



Students parade out of Mary E. Fogarty Elementary School on the last day. It is also their last day in the school before if it is renovated. Next year, they will be temporarily located on Laurel Avenue School.

CONNECTIONS

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

JULY 2024

Summer vacation is here!

What an incredible school year it has been. We opened three new schools for the first time in over a decade, improved our daily attendance rates, surpassed our SurveyWorks goal as a District, and so much more. Our five redesign schools have worked hard to prepare for their September launch. The redesign schools create exciting new school options that meet student and family interests to help prepare students for success in their post-secondary careers. I want to thank all of you for your tremendous support and dedication to our schools, students, and staff. We could not have done it without all of you.

I had the honor and the privilege of attending each of our high school graduations this past month. Class of 2024: congratulations, you did it! What an incredible, bright group of students you are. I can't wait to see everything each and every one of you accomplish in the years to come. Many of you have been accepted into prestigious universities, and have already gotten a jumpstart on your college education by completing the dual enrollment program at CCRI during your senior year. Others have signed contracts with local industries and organizations such as **General Dynamics Electric Boat** and the **New England Region of the Laborers' International Union of North America** to get a headstart on their careers. No matter if you choose to continue your educational journey or go into the workforce, I am so unbelievably proud of this group of students. Reach for the stars, Class of 2024!

I also want to congratulate our 5th and 8th grade students who had their "stepping up" ceremonies during these last few weeks. Our 5th graders are heading off to middle school, and the 8th graders are entering high school. Big things lie ahead for each of you, and we can't wait to accompany you on this journey. Enjoy these next couple of weeks off, but don't forget about your summer reading!



DISTRICT UPDATES



D'ABATE DEDICATION

Superintendent **Montañez**, along with **Rhode Island Education Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green**, **Mayor Brett Smiley**, **School Board President Erlin Rogel**, members of **Providence City Council**, students from **William D'Abate Elementary School**, and members of the **D'Abate family** celebrated the dedication of the new school building. Thank you to everyone who came to support our students and staff!



LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATES

Congratulations to the following members of our Providence Public Schools community who have successfully completed the **Principal Residency Network (PRN)** leadership program: **Bianca Bevilacqua**, **Amy Harrington**, **Griffin Muckley**, **Randi Norville**, and **Nester Puello**. PRN is CLEE's residency-based building administrator (PK-12) certification program. Congratulations to **Carol Amaya**, **Suzanne DaSilva**, **Michelle Faford**, **Allison Gruskin**, and **Harley Van Dunk** who have successfully completed the PPSD/TNTP leadership program!



DUAL LANGUAGE/BILINGUAL EDUCATION SHOWCASE

The second annual Providence Public School District (PPSD) Dual Language/Bilingual Education Showcase event was held on June 4th! PPSD educators and students shared the work they are doing every day toward the goals of bilingualism, biliteracy, and multicultural competence! This year, the District featured Young Woods Elementary and Frank Spaziano Elementary as the two schools for the showcase. See the [video here](#).



YOUNG WOODS TEACHER WINS RHODE ISLAND MLL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Big shout out to **Young Woods Elementary School** 5th grade Dual Language teacher **Suzanne Davis-Riley** who won the **Rhode Island Teachers of English Language Learners (RITELL) 2024 MLL Teacher of the Year Award**. The award highlights teachers' strengths in cultural responsiveness, translanguaging practices, scaffolding support for MLLs, and leadership/collaboration to support MLLs in a school community. Congratulations, Mrs. Davis-Riley!

CELEBRATING STUDENTS



PPSD GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to the high school graduating **Class of 2024!** We are so proud of all you have accomplished during your time here in the District, and we can't wait to see all that you do in the years to come. Congratulations and best of luck!



A special shout out to our 5th grade students who are "stepping up" to middle school and our 8th grade students who are "stepping up" to high school! We are excited to have you join your new school next year. Onwards and upwards!



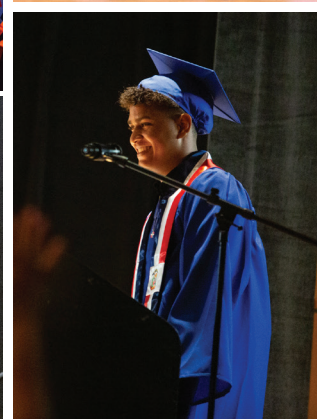
SPECIALIZED SERVICES GRADUATIONS

A huge congratulations to the graduates of **Students Transition to Adult Readiness (STAR), Project Search, and Providence Transitions Academy!** Using a combination of classroom-based learning and experiences in real world settings, these programs engage and empower young adults to recognize their value and potential while achieving their post-secondary goals to become productive and independent citizens. Project Search is a collaboration among Miriam Hospital, Providence Public Schools, and the Office of Rehabilitation Services.



CTE SIGNING DAY

We have so many amazing Career and Technical Education (CTE) students in PPSD, many of whom have extraordinary talents. Some students have chosen to go into the workforce after high school with some great local industries that we partner with. Some of those industries include, the **New England Region of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), General Dynamics Electric Boat, Rhode Island Nursing Education Center, the United States Army, the Air National Guard, the Community College of Rhode Island, and New England Institute of Technology.** Congratulations to everyone who signed with one of these great organizations!





CIVICS IN PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PPSD is proud of the transformative impact that civics education is bringing to students in the District. The program, in partnership with **Generation Citizen**, is an important investment into our students' futures. Click the video link to learn more about what our students in the District have been working on and learning during their civics courses. Watch the [video here](#).



