

For Immediate Release

Contact: Aida E. Rosario
aerosario@paterson.k12.nj.us

John F. Kennedy High School, Eastside High School Set for 101st Thanksgiving Game

Game between the two high schools is one of the longest-running Thanksgiving football games in New Jersey

Paterson, NJ (November 21, 2025) – Paterson Public Schools’ John F. Kennedy High School and Eastside High School will play football on Thanksgiving Day for the 101st time on Thursday, November 27 at historic Hinchliffe Stadium. One of the longest-running Thanksgiving games in the state of New Jersey, this year’s “Turkey Bowl” will kick off at 11 AM.

“The annual Turkey Bowl is not just a game. It’s a celebration of our student-athletes, these two high schools, and our wonderful city,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell. “I hope that our past, present, and future Knights and Ghosts come together Thursday morning and honor a day of sportsmanship and teamwork. We invite the community to support this exciting event.”

This will be the third consecutive year that the Turkey Bowl will be played at Hinchliffe Stadium following its restoration, with last year’s game being the 100th contest. The winner of the game receives the Mayor’s Trophy. Tickets for the game, which are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children, will be on sale at Hinchliffe Stadium on gameday.

For more information visit our website at www.paterson.k12.nj.us

About Paterson Public Schools

Paterson Public Schools serves over 22,000 students from pre-K to 12th grade in New Jersey’s third-largest city. About 71% of the student population is Hispanic, 16% are Black, 6% are Asian, and 5.0% are Caucasian. Recognizing its proud traditions, diverse community, and strong partnerships, the mission of Paterson Public Schools is to provide an academically rigorous, safe, and nurturing educational environment that meets the social, emotional, and academic needs of all students. The district is committed to preparing students for post-secondary education and careers. Despite the Paterson community being classified as low-income, many of its students achieve high academic success. A growing number of elementary school students are reading at or above grade level, and more high school students are earning college credits through Advanced Placement exams and enrolling in college-level courses before graduation. Paterson Public Schools is distinguished as one of only 17 school districts in New Jersey to offer the competitive International Baccalaureate program and is among just four districts with a P-TECH high school. In collaboration with IBM and Passaic County Community College, the P-TECH program allows students to graduate with an associate degree in applied science and valuable tech sector experience. For more information, visit www.paterson.k12.nj.us

###