

Superintendent's Communication Brief: November 12-15, 2019

As part of his weekly School Supports visits, Dr. Mauricio and administrative leaders visited Woodside Elementary this week. Principal Mrs. Aviles-Rodriguez, Dr. Mauricio and team members visited Dual Language classrooms, a gym class, and saw students working with sight words during their English Language Arts (ELA) block. While walking the halls, evidence of this month's Commitment to Character theme, "Gratitude and Kindness" was displayed on many of the school's bulletin boards. Each teacher also displayed the name and/or logo of their college alma maters on classroom doors to encourage a college-bound culture at the school.



In keeping with their annual tradition, the Peekskill High School band, led by Mr. John Hahn, provided music for the City's Veterans Day ceremony on Monday. The Peekskill High School City Singers also performed under the direction of PHS Choral Director Mr. Kevin Larsen. Thank you to BOE President Pereira, Principal Mr. Arthur and all of those who came out to participate in the ceremony and honor our veterans.



Dr. Mauricio, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education Mr. Dan Callahan, Peekskill High School Principal Mr. Rodney Arthur and PHS Assistant Principal Ms. Smith-Moore attended a meeting with representatives from the College of Westchester. At the meeting, the group discussed scholarships that will be offered to our students and opportunities for additional college courses at the high school.



Dr. Mauricio met with District leaders this week to review Student Work Analysis Protocols, which will help the District assess authentic student work. These protocols will assist the district in supporting teachers and students.



This week, Dr. Mauricio, Director of Student Support Services Mrs. Gerace and Parent, Family and Community Liaison Mrs. Olivier-Flores met with United Way CEO Thomas Gabriel and Chief Impact Officer Faith Butcher. The group met to discuss continuing the Peekskill City School District's collaboration with the United Way, opportunities for our Saturday Academy program and potential partnerships with organizations in Westchester and beyond.



Peekskill High School Varsity Soccer players Joaquin Salazar and Duglas Jerez recently represented our District in the Section 1 Senior All Star game over the weekend. Both players scored in their game!



Dr. Mauricio and Parent, Family and Community Liaison Mrs. Olivier-Flores Meeting with Mr. Wilfredo Morel and Ms. Vilma Velez of Hudson River Health Care to discuss cultural programming for the December 14 Saturday Academy. Our theme will be holiday cultures around the world.

Additionally, Mr. Morel has secured 100 free ballet tickets for the December Saturday Academy to take students and parents to the Westchester County Center. More information to follow. Mark your calendars!



Peekskill Middle School welcomed guest speaker Mr. Thomas Grimes from NY Finest Speakers this week. Mr. Grimes spoke to students about internet safety and how to be a good digital citizen. In this day and age, it is critical that our students know how to be and act safe on the internet.



The Guardians of Equity team met at Oakside this week to continue their work to ensure Peekskill Schools are providing equitable experiences for all of our students. Thank you to Oakside Assistant Principal Mrs. Staci Woodley for leading the meeting.



Staff members across Peekskill Schools wore blue in recognition of World Kindness Day on Wednesday, November 13. The day fits into our monthly Commitment to Character theme of “Gratitude and Kindness.” All month long, staff and students have been embracing ways to exemplify these characteristics.



As part of his weekly School Supports visits, Dr. Mauricio was joined by administrators in a visit to Peekskill High School. At the school, Principal Mr. Rodney Arthur met with the group to discuss the engagement they saw in the classrooms and other opportunities for supporting our students. In a tour of classrooms, the team witnessed teachers leading engaging math and science activities in which students showed their work, collaborated in teams to solve problems and debated they answers. Together, they learned how to assist each other.



Peekskill High School My Brother's Keeper teacher leader Mr. Mark Andújar took a couple of MBK boys to a West Point Army Football Game last weekend. Go Army!



There will be a mandatory meeting for all winter athletes in Grades 7-12 and their parents this Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building. Important information about the upcoming season will be shared at this meeting.



The Peekskill High School Drama Company is excited to present the Paul Sills adaptation of the classic play, 'A Christmas Carol,' by Charles Dickens. [Advance tickets are on sale now here.](#) Actors will be in costume at the November 16 Saturday Academy for a "Meet and Greet" and tickets will be available for purchase at that time. You will also be able to purchase tickets at the door. Shows are scheduled as follows:

Thursday, November 21 at 7PM

Friday, November 22 at 7PM

Saturday, November 23 at 2PM & 7PM

Tickets: \$10/adults and \$8/students and senior citizens

THE
Peekskill High School
Drama Company

PRESENTS...



November 21, 22 & 23, 2019 - PHS Auditorium

TICKETS:
\$10/ADULTS
\$8/STUDENTS & SENIORS

Available Online: <https://phsxmascarol.bpt.me>

The Peekskill Education Foundation will be hosting a Wine Tasting and Silent Auction today, Saturday, November 16 from 3-6 PM at the Lincoln Depot Museum. Come stop by to show your support. The proceeds benefit our students!

Wine Tasting & Silent Auction!
Saturday, November 16th, 3-6pm
Lincoln Depot Museum • Peekskill

Sample Holiday Wines
and support the Peekskill City Schools

Event to benefit
The Peekskill Education Foundation

Light refreshments served
Silent auction & 50/50 raffle

The poster features a yellow and orange striped background with autumn leaves. On the right side, there is a glass of red wine. At the bottom center, there is a circular logo for the Peekskill Education Foundation (PEF) with the text "PEF" in large letters and "PEEKSKILL EDUCATION FOUNDATION" in smaller letters below it.

Our next Saturday Academy is happening today, November 16 from 10AM-1PM at Peekskill Middle School! Join us for a day of fun that includes: Brunch, the Two By Two Zoo, yoga, workshops and more!

Special this month... Adventure Bound Wild & Crazy Game Show hosted by the Peekskill PTO. Come check out a nature/animal hands-on STEAM exhibit!



The Peekskill City School District's would like your feedback on our communication efforts. As the parents/guardians of our students, we want to be sure we're communicating our information to you as best as possible. To help us do this, we ask that you take this short, 4 minute survey to help us determine where we are succeeding, and where we can improve. [Click here to take our 2019 Parent Communication Survey](#). This survey is also available in [Spanish](#). Your input is greatly needed and appreciated!



Have a great weekend!
Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent of Schools