



THE PULSE

The Heartbeat of the District.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 

OCTOBER 1, 2026 | VOL. 6

GOLF CLASSIC A SUCCESS FOR PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS

The Fund for Paterson Public Schools, in partnership with the Board of Education, hosted the first Paterson Student Scholarship Golf Classic on Thursday, September 24 at Black Bear Golf Club, bringing together community leaders, local business representatives, district administration, staff, and students for a special day in support of Paterson students.

The event's mission is to create opportunities for Paterson students through scholarships, partnerships, and programs. The inaugural event highlighted the community's continued commitment to Paterson students.



Greetings Paterson Public Schools Community,

As we recognize National Principals Month, we celebrate the important role our principals play in our schools each and every day. Their leadership helps strengthen our school communities and supports the work we do on behalf of our students and families.

To our principals, your work is essential to achieving our goals and moving Paterson Public Schools forward. We value your commitment to our students and families and the difference you make each day. We are proud to recognize you and the important work you do for Paterson Public Schools.

Supporting Opportunities for Paterson Students

I had the opportunity to attend the first Paterson Student Scholarship Golf Classic, hosted by the Fund for Paterson Public Schools on September 24. It was wonderful to spend the day with members of our community who came together in support of Paterson students.

One of the highlights for me was seeing members of the Eastside High School and John F. Kennedy High School golf teams out on the course enjoying the experience and proudly representing their schools. I am grateful to the Fund for Paterson Public Schools and everyone who contributed to making the inaugural golf outing a success and creating opportunities that benefit our students.

Sincerely,

Laurie W. Newell, PhD
Superintendent of Schools



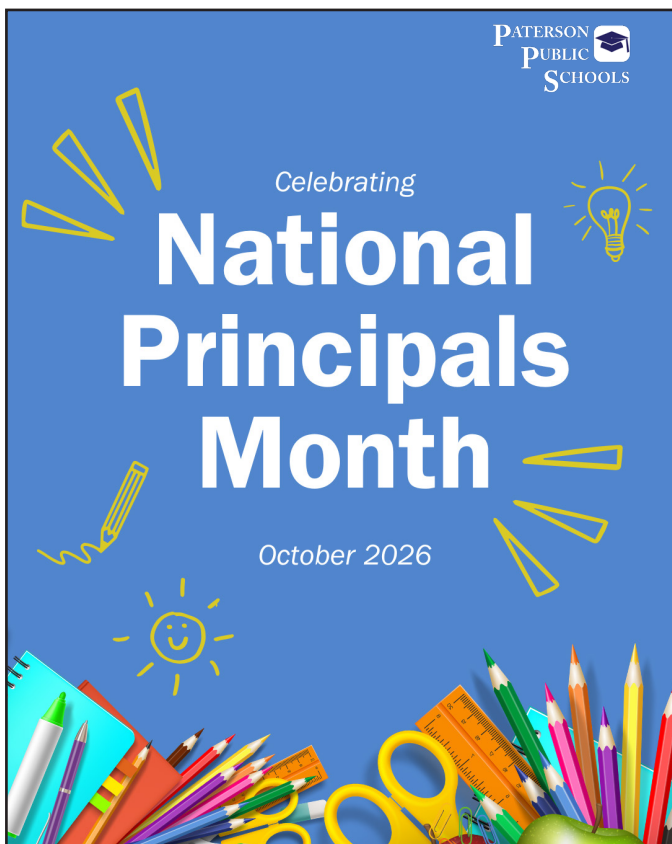
HAPPY NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH!

