THE PULSE

The Heartbeat of the District.

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER 5, 2026 | VOL. 11

NRC NAMED GOLD RIBBON SCHOOL IN SERVICE-LEARNING

Paterson Public Schools' New Roberto Clemente School (NRC) has been named one of 50 K-12 schools nationwide recognized as a 2026 Gold Ribbon School in Service-Learning by Your Service America, earning national recognition for its commitment to connecting academic instruction with meaningful community engagement.



Led by Principal Sham Bacchus, New Roberto Clemente School's service-learning program provides students with opportunities to apply classroom knowledge to real-world challenges while developing civic responsibility, leadership skills, and empathy. This recognition reflects NRC's ongoing efforts to make service-learning an integral part of the educational experience.

"This national recognition is a testament to the commitment of New Roberto School's leadership, educators, and students to service-learning," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell. "Through service-learning, students develop an understanding of their in their role in the community while gaining valuable leadership, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. These experiences help NRC students use their knowledge and abilities to make a positive impact."

To read the press release, click here.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES NEW DISTRICT PODCAST



Paterson Public Schools' Communications Department has launched Inside Paterson Public Schools, a new monthly podcast featuring Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell. Developed under the leadership of the district Director of Communications, the podcast provides another platform to keep families, staff, and the Paterson community informed and engaged on important district initiatives, programs, and topics of interest.

In the inaugural episode, Dr. Newell discusses the district's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, highlighting its goals and priorities for student success. New episodes are expected to be released monthly, featuring conversations on a variety of topics relevant to the Paterson Public Schools community.

The first episode is available through the Superintendent's Corner and the district's Eduvision channel, both accessible on the Paterson Public Schools website. To watch the first episode, click here.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Paterson Public Schools Community,



November is Family Literacy Month, a time to recognize the important role families play in developing a love of reading. I encourage our families to make reading a meaningful part of their daily routines. Reading supports a child's academic development, strengthens language and communication skills, and fosters a lifelong love of learning. Sharing a book creates valuable opportunities for families to connect, engage in conversation, and learn together.

Whether reading a bedtime story, exploring a new book at the library, taking turns reading aloud, or discussing a favorite story, even a few minutes of reading each day can make a lasting difference. Encouraging children to ask questions, share their thoughts, and explore different types of books can make reading an enjoyable experience for the entire family.

At Paterson Public Schools, literacy remains an important part of our commitment to student achievement and lifelong learning. Family engagement is essential to this work, and the support students receive at home complements the instruction and resources provided by our dedicated educators.

Throughout Family Literacy Month, I encourage families to establish or strengthen reading routines and make time for stories, conversations, and shared learning. I also want to thank our parents, guardians, and caregivers for the important role you play in supporting your children's educational journeys. Together, we can help every student build the skills, confidence, and enthusiasm needed to succeed.

Sincerely,

Laurie W. Newell, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

BOE APPROVES NEW CONTRACT FOR SUPERINTENDENT



The Paterson Board of Education voted Monday evening to approve a new employment contract for Superintendent of Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell, extending her leadership of Paterson Public Schools through June 30, 2031.

The Board's action followed a public hearing held November 2 at the district's headquarters. Dr. Newell, who joined Paterson Public Schools in 2023, will continue leading the district as it builds on the work undertaken over the past three years to expand educational opportunities, strengthen student services, and improve district operations.

"Continuing the work we have started is important to the future of our district," said Board President Joel D. Ramirez. "Since joining Paterson Public Schools, Dr. Newell has worked with our educators, administrators, families, and community partners to move the district forward. The Board recognizes the importance of building on that progress while remaining focused on the needs of our students. We look forward to continuing this work together."

During Monday's meeting, Dr. Newell shared the district's 2023–2026 Accomplishments Report, originally presented at a Board of Education special meeting on September 14. The report outlines progress in academic instruction, college and career readiness, student wellness, school safety, and community engagement.

To read the press release, click here.

RLPHS STUDENTS LEARN LEADERSHIP SKILLS THROUGH DECA



Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts had five students join business education teacher Dr. Reggie Hall at the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) at Kean University on October 26.

DECA is an international career and technical student organization that prepares high school students for careers in business. At COLT, students connected with peers from across New Jersey, exchanged ideas, and developed leadership skills to strengthen Rosa Parks' DECA chapter. This experience reflects Rosa Parks High School's commitment to preparing students for success in college, careers, and beyond.

SCHOOL 10 CELEBRATES HARVEST FESTIVAL WITH PARADE, ACTIVITIES

School 10's Harvest Festival, held on Thursday, October 29, was a wonderful success. The school community had a fantastic turnout, and our students enjoyed an afternoon filled with fun, laughter, and excitement. Students received pumpkins and enjoyed delicious hot dogs and popcorn, face painting, and a variety of interactive stations and scavenger hunts. It was a joy to see our students and their families smiling, participating, and making lasting memories.



Adding to the festivities, kindergarten through second grade students had a wonderful time participating in School 10's Harvest Parade. Students proudly showed off their festive costumes and enjoyed celebrating the fall season with their classmates and teachers. The parade was filled with smiles, excitement, and lots of school spirit. School 10 thanks its staff and families for helping make this a fun and memorable experience for our youngest learners.

