MPTCS

Board Meeting - August 10, 2026

Angela N. Mincy, Superintendent

Reimagining the Village















The MPTCS Mission

Board Meeting Agenda

Agenda:

- *Welcome & Mission*
- *Summer Professional Development*
- *MPTCS - Professional Representation*
- *On the Horizon*





The Tree of Knowledge ***The Torch*** ***The Sankofa Bird*** ***The Tiger***

The MPTCS Mission

Reimagining Education - It takes a Village!

The mission of Marion P. Thomas Charter School is to build culturally rich, transformative educational spaces that cultivate successful, lifelong innovators who use their passions, character, and intellect to better themselves, the greater Newark community, and the world beyond.



The Tree of Knowledge ***The Torch*** ***The Sankofa*** ***The Tiger***

Regional Leadership Spotlight

Greater Newark STEM Ecosystem Professional Development Working Group



Christopher Abbaleo
Assistant Superintendent

Marion P. Thomas Charter School was represented by **Assistant Superintendent Christopher Abbaleo** in a regional working group of educators, researchers, and district leaders charged with reimagining STEM professional development across Greater Newark.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Helped shape recommendations for **high-quality, job-embedded** professional learning.
- Promoted a shift from **one-time workshops** to ongoing **coaching, collaboration**, and **continuous improvement.**
- Contributed to a regional strategy focused on **teacher effectiveness, retention**, and **STEM excellence.**

GREATER NEWARK STEM ECOSYSTEM

Understanding Teacher PD in the Greater Newark STEM Ecosystem: What Do Educators Need, and How Can We Deliver It?