Alonzo "Tambua" Moody Academy	Amod Field
Anna Iandoli Early Learning Center	Stanley Sumter
Charles J. Riley School/School No. 9	Domenico Carriero
Dale Avenue School	Rebecca Cecala
Dr. Frank Napier, Jr. School of Science & Technology	Derwin Smith
Dr. Hani Awadallah School	Bridget Naveira
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Complex	Grace Giglio
Eastside High School	Dr. Florita Cotto
Edward W. Kilpatrick/Dual Learning Program	Dr. Dorothy Douge
Senator Frank R. Lautenberg School	Dr. Sherri Brackett
International High School	Dr. Catherine Forfia-Dion
John F. Kennedy High School	Dr. Vanessa Serrano
Joseph A. Taub School	Dr. Jorge Ventura
María Magda O'Keefe School	Cosmo Braico
New Roberto Clemente School	Sham Bacchus
Newcomers High School	Miguel Sosa
Norman S. Weir School	Samantha Emery-Allen (Interim Vice Principal)
Paterson Adult & Continuing Education	Miguel Sosa
Paterson P-Tech High School	Dr. Charla Holder
Paterson STEAM High School	Dr. Nellista Bess
Roberto Clemente School	Dr. Marc Medleey
Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts	Kaela Quince-McMillan
School No. 2	Carlita Rodriguez
School No. 5	Richard Sanducci
School No. 7	Pamela Powell
School No. 8	Gisela Adorno
School No. 10	Dr. Tiffany McBride
School No. 12	Dr. Boblyn Ranger-Dobbs
School No. 13	Tanya Greene
School No. 15	Ramona Garcia
School No. 16	Nancy Tavaréz
School No. 18	Deyanira Cartagena
School No. 19	Dewitt Evering
School No. 20	Michael Hill
School No. 21	Edgard Nieves
School No. 25	Antoinette Young
School No. 26	Derrick Hoff
School No. 27	Kelli White
School No. 28/Academy of Gifted & Talented	Nancy Castro
STARS Academy/STARS T.I.E.S. Program	Nicole Payne



THANK YOU, PRINCIPALS!





Watch this special National Principals Month message from Superintendent Dr. Laurie W. Newell.



¡Feliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana! Click here to view Superintendent Dr. Laurie W. Newell's video message.

PATERSON P-TECH STUDENTS CELEBRATE HBCU ACCEPTANCES

Paterson Public Schools and the Department of Guidance and Counseling are proud to celebrate the accomplishments of students from Paterson P-Tech who attended the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College Fair, sponsored by the NJ Black College Expo, on Friday, September 19th at Kean University's Jersey City campus.

The experience provided students with an opportunity to connect directly with HBCUs, explore postsecondary opportunities, and showcase their college readiness. We are especially proud to share that several Paterson P-Tech students received on-the-spot acceptances to Claflin University and Paine College!

Congratulations to our students for taking the next step toward their futures and making the most of opportunities to explore, connect, and achieve.



OCTOBER SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Hello October 2026!

"Every moment is a fresh beginning." – T.S. Eliot

It's spooky season but we're not scared! The Self-Care Calendar and monthly sunshine are here to give you a boost of positivity as we journey through the month.

October is a month of transformation. We begin to trade the warmth of summer days for the crisp—and sometimes cozy—nights of autumn. Around us, the trees begin to reveal their vibrant colors, showing us that change can be both beautiful and necessary. As nature begins its seasonal transformation, it invites us to pause and consider our own.

What does your internal October look like? What are you ready to let go of? What deserves more of your energy? What might you make room for as you continue through the school year? Just as the trees release what they no longer need, October reminds us that letting go is not giving up—it is making space for growth, renewal, and something new.

Mantra for October:

Like the changing leaves, I trust the process of becoming.

I release what no longer serves me and make room for what helps me grow.

This October, let yourself transform, let yourself recharge, and remember that even a little self-care can add some magic to your day.





PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

October 2026 SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Small steps. Big difference. ♥

Take care of yourself, you matter! ♥

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Set one positive intention for the month. ♥	2 Drink plenty of water today.	3 Take a 10-minute walk.
4 Listen to your favorite music.	5 Talk to someone you trust.	6 Spend some time outside.	7 Write down three things you're grateful for.	8 Take a short break from your phone.	9 Do something that makes you smile.	10 Take five slow, deep breaths.
11 Enjoy a nourishing meal or snack.	12 Give yourself some encouragement.	13 Do something creative.	14 Get some fresh air and sunshine.	15 Take time to relax and unwind.	16 Read something you enjoy.	17 Do something kind for someone else.
18 Tidy one small space around you.	19 Check in with yourself: "How am I feeling?"	20 Give yourself permission to rest.	21 Watch or share something that makes you laugh.	22 Take a break when you need one.	23 Create a calm, relaxing space.	24 Reach out to a friend or family member.
25 Celebrate one thing you're proud of.	26 Say something kind to yourself.	27 Unplug and have a quiet evening.	28 Write down something you're looking forward to.	29 Do something fun just for you.	30 Reflect on what helped you feel your best this month.	31 You've got this! ♥

♥ Self-care doesn't have to be big. Small things you do each day can make a difference. ♥

♥ This information is provided to you by the Department of Student Support Services, SAC and SEL Learning. ♥



PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Octubre 2026 CALENDARIO DE AUTOCUIDADO