TURNING DRAWINGS INTO STUFFED ANIMALS

A kindergarten class at **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School** got an exciting surprise from students at **Hope High School**.

Students in the kindergarten class received custom stuffed animals of their drawings from the high schoolers.

The kindergartners drew their favorite animals from their lessons on ecosystems, and Hope High School students brought them to life by turning them into stuffed animals!



EQUITY AND BELONGING



PPSD students presented their equity action projects during the Office of Equity and Belonging's R.E.S.P.E.C.T Student Equity Project Public Showcase. Students worked hard on these projects all year and were able to share their findings with their peers.

STUDENT EQUITY SUMMER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (SESLA)

SESLA is a FREE 9-Day equity leadership institute for R.E.S.P.E.C.T. student leaders. It is designed to bolster students' critical thinking, leadership, advocacy, literacy and public speaking skills. Through guided programming, SESLA equips young leaders with the tools and knowledge necessary to create impactful change in their communities. This Academy will take place from August 13, 2024 through August 23, 2024 at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University. It is open to up to 40 RESPECT students. Permission slips have been distributed to schools and will be accepted on a first come basis. The Academy is free and transportation will be provided. Each participant with at least 90% attendance, will receive a small stipend at the end of the Academy. Access the link to the parental permission slip in English [HERE](#) and in Spanish [HERE](#). Parents may contact us at equity@ppsd.org for more information.



ALL-STATE AWARDS

Congratulations to our **Hope High School Girls Basketball team** who were recognized by the Providence Journal and USA Today as the **Team of the Year** at the 2024 All-State Rhode Island High School Sports Awards. The Blue Wave team won the Division IV girls basketball title in March.

Congratulations to **Coach John Kavanagh** who was recognized at the **Boys Team Coach of the Year** during the ceremony! Kavanagh led the Classical High School Boys Basketball team to become Division I champions.



SKILLS USA NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to **Providence Career and Technical Academy's Fritz Heitmueller** who won silver in the Industrial Motors and Controls competition at the **Skills USA National Leadership & Skills Conference** in Atlanta. We are also pleased to share that **Janelle King, Melanie Rosa, and Emilie Rosa** placed 4th in the career pathways showcase Human Services. It was a great job done by all of our PCTA students!



ALVAREZ AND DELSESTO AT MESA

PPSD is proud of our **Dr. Jorge Alvarez High School** and **Del Sesto Middle School** teams competing at the **National MESA USA (Math, Science, Engineering Achievement) NEDC (National Engineering Design Competition)** in San Diego the last week of June! Each team qualified by winning the high school and middle school RI MESA competitions held at URI in May.



RECOGNITION AWARDS

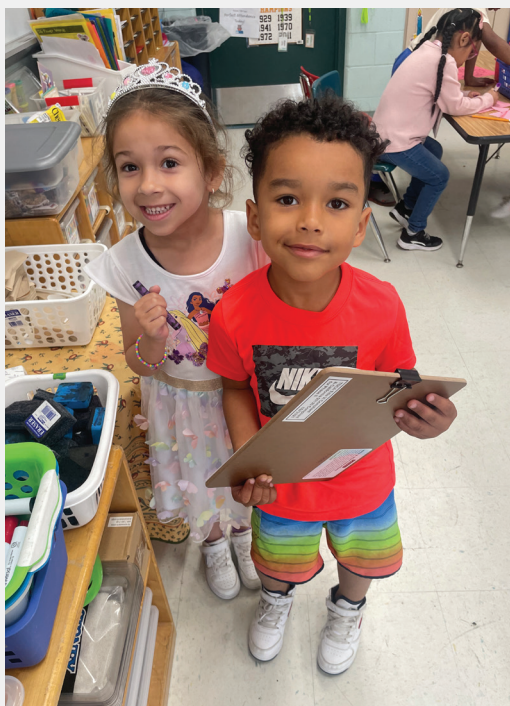


NEPBIS DISTRICT OF DISTINCTION

Congratulations to the **Providence Public Schools' Student Supports team** for being recognized as a District of Distinction during the Northeast Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Leadership Forum in May!



PRE-K CORNER



PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN

Pre-K students at **Young Woods Elementary School** visited a kindergarten classroom to learn about kindergarten and complete a classroom scavenger hunt. Pre-K is getting ready for kindergarten!



FACILITIES UPDATE

NEXT PHASE OF CAPITAL PLAN APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

The Providence City Council approved putting forth a bond to fund the next phase of Providence Schools construction, moving the district closer to its vision of 100% of students in new or like-new buildings by 2030. The next phase of construction includes projects across the entire city, including the construction of four new PK-8 school buildings.

GOOD NEWS

- [Providence school leaders to celebrate new facilities at D'Abate Elementary School](#)
ABC6, June 10, 2024
- [As interns, Providence-area students gain hands-on work experiences at Brown](#)
Brown.edu, June 18, 2024
- [Providence city councilors secure additional \\$2.5 million for Providence school budget](#)
ABC6, June 12, 2024

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



- [Independence Day](#)
Thursday, July 4, 2024
- [Right to Read Professional Development](#)
Tuesday, August 27, 2024 -
Wednesday August 28, 2024
- [Teacher Orientation](#)
Thursday, August 29, 2024
- [First Day of School](#)
Tuesday, September 3, 2024