GNSE Teacher PD Working Group, April 2026

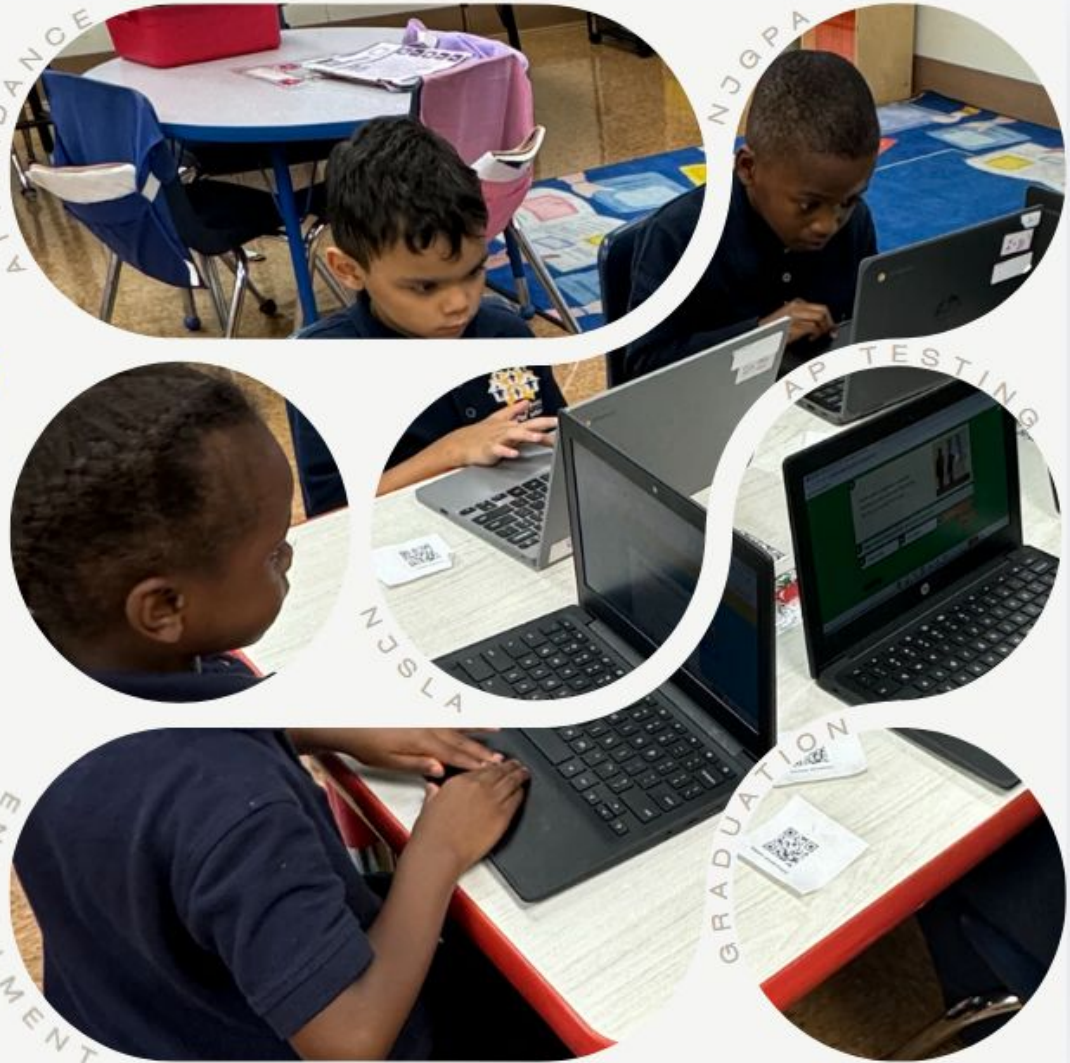
Digging Deep

Academic Updates

Professional Development

MARION P. THOMAS CHARTER SCHOOL

THE VILLAGE EST. 1999



Summer Professional Development

Leadership Institute

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
STRONG LEADERS. STRONGER SCHOOLS.



DATES
AUGUST 3RD – 14TH, 2026
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

AUDIENCE
Central Office, Principals, VPs, 12-Month Staff

What we've covered so far:

- Strategic Planning for 26-27
- Standards-Based Grading for K-8
- Survey Data - Crosswalk MPTCS Survey (May 2026) & BCT Survey (June 2025)
- Cursive is Back!
- Special Education and Co-Teaching







On the Horizon this Week:

- Leadership Culture
- NJSLA Standards - Instructional Dive
- Data Meetings and Real-Time Feedback
- LinkIt! Training
- Human Resources, Employee Handbook, and Policy Updates
- Staff Evaluations
- Effective Communication

Summer Professional Development

Staff Institutes

New Staff Institute

When: August 17th-19th
Who: All new hires for the 26-27 school year
Topics to be covered:

- Team Building Activities
- History of MPTCS
- Instructional Vision
- Dive Into MPTCS' Systems (RealTime, LinkIt!, etc.).
- Curricular Resources and Planning
- New Teacher Survival Kit
- Campus Team Building, Tour, and Logistics

All Staff Institute

When: August 20th-28th
Who: All staff members for 26-27 school year
Topics to be covered:

- All Staff Convocation: Thursday, August 20th @NJIT
- The Village Way
- Instruction, Instruction, Instruction
    - Dive into our curriculum, state standards, academic calendar, instructional blocks, materials/resources, differentiating instruction, and more.

Congratulations

Amazing Work!

MPTCS Staff in the Field!



Regional Leadership Spotlight

New Jersey Department of Education – Social Studies Standards Review Committee



Max Valcourt
Department Chairperson
Marion P. Thomas Charter School

Marion P. Thomas Department Chairperson **Max Valcourt** was selected to serve on the New Jersey Department of Education's Social Studies Standards Review Committee, a statewide team of experienced educators and instructional leaders charged with reviewing and strengthening the **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) for Social Studies.** The committee's work will help shape future social studies instruction for students across New Jersey.

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Selected to collaborate with educators from across New Jersey to review and refine the **New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies.**
- Provides practitioner expertise to ensure the standards remain **rigorous, relevant, and aligned** to the needs of today's learners.
- Contributes to statewide discussions that will influence **curriculum, instruction, and student learning** across New Jersey schools.

IMPACT: Max's selection reflects the expertise of Marion P. Thomas educators and positions our district as a contributor to statewide educational policy and curriculum development. His work ensures that our voice is represented in shaping the future of social studies education for New Jersey students.

Regional Leadership Spotlight

New Jersey Department of Education – Statewide Assessment Advisory Committee



Tiffany Wilson
Director of Humanities
Marion P. Thomas Charter School

Marion P. Thomas Director of Humanities **Tiffany Wilson** was selected to participate in the New Jersey Department of Education's Statewide Assessment Advisory Committee, serving alongside educators from across the state to strengthen New Jersey's assessment system. The committee supports the development and review of assessment content to ensure statewide assessments remain rigorous, equitable, and aligned to the **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).**

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Selected to provide educator expertise on the development and review of statewide assessment content.
- Helps ensure assessment items are **standards-aligned, grade-appropriate, fair, and instructionally meaningful** for New Jersey students.
- Contributes to improving the quality and validity of New Jersey's statewide assessment program through the review of assessment materials and student performance data.

IMPACT: Tiffany's appointment reflects the instructional expertise of Marion P. Thomas Charter School and our commitment to advancing high-quality teaching, learning, and assessment practices—not only within our schools, but across the State of New Jersey.

