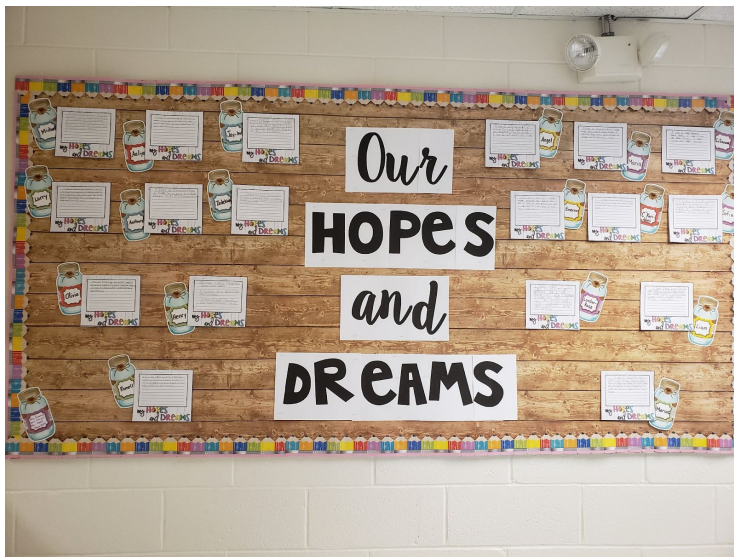


## Superintendent's Communication Brief: September 9-13, 2019

In keeping with our Peekskill's Promise "Whole Child" approach to education, this year Peekskill City Schools has adopted monthly District-wide themes at all schools to promote character education and social emotional learning. A whole child approach to education ensures that students are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and exemplify friendship towards each other. September's theme is "Hopes and Dreams" - keep an eye out throughout the month to see the creative ways our students and staff have embraced this theme! At home, talk about life-long hopes and dreams and set goals for this school year (e.g., grades, attendance, community service, friendship qualities, etc.).



This week, Board Trustee Branwen MacDonald, Dr. Mauricio and Superintendent of Business Mrs. Robin Zimmerman met with the Peekskill Parent Teacher Organization's Executive Committee to present on the District's Capital Project propositions. To learn more about Proposition #1 and #2, [click here](#). These propositions will be put to vote before the Peekskill community on October 7. (See below for more information.) Also at this meeting, the group discussed the class parents initiative and the PTO's efforts to support our families and teachers throughout the year. [Visit the PTO's website](#) to stay informed and get involved.



Congratulations to Peekskill High School Assistant Principal Dr. Jenna Ferris, who was honored at the Hudson Valley Youth Bureau Breakfast in White Plains this week. Dr. Ferris is a Youth Bureau Board member and was nominated for the award by Peekskill Youth Bureau Executive Director Mrs. Tuesday McDonald. Mrs. MacDonald was joined by Dr. Mauricio, PHS Principal Mr. Rodney Arthur and others to present the award to Dr. Ferris at the event. The award recognized Dr. Ferris as a “champion of positive youth development.” PHS student Justin Smithson sang the National Anthem for the occasion.



Dr. Mauricio and Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education Dr. Mary Keenan Foster were joined by Board of Education Vice President Mrs. Jillian Villon, Board Trustee Mrs. Branwen MacDonald and Senator Pete Harckham at Woodside Elementary this week. The group walked the building and visited classrooms. Senator Harckham even took the time to be a guest reader in one of our classrooms! The Senator was very impressed by the engagement he saw, and the commitment of our principal Mrs. Aviles-Rodriguez and our great teachers.



Woodside Principal Mrs. Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez and her team hosted a Parent Breakfast at the elementary school this week. The event included refreshments and useful information about the upcoming school year.



Director of Student Support Services Mrs. Ellen Gerace and the Response To Intervention (RTI) Direct team met this week to prepare for implementation of RTI Direct. This electronic platform will allow our staff to monitor the progress of students who require additional support and better communicate with parents.



Woodside's Kindergarten Dual Language Department met this week to plan around data and to align units of study. Our Dual Language team is off to a great start this year!



A safe school environment is priority number one for our Board and District. Our District's safety team, led by Director of Security Mr. David Santiago, meets regularly to ensure that our schools

are great learning spaces for all. As a reminder, our schools will begin conducting lockdown drills. It is important for parents to speak to their children about the necessity for our buildings to practice this procedure to keep our schools safe for all.



Congratulations to our Girls Varsity Soccer team for winning their home opener 4-0 this week! You can [click here for our Athletics Department game schedule](#). Please come out to cheer on our student athletes! Go Red Devils!



Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Keenan Foster met with Woodside Reading Teachers and Principal Mrs. Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez this week to review the plan for the beginning of the year student reading assessments.



