

For Immediate Release

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Paterson Public Schools Showcases Innovation at Annual K-8 STEAM Expo

More than 200 students presented projects at William Paterson University

Paterson, NJ (December 19, 2025) – Paterson Public Schools proudly showcased the creativity, critical thinking, and innovation of its K-8 students during the district’s annual K-8 STEAM Expo that took place at William Paterson University on Wednesday, December 17. Presented by the Office of STEAM Education and sponsored by William Paterson University, the Expo once again showcased the district’s commitment to providing interdisciplinary, project-based learning experiences that integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM).

“The projects presented by these students are proof of their immense talent, and the potential that exists within all Paterson Public Schools students,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell. “We are grateful for our teachers, mentors, staff, and families whose guidance makes it possible for our students to achieve and thrive. Additionally, we thank our principals and school leaders for creating an environment where innovation blossoms, and every student feels empowered to learn and explore. Let us carry this energy forward as we continue to nurture creativity, curiosity, and the limitless potential in every child.”

The students that presented at the event were first-place winners of the STEAM expos that took place at their respective schools. Throughout the morning, projects written, researched, and constructed by more than 200 participating students were on display as attendees engaged directly with young innovators. Students also participated in hands-on student activities and a high school pathway panel discussion.

By bringing together students, families, educators, and higher education partners, the expo highlighted how early exposure to STEAM education prepares learners to think critically, collaborate effectively, and engage meaningfully as future global citizens.

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

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