ON THE HORIZON

8/17	1st day for all new staff
8/20	1st day for all returning staff
8/31	**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** for all students PreK-12
9/4	Village Cookout (Rep Your School/department)
9/7	Labor Day – Schools Closed
9/11	9/11 Remembrance Day
9/13–19	Arts in Education Week
9/15	Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Begins
9/16	STEAM/PAC/SANKOFA Back To School Night
9/21	1st Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) Meeting Pre-K – 3rd grade
9/28	BOARD MEETING

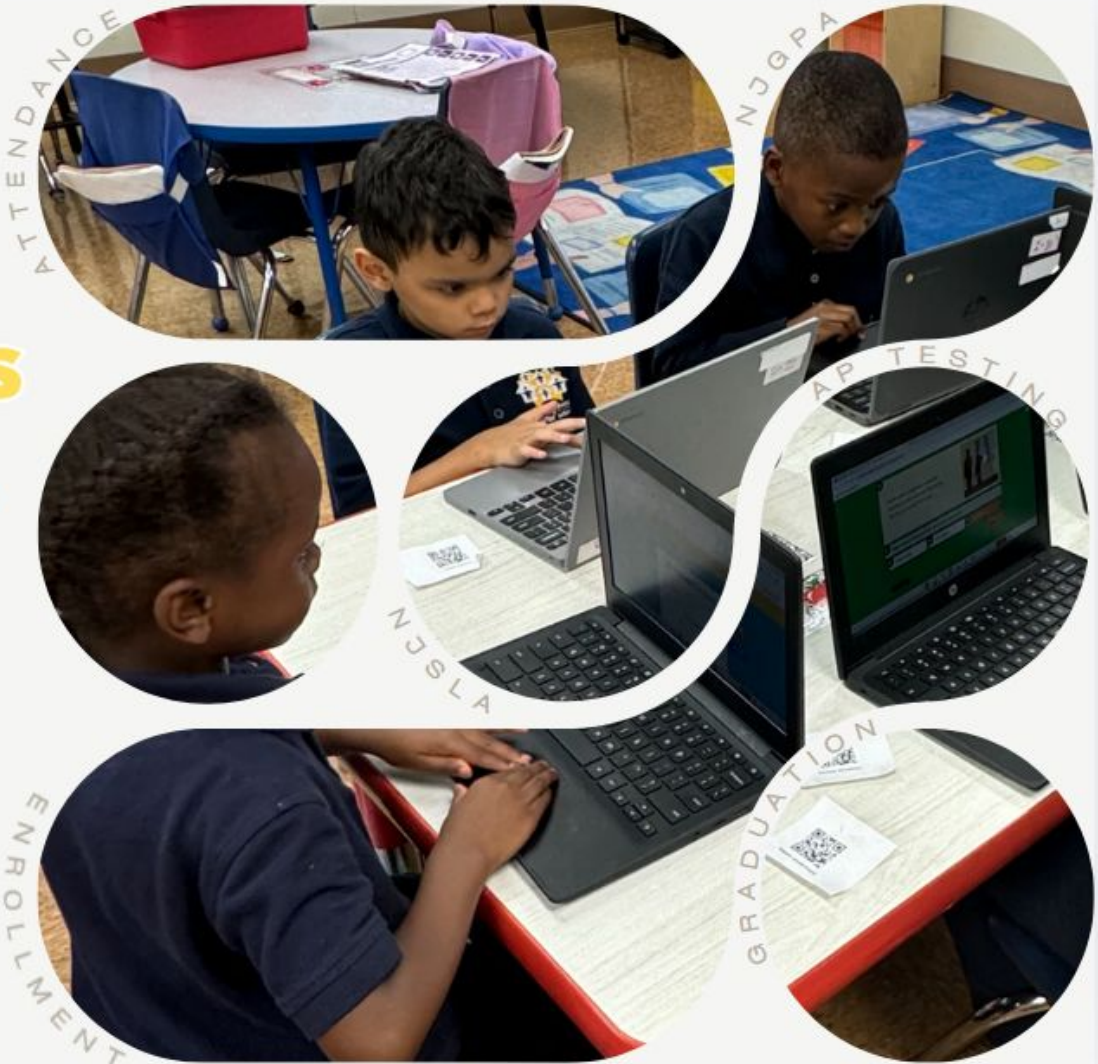
THANK YOU

FOR LISTENING!

Digging Deep

Academic Updates

Summer Programming



KINDERGARTEN KICKOFF!

START STRONG. START HERE.

PAC hosted an orientation for new and existing Pre-K4 Families entering Kindergarten.

PICK UP YOUR SCHOLAR'S SUMMER PACKET

Get important information and resources to help prepare for a successful kindergarten year!

GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW UNIFORMS

Learn about our uniform policy, where to shop, and sizing tips.

RETURNING FAMILIES: SUBMIT UPDATED ADDRESS VERIFICATION

Help us keep your child's records current and up to date.