Pequeños pasos. Gran diferencia. ♥

¡Cuida de ti mismo, porque importas! ♥

Domingo	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
				1 Establece una intención positiva para el mes. ♥	2 Toma mucha agua hoy.	3 Da una caminata de 10 minutos.
4 Escucha tu música favorita.	5 Habla con alguien en quien confíes.	6 Pasa tiempo al aire libre.	7 Escribe tres cosas por las que te sientes agradecido.	8 Tómate un breve descanso de tu teléfono.	9 Haz algo que te haga sonreír.	10 Realiza cinco respiraciones lentas y profundas.
11 Disfruta de una comida nutritiva o un refrigerio.	12 Date un mensaje de ánimo.	13 Haz algo creativo.	14 Disfruta del aire fresco y del sol.	15 Tómate un tiempo para relajarte y desconectar.	16 Lee algo que disfrutes.	17 Haz algo amable por alguien más.
18 Ordena un pequeño espacio a tu alrededor.	19 Haz una pausa y pregúntate: "¿Cómo me siento?"	20 Date permiso para descansar.	21 Mira o comparte algo que te haga reír.	22 Tómalo un descanso cuando lo necesites.	23 Crea un espacio tranquilo y relajante.	24 Comunícate con un amigo o un familiar.
25 Celebra algo de lo que te sientas orgulloso.	26 Di algo amable para ti mismo.	27 Desconéctate y disfruta de una noche tranquila.	28 Escribe algo por lo que estás emocionado de cara al futuro.	29 Haz algo divertido solo para ti.	30 Reflexiona sobre lo que te ayudó a sentirte mejor este mes.	31 ¡Tú puedes lograrlo! ♥

♥ El autocuidado no tiene que ser algo grande. Las pequeñas cosas que haces cada día pueden marcar una gran diferencia. ♥

♥ Esta información es proporcionada por el Departamento de Servicios de Apoyo al Estudiante, SAC y Aprendizaje SEL. ♥

NORDSTROM RACK, OPERATION WARM BRING NEW COATS TO SCHOOL 7

On September 24th, School 7 students received a heartwarming gift of support as Nordstrom Rack and Operation Warm partnered to provide brand-new coats to every student during a special coat distribution event.

Led and coordinated by School 7 Principal Pamela Powell and staff, in partnership with community sponsors, the distribution brought confidence, comfort, and smiles to students across the school. Operation Warm is a national non-profit dedicated to providing essential apparel to children in need.



DHA STUDENTS HEAR MESSAGE OF RESILIENCE AND HEALTHY CHOICES

In recognition of National Recovery Month in September, Alumni in Recovery (AIR) was invited by Dr. Hani Awadallah School's School Assistant Coordinator Judi Beckmeyer to speak with 7th-grade students at DHA.

Members of AIR, who are proud members of the Paterson community, shared their personal experiences, strength, and hope with DHA students. Their stories provided an authentic and meaningful perspective on recovery, resilience, and the importance of making positive choices.

The presentation was warmly received by the students and staff. The district and Student Support Services are grateful to AIR for sharing their powerful message and demonstrating that recovery and positive transformation are possible.



PPS IN THE NEWS

Paterson Breaks Ground on \$208 Million STEAM High School, Set to Open in 2029

TAPinto Paterson | September 23, 2026

New Jersey Schools Development Authority Breaks Ground on New STEAM High School in Paterson
EIN Presswire | September 24, 2026

OPEN ENROLLMENT HAS STARTED!

Paterson Public Schools' annual insurance open enrollment period is now open! 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.](#)

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS

MONTHLY CALENDAR REMINDERS

October 9 Progress Reports (Grades PreK-12)
October 12. . . . Italian Heritage Day/Indigenous People Day - District Closed
October 16. 1:00 PM Student Dismissal/Staff PD

[Full 2026-2027 School Calendar Here](#)

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

A **Board of Education Workshop Meeting** will take place on Wednesday, October 14 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 Monday, October 19. 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.

Paterson Board of Education: President Joel D. Ramirez, Vice President Della Wilder, Commissioner Valerie Freeman, Commissioner Alex Mendez, Jr., Commissioner Hector L. Nieves, Jr., Commissioner Mohammed H. Rashid, Commissioner Kenneth Rosado, Commissioner Kenneth L. Simmons, Commissioner Corey L. Teague

The Pulse 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 the Communications Hub at www.paterson.k12.nj.us

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

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