

Peekskill City School District



Mary Keenan Foster, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent

The Mission of the Peekskill City School District is to educate and empower all students to strive for excellence as lifelong learners who embrace diversity and are contributing members of a global society.

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Dear Peekskill Community,

We enter the lovely month of May with weather that feels like summer! I am not complaining after the winter we experienced. Thank you for supporting us in our work by sending your children to school on time each day ready to learn. May begins the season of music concerts in all our schools. It is an opportunity to hear your children demonstrate their musical talents. Please bring relatives and friends as we are very proud of our vocal and instrumental programs.

The Peekskill City School District officially welcomed Dr. David Mauricio to the district at a reception on April 30th at the middle school. I would like to share some excerpts of what I said to Dr. Mauricio with everyone:

What matters most to all of us in the district and in the city are the children. We can promise you as the new leader in the district only one thing and that is that all of our children have amazing promise and unlimited potential.

Our Summit Academy students teach and learn with and from our Uriah Hill four year olds. Our first grade scholars traveled with their teacher to Harvard University and the entire first grade class is going to Manhattanville College this month so that as young as age 6, they can begin to dream of higher education and career opportunities. Oakside students collectively read 8,378 books this year to date, demonstrating their commitment to literacy and learning. The Hillcrest student and family quilt was recently stitched together at the STEAM fair, mixing science, engineering and the M in this case represented the value we place in multiculturalism.

Our beautiful middle school engages our students with Black History oratorical contests, civic engagement for National Walkout Day, achieving honor roll status and continuing the STEM program initiatives with IBM STEM camp this summer. Our high school students have shined brightly this year both in the arts and in academics. Accomplishments include: NYSMAA Awards for the City Singers, Awards for Science Research, for Business Olympics and for Scholar Athletes. Our students have opportunities with Turner Construction Internships, Robotics Competitions, as well as Student Leadership Conferences. Anyone who was fortunate enough to see Beauty and the Beast this past weekend knows how talented our students are.

To sum up what I am trying to convey is that you are leading a district that is primed and ready for academic excellence. The best part of leading this district, second only to the children, is the professionalism and the dedication of the entire staff and the strong partnerships we have with the

community. We have a village that truly cares for its children. I speak for the entire district when I say that we feel honored to work alongside you.

I know the entire Peekskill community will continue to give Dr. Mauricio a warm welcome. He will be in our district the first week of June and then officially “take the helm” on July 1, 2018. It is an exciting time for our district and I know that we continue to build on what we have already accomplished and make even greater strides in the months and years ahead.

Educationally yours,

Mary Keenan Foster

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