



This week, Dr. Mauricio met with Peekskill Mayor Andre Rainey at City Hall to discuss the continued partnership between the school district and the City of Peekskill. Dr. Mauricio and Mayor Rainey discussed ways in which they can leverage shared resources to continue to enhance programming for our students. They also spoke about synergizing efforts to ensure that everyone in Peekskill is counted for the 2020 Census (see more information below). Peekskill Schools will leverage our Saturday Academy, Parent Center and communication strategies to share the importance of being counted and help facilitate the process. More information to follow. Visit <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html> for more information, including census jobs for those at least 18 years of age who have a driver's license.



The Peekskill Special Services Department is excited to announce that a Special Services Steering Committee has been formed! The committee consists of parents, students, staff, administrators and board members. The district leadership and staff members met this week to discuss future plans. The committee will have 2-3 meetings during the 2019-2020 school year to gather input and feedback from various groups to help guide the direction of the District's Special Education Plan.



PCSD recently partnered with Girls Inc. of Westchester to expand our girls' empowerment program at Peekskill High School. Representatives from the organization set up tables in the PHS cafeteria this week to help bring awareness of the partnership to our young ladies.



Advocacy season is upon us once again! The PCSD Advocacy Committee, including Board Trustee Ms. Branwen MacDonald and parent Mrs. Margery Rossi, would like to thank Senator Peter Harckham and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef for taking the time to meet with district representatives this week to discuss equitable funding for Peekskill Schools. To learn more on how YOU can help support PCSD in our efforts to secure fair and equitable funding, please [click here to visit our District website advocacy page](#).



Members of the Peekskill Education Foundation met this week conduct grant reviews. We thank these dedicated volunteers for their continued work to support the students and teachers of Peekskill Schools.



Peekskill High School recently welcomed back recent graduate and current New York University student Miss Jessie Zhanay, who returned to PHS to speak to students about her college experiences. See below for an alumni “Where Are They Now” link which

invites PHS graduates to share personal stories and successes they have achieved since finishing high school.



Across the District, schools and teachers were focused on the work and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this week. Ms. Kadin's Woodside class learned about Dr. King's legacy of equality, equity, unity and collaboration. These messages also tie into our monthly Commitment to Character theme of collaboration.



This week, PCSD Technology Manager Mrs. Janice Reid, Data Analyst Mrs. Carmen Freed and Database Specialist Ms. Nancy Wilkowski met with a representative from Tableau. Tableau provides interactive data visualization software services to schools, businesses and more. The District looks forward to launching our new data dashboard shortly. Establishing a data-dashboard is one of the Board of Education's goals as it will help ensure that we continue to be a data-driven district.



The Peekskill Board of Education and the City of Peekskill held a joint meeting at City Hall this week. The meeting opened with a presentation from Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Planning Ms. Norma Drummond, who spoke about the importance of Peekskill's participation in the upcoming 2020 Census. The City and school district will join other community partners in helping to relay this critical message to our residents. It is important for our families to realize that the census count directly affects our funding for schools, as well as city, county and state resources as well. More information on this important initiative will be out soon. The City of Peekskill and Peekskill Schools continue to work together to enhance our community and the school district.



The District's Guardians of Equity team met this week to discuss disproportionality and restorative practices. Thank you to Director of Special Services Mrs. Ellen Gerace and Coordinator of Special Services Ms. Sadika Clarke for leading this meaningful work. The team reviewed school level data and engaged in a root-cause analysis to identify our next steps.



This week, Dr. Mauricio, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Dan Callahan and PCSD Athletic Director Mr. Austin Goldberg met with Councilman Mr. Ramon Fernandez and My' Brother's Keeper community partner Mr. Martin McDonald to plan a soccer event at the middle school for our My Brother's Keeper students. Peekskill will collaborate with other Westchester district's that have MBK programs. The goal is to recruit Latino students into this important MBK initiative.



Join the Peekskill Middle School Drama Club for, "Frozen, Jr." on Friday, January 24 (7 PM) and Saturday, January 25 (3 PM) at the Peekskill Middle School Theater.
! Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Please come out and support our cast and crew!



As a reminder, our FREE conversational Spanish classes at the Parent Center begin Wednesday, January 22 and take place every Wednesday that schools are open until June 17. See the attached flyer for details on how to register. Seats are filling up quickly, so register soon.

LEARN TO SPEAK SPANISH!



Peekskill Schools
invite you to participate in *FREE* Spanish classes!