The celebration also included the Harvest Festival "Guess How Many Candies?" challenge, with winners announced on Friday, October 30. Students put their guessing skills to the test and had fun trying to estimate the number of candies in the container. School 10 sends a big congratulations to the winners, and thanks everyone who participated. It was another fun way to add excitement to the Harvest Festival celebrations.





SCHOOL 10 RECOGNIZES FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

In recognition of Fire Prevention Month, School 10 welcomed a special visit from the local fire department. Students had the opportunity to learn important fire safety tips, the importance of fire prevention, and how to stay safe in an emergency.

The firefighters shared valuable information and helped students better understand the important role they play in keeping the community safe. School 10 appreciates the firefighters for taking the time to educate the students.



SCHOOL 10 CELEBRATES POSITIVE BEHAVIOR THROUGH DRAWING

School 10 continues to celebrate positive behavior through its Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBSIS) weekly drawings.

Every Friday, students who demonstrate the school-wide expectations of being respectful, responsible, and safe have an opportunity to be recognized and rewarded. Congratulations to our weekly winners! School 10 is proud of its students for making positive choices and helping to create a welcoming and supportive school community.



PARENT REMINDERS

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM NOW OPEN

High School credit recovery registration is now open. If your child has failed any courses and needs to recover credits, please ensure that they attend credit recovery after school every day.

Program Schedule:
Session 1 - Nov. 2 - Feb. 12, 2027, from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Session 2 - Feb. 17 - May 24, 2027, from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Registration Schedule:
Session 1 Registration - Nov. 1 - 13, 2026
Session 2 Registration - Feb. 17 - March 3, 2027

Please contact your child's school or visit the district's website for more information.



SCHOOL 16 RE-REGISTRATION DATES ANNOUNCED FOR 2027-2028

Families of School 16 students must complete re-registration for the 2027–2028 school year at School 16 or Central Registration on the dates and times below.

School 16
11 East 22nd Ave, Paterson, NJ
November 9, 2026 | 8:30 a.m.– 6 p.m.
November 10, 2026 | 8:30 a.m.– 3 p.m.

Central Registration
90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson, NJ
November 12–13, 2026 | 8 a.m.– 3 p.m.
November 14, 2026 | 9 a.m.– 2 p.m.

Make-Up Dates — Central Registration
November 16–20, 2026 | 8 a.m.– 12 p.m.



NOVEMBER SELF-CARE CALENDAR

Happy November!

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished." – Lao Tzu

November invites us to embrace a season of gratitude, comfort, and intentional self-care. As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, nature reminds us that slowing down is a natural part of the changing seasons. Just as we bundle up in cozy layers to keep warm, we can nurture our minds and hearts with kindness, patience and moments of rest.

As we settle further into the school year and balance the many responsibilities that fill our days, let's remember to pause and appreciate the little things that bring warmth to our lives—a shared laugh with a colleague, a kind word, a favorite cup of coffee, or a quiet moment to catch our breath. Sometimes, the smallest moments offer the greatest reminders of what truly matters.

Let's fill November with gratitude, gentleness, and a whole lot of self-care.

Mantra for November:

I find warmth in gratitude, strength in rest, and joy in the little things.

This November, may we find warmth in gratitude, comfort in connection, and peace in the moments we allow ourselves simply to be. Let's make room for gentleness, gratitude, and a whole lot of self-care!







PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO HOST ANNUAL COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Paterson Public Schools' Department of Guidance and Counseling invites all students to attend the FREE College and Career Fair on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at John F. Kennedy High School.

Students will have the opportunity to connect with representatives from colleges and universities, military branches, community organizations, and trade schools to explore postsecondary opportunities. Registration is available through school counselors and at StriveFair.com.



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Have a story you'd like to share?

- Stories highlighting school activities or recognitions (i.e., awards)
- Inspiring stories involving students, teachers, and staff
- Fun events that took place at your school or in the community involving students, teachers, and staff

Use our Newsletter Submission Google Form

PPS IN THE NEWS

The Best Elementary Schools in NJ for 2027, According to U.S. News
NJFamily.com | October 22, 2026

This elementary school just ranked as the best in N.J. — again
NJ.com | October 22, 2026

PRESS RELEASES

Paterson Public Schools' New Roberto Clemente School Named Gold Ribbon School in Service-Learning
November 5, 2026

Paterson Board of Education Approves New Employment Contract for Superintendent Dr. Laurie W. Newell
November 2, 2026

MONTHLY CALENDAR REMINDERS

November 5 . . . . . NJEA Convention - Schools Closed
November 6 . . . . . NJEA Convention - District Closed
November 11 . . . . . Veterans' Day - District Closed
November 13 . . . . . 1st Marking Period Ends
November 25 . . . . . 1:00 PM Student/1:20 PM Staff Dismissal
Novmeber 26-27 . . . . . .Thanksgiving - District Closed

Full 2026-2027 School Calendar Here

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

A **Board of Education Workshop Meeting** will take place on Tuesday, November 10 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, November 16. 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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