DATE: Friday, July 10, 2026

TIME: 1:00 PM

LOCATION: PAC Academy
28 Burnet Street
Newark, NJ 07102

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



READY FOR SUCCESS



HORIZONS IN ACTION

Growing Together. Leading Together.















OUR STUDENTS
At the center of everything we do.

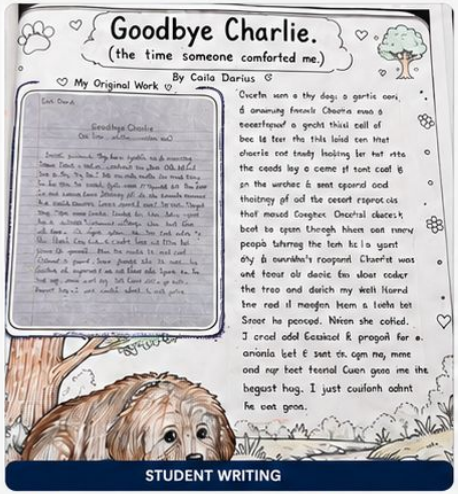
OUR COMMUNITY
Working together for a brighter future.

OUR GROWTH
Learning, leading, and never settling.

HORIZONS

STUDENT WORK. REAL IMPACT.

Creativity in action. Ideas that inspire. Futures in the making.



STUDENT WRITING



HANDS-ON LEARNING


STUDENT ART


CREATIVE EXPRESSION


GROWTH MINDSET



COLLABORATION


GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES + STEM

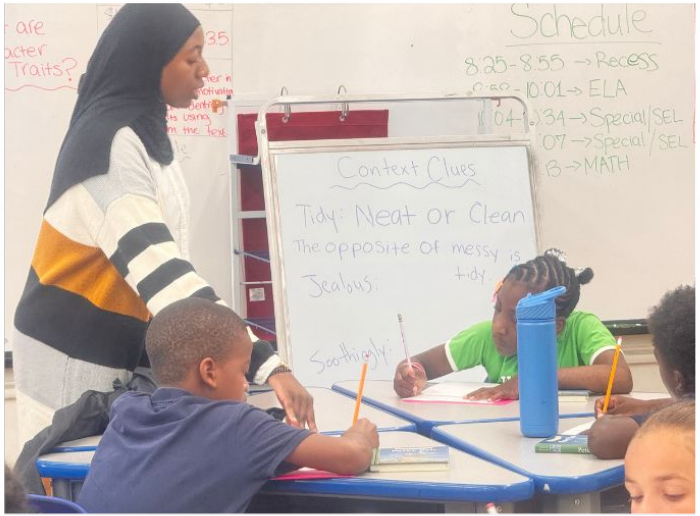

A LOVE FOR READING

In partnership with **Horizons Newark**, we provide rising K–8 students with engaging academic, enrichment, and recreational experiences that foster learning, growth, and confidence.

HORIZONS

Teach For America

Summer School Program (Pre-K–8)





Our Summer School Program serves students in Pre-K through 8th grade, providing engaging academic instruction and enrichment to support continued learning and prepare students for the upcoming school year. In partnership with Teach For America (TFA), our experienced teachers serve as mentors to TFA teachers, fostering collaboration, professional growth, and high-quality instruction that benefits all students.









SUMMER BRIDGE Program

BUILDING BRIDGES. BUILDING FUTURES.

This summer, our incoming scholars took part in an enriching week of discovery, **growth, connection,** and **confidence-building.** Through interactive sessions and hands-on activities, students got to know their new school, built meaningful relationships, and developed the tools they need for a successful start to high school.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR WEEK TOGETHER

WELCOME & COMMUNITY BUILDING
Scholars connected with peers and staff through engaging icebreakers and team-building activities.

SCHOOL EXPLORATION & SCAVENGER HUNT
Students toured the school, discovered key spaces, and completed a fun scavenger hunt to become familiar with The Village.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS SKILLS
learned valuable study strategies and organization tips to help them thrive in high school.

SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS
Spracticed safety skills and learned important procedures to keep our school community safe and prepared.

TECHNOLOGY & AI LITERACY
Scholars explored the responsible use of AI and how technology can support learning and creativity.

CULINARY EXPERIENCE
Students stepped into our culinary lab for a taste of teamwork, creativity, and fun.

EGG DROP CHALLENGE
Teams designed, built, and tested their creations—learning about problem-solving and perseverance along the way!

REFLECTION & GROWTH
Scholars reflected on their experience, set goals, and left feeling motivated and ready for the year ahead.

MEMORIES FROM OUR WEEK









One Village. One Purpose.
Limitless Possibilities.

OUR VILLAGE VALUES

Thank you to our scholars, families, and staff for making Summer Bridge 2026 an incredible experience!

We can't wait to see all that you accomplish!