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 22 - JUNE 17

5:30-7:00 PM

AT THE

**PARENT RESOURCE CENTER
980 PEMART AVE, PEEKSKILL**

*(Please note, classes will only be held on Wednesdays
when school is in session.)*

ROLLING ENROLLMENT!

(Attend some or all classes!)

TO REGISTER AT ANY TIME:

EMAIL: MOLIVIERFLORES@PEEKSKILLSCHOOLS.ORG

CALL: 914-739-0682 EXT. 7102



Due to the impending inclement weather forecast, the Saturday games of Peekskill's Lou Panzanaro, Sr. tournament have been moved to Sunday, January 19. Games will be played starting at 11 a.m. followed by 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Please see the updated flyer attached. Please check peekskillathletics.org for schedule updates as they become available.

PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL

VARSITY BOYS AND GIRLS

LOU PANZANARO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



<p>THURSDAY, January 16, 2020 Boys: Game 1: 4:30 PM Roy C Ketcham (Away/Dark) vs. Tuckahoe (Home/White) Game 2: 6:30 PM Lincoln (Away/Dark) vs. Peekskill (Home/White)</p>	<p>FRIDAY, January 17, 2020 Girls: Game 1: 4:30 PM White Plains (Away/Dark) vs. Haldane (Home/White) Game 2: 6:30 PM East Ramapo (Away/Dark) vs. Peekskill (Home/White)</p>
<p>SUNDAY, January 19, 2020 Boys Consolation 1:00 PM Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2 Boys Championship 5:00 PM Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2 *Sunday – BOYS: Lincoln and Peekskill will wear WHITE UNIFORMS Roy C Ketcham and Tuckahoe will wear DARK UNIFORMS</p>	<p>SUNDAY, January 19, 2020 Girls Consolation 11:00AM Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2 Girls Championship 3:00 PM Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2 *Sunday – GIRLS: East Ramapo and Peekskill will wear WHITE UNIFORMS White Plains and Haldane will wear DARK UNIFORMS</p>

*****UPDATED 1/17/2020*****

We often highlight the great things happening with our current students, but now we are also expanding our efforts to recognize our alumni as well, as they serve as living examples of our District's successful outcomes! Are you, or do you know, a Peekskill alumni who would like to be highlighted by our District? If so, click the following link for our alumni "Where Are They Now" form. We will be showcasing what our former students are up to in upcoming newsletters, social media posts and more!
<https://bit.ly/2tVsvYu> Help us spread the word by sharing this link!



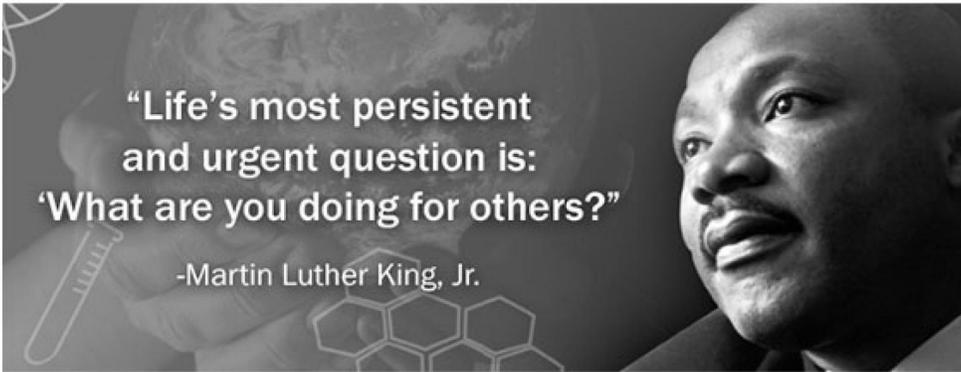
Attention Peekskill Parents! The 2020-2021 childcare transportation forms are now available on our District website. Please note these forms **MUST** be returned **NO LATER THAN** April 1, 2020 to receive daycare transportation for the 2020-2021 school year. <https://bit.ly/2QN7ZC9>



This week, our #PeekskillPride campaign recognizes everyone one from Uriah Hill Elementary School to the high school. We also want to recognize high school principal Mr. Arthur, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Callahan, our dedicated high school assistant principals, teachers, staff, students, parents and partners as our official graduation rate for the 2019 cohort was released this week. Our graduation rate continues to grow each year. Last year, our 2019 graduation rate was 78% denoting an 8% point gain from 2018. Our next goal is to exceed 80%, then 90% and to continue to strive until we reach 100% of our students. Together, we can make this a reality!

Have a great weekend!

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent of Schools



“Life’s most persistent
and urgent question is:
‘What are you doing for others?’”

-Martin Luther King, Jr.