bebe un batido saludable.	20 Haz algo que te haga sonreír.	21 Limpia tu armario y dona.
22 Enciende una vela.	23 Busca lo positivo en las personas.	24 Medita durante 15 minutos.	25 Mira tu película favorita.	26 Practica la respiración abdominal por 5 minutos.	27 Pide una cita con el médico.	28 Escribe un repaso positivo para tu negocio favorito.

This information is provided to you by:
PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Department of Student Support Services

AUTHOR MIKE DAWSON INSPIRES CREATIVITY AT JATS



Joseph A. Taub School welcomed author and cartoonist Mike Dawson on January 30 for an engaging visit that inspired creativity and a love of reading among students.

Mr. Dawson met with students during four lunch sessions, allowing many students the opportunity to participate throughout the day. During each session, Mr. Dawson shared insights into his journey as an author, and led a short, interactive cartooning lesson where students learned simple techniques to bring characters and stories to life. His approachable style encouraged students to ask questions, take creative risks, and see how writing and art work together.

The visit was a memorable experience that blended creativity, literacy, and fun, leaving students inspired to read, write, and draw long after the sessions ended.



AHA STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT BIKE SAFETY FROM EZ RIDE PROGRAM

Alexander Hamilton Academy students recently took part in the EZ Ride Bike and Pedestrian Safety assembly program and had the opportunity to participate in their poster contest. The young learners are now equipped to navigate the roads and ride their bikes safely.



EASTSIDE GIRLS BASKETBALL VOLUNTEERS AT PATERSON RECREATION

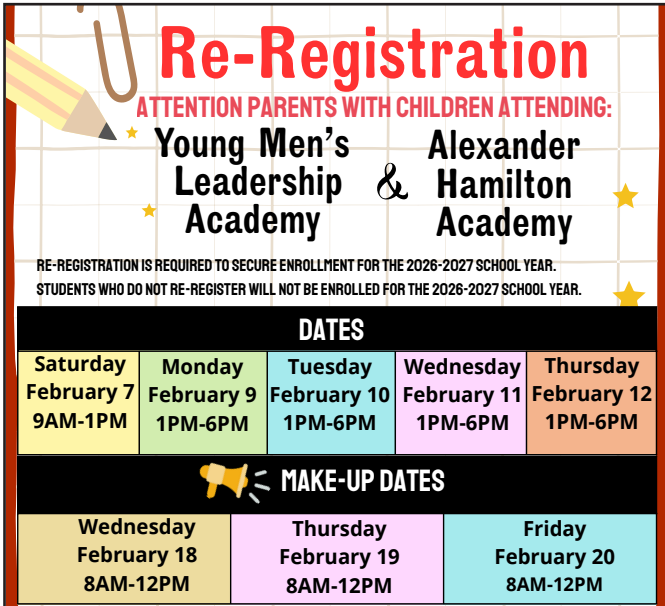
The Eastside High School girls basketball team took time to volunteer at Paterson Recreation and assist with their Bidy Ball program. The student-athletes helped the young players develop their basketball skills through a variety of drills and activities.



PARENT REMINDERS

RE-REGISTRATION FOR YMLA AND AHA STUDENTS OPENS SATURDAY

Families of Young Men’s Leadership Academy and Alexander Hamilton Academy students must re-register their child for the 2026-2027 school year. Failure to re-register will result in your child being unenrolled from Paterson Public Schools. Re-registration will take place at the Office of Central Registration at 90 Delaware Ave. beginning on Saturday, February 7 from 9 AM to 1 PM. For more information regarding re-registration, please [click this link to view the informational flyer.](#)



Re-Registration
ATTENTION PARENTS WITH CHILDREN ATTENDING:
Young Men’s Leadership Academy & Alexander Hamilton Academy

RE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO SECURE ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR.
 STUDENTS WHO DO NOT RE-REGISTER WILL NOT BE ENROLLED FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR.

DATES				
Saturday February 7 9AM-1PM	Monday February 9 1PM-6PM	Tuesday February 10 1PM-6PM	Wednesday February 11 1PM-6PM	Thursday February 12 1PM-6PM

MAKE-UP DATES

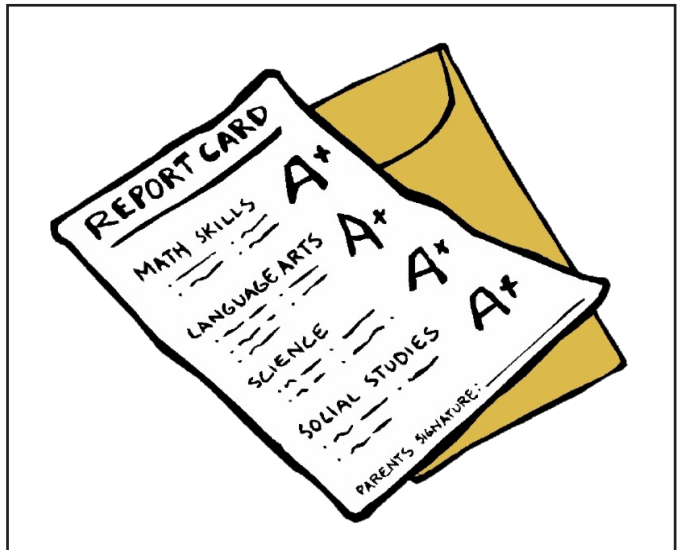
Wednesday February 18 8AM-12PM	Thursday February 19 8AM-12PM	Friday February 20 8AM-12PM
---	--	--

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR REPORT CARD PARENT CONFERENCES

Families are highly encouraged to attend Report Card Parent Conferences to meet with teachers and ask questions about their young learner’s academic performance. Report Card Parent Conferences will take place on the following dates:

February 10th, 4:30-6:30 PM: High Schools (Grades 9-12), Joseph A. Taub School, Dr. Hani Awadallah School, New Roberto Clemente School

February 12th, 4:30-6:30 PM: Grades PreK-8



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@PatersonPublicSchools



@Paterson_Public



@paterson_public_schools_nj



@paterson-public-schools

MONTHLY CALENDAR REMINDERS

February 6	1 PM Student Dismissal/Staff PD
February 10	Report Card Parent Conferences 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (JAT, NRC, DHA, Grades 9-12)
February 12	Report Card Parent Conferences 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (Grades PreK-8)
February 13	1 PM Student/1:20 PM Staff Dismissal
February 16-17	Winter Break - District Closed

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The **Board of Education Regular Meeting** will take place virtually on Wednesday, February 11th. 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 **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

Aida E. Rosario, MBA | Director of Communications
Peter Long | Supervisor of Special Projects and Communications
Aidan Solano | Graphics & Content Coordinator
Jeani Perez | Confidential Communications Assistant