

## Superintendent's Communication Brief: November 13 - 16, 2018

On Tuesday, Dr. Mauricio began the week with a regularly scheduled school support visit to Woodside Elementary. He was joined by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Foster, Director of Special Services Mrs. Gerace, Technology Manager Mrs. Reid and Woodside Principal Mrs. Aviles-Rodriguez. The group discussed the Walk-to-Model of literacy instruction, professional development provided by Mrs. Aviles-Rodriguez and toured the building. While visiting classrooms, the team saw evidence of literacy instruction, creative bulletin boards and students engaged in sustained reading. The students are building up their reading stamina, which is a school goal.



After visiting Woodside, Dr. Mauricio and Peekskill High School Principal Mr. Arthur met with representatives from Monroe College, including Monroe College President Mr. Jerome, Mr. Niedzwiecki and Mrs. Diamond. The group discussed the generous scholarship opportunities for our students, as well as potential college courses that could be taught in our school free of charge to the District and our students.



Early Tuesday afternoon, Dr. Mauricio met with District Consultant Dr. Larry Licopoli to discuss their upcoming Board presentation on the District Comprehensive Improvement and Transformation Plan (DCIP). It will be presented at this week's BOE meeting along with a presentation from Mrs. Vargas, Director of Uriah Hill.



Later Tuesday afternoon, Dr. Mauricio joined Director of Special Services Mrs. Gerace and Parent, Family and Community Engagement Liaison Mrs. Olivier-Flores in a meeting with Arts10566 representatives Mr. Morel and Mr. Mora to discuss their engagement in our Saturday Academy, Parent Center and the potential adoption of one or two of our schools. Mr. Mora was very impressed with our parent and family engagement efforts.



Following the Arts10566 meeting, Dr. Mauricio joined Peekskill Mayor Rainey and Councilman Colin Smith to meet with Mount Lebanon Pastor Gary Colter at City Hall to discuss the church's support of the MBK initiative. Pastor Colter expressed his interest in joining our MBK and Saturday Academy efforts.



Tuesday evening, Dr. Mauricio joined community stakeholders at an Arts10566 ribbon cutting event at the organization's new location on John Walsh Blvd. Peekskill students in Arts10566's violin classes participated in the ceremony by playing for those in attendance. Mr. Morel and his team do amazing work with our students and are also partners of our MBK initiative.



[Click here](#) to watch the children perform at the Arts10566 ceremony.

On Wednesday morning, Dr. Mauricio and District staff attended a TAC-D/Guardians of Equity meeting at Uriah Hill. At the meeting, teams from each school discussed our District's data and later worked in groups to discuss how to improve outcomes for our students.



On Thursday morning, Dr. Mauricio, Assistant Superintendent Callahan and Director of Special Services Mrs. Gerace visited Peekskill High School for a weekly school supports meeting. There, they observed a leadership meeting led by High School Principal Mr. Arthur. The team discussed amazing college opportunities that will be provided to our students and their

parents/guardians. Afterwards, Dr. Mauricio, district and school leadership had a follow up discussion about Summit Academy.



On Saturday, Dr. Mauricio, his family, BOE President Simpkins, BOE Trustees Villon, MacDonald, Jenkins, Pereira and North, Mrs. Vargas, staff, Councilman Smith, Mayor Rainey and community leaders attended the second Saturday Academy. 258 individuals (141 students, 117 parents/guardians) attended the event and engaged in various activities, including: art, science, sports, literacy, yoga, meditation, MBK and more. The families participated in holiday basket giveaways and were able to take home spa gifts donated by staff and the community. Great job to the Saturday Academy team led by Mrs. Gerace, Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Olivier-Flores.



On Saturday evening, Dr. Mauricio is looking forward to attending the Peekskill High School Drama Club's fall play "Almost, Maine." Curtain is at 7 p.m. Please come out and support our students if you are able to attend.



Enjoy your weekend!  
Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent of Schools