Thank you to our Oakside and Woodside families who came out to each building's Back to School nights! We hope everyone enjoyed learning about all of the exciting things this year

holds for our students. Special thanks to our building leaders and their teams for making this night fun and informative.



As part of his weekly school visits, Dr. Mauricio, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education Mr. Dan Callahan and Director of Student Support Services Mrs. Ellen Gerace visited Peekskill High School culinary classes this week. While visiting, students were engaged in preparing meals and learned how to make healthy smoothies as a treat.





While at the high school, Dr. Mauricio and the central office team learned about the school's improved graduation tracker led by Assistant Principal Mrs. Naima Smith-Moore. Principal Arthur spoke of the great school opening thus far and the goals for the school year. Our high school administrators and team are well-poised to reach their goals!



Thank you to our Ms. Jennifer Sampson and our Transportation Department for teaching our Woodside students about bus safety at this week's bus drills! Our students are transported by new buses as part of our new bus contract with MAT Bus Corp.



Woodside teacher Mrs. Ocasio is collecting Halloween costumes. Donations can be dropped off beginning Monday, September 16 and can be left in the labeled box by the main office. Sizes 6-10 (children's) are needed.



Our second year of Saturday Academy sessions kicks off on September 28 at 10 AM at Peekskill Middle School! This session we will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. All are welcome to attend! As always, the day begins with a free brunch. As part of our academic enhancement, the Peekskill PTO will host a mobile STEAM museum, plus there will be crafts, an inflatable obstacle course, games and more! Please join us for our first exciting event of the season!

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2019**  
**PEEKSKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**212 RINGGOLD STREET**  
**10AM-1PM**  
**FREE BRUNCH AT 10 AM**

**FREE FUN FOR ALL!** **SATURDAY ACADEMY KICK-OFF** **FACE PAINTING!**  
**FOOD!** **SPORTS!**

**JOIN US FOR PCSD'S HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION!**

Free Brunch • Inflatable Obstacle Course •  
Family Activities • Community Resources  
In collaboration with the PTO we will be having a  
mobile STEAM museum!

**\*\*All children must be accompanied by an adult.\*\***  
This event is most appropriate  
for children in  
Grades Pre-K-8

Calling ALL Father Figures! Please join us on the following mornings next week at your child's school for our National "Dads Take Your Child To School" event:

PHS/PKMS: Monday, September 16

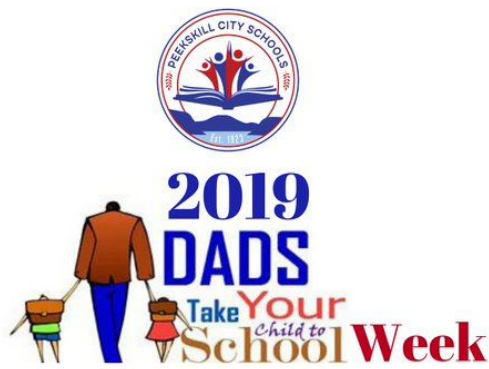
Uriah Hill: Tuesday, September 17

Woodside: Wednesday, September 18

Oakside: Thursday, September 19

Hillcrest: Friday, September 20

All who participate in this event are asked to accompany their student(s) into their school building. At this time, there will also be an opportunity for our father figures to commit to staying involved with our schools throughout the year by volunteering for upcoming events.



The Peekskill City School District and the Peekskill PTO have once again partnered to form a PCSD team for the Walk Like MADD event taking place at FDR Park in Yorktown Heights on October 19 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. [Click here to join our team](#) and walk with the PTO, Superintendent Dr. Mauricio and others! Special thanks to PCSD teacher's aide Mrs. Maria Leff for leading this effort for MADD.

# WESTCHESTER WALK LIKE MADD

JOIN US ON  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019  
FDR STATE PARK

WALKLIKEMADD.ORG/WESTCHESTER



We are asking the community to please continue to spread the word about our Capital Project Town Hall and Vote. The Town Hall will take place on September 24 at 7 p.m. at Peekskill High School. The vote will take place October 7 from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. at Peekskill High School.



The banner features the Peekskill City Schools logo on the left, which includes a stylized figure holding a book and the text 'PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOLS' and 'Est. 1923'. To the right of the logo, the text reads 'Town Hall Meeting' in a large, blue, cursive font, followed by 'Reunión del ayuntamiento' in a smaller, blue, cursive font. Below this, the event details are listed in two columns: 'PROPOSITIONS #1 & #2' and 'PROPOSICIONES #1 & #2', both followed by 'Tuesday, September 24' and 'Martes 24 de Septiembre', and '7PM, Peekskill High School'.

**CAPITAL PROJECT INFORMATION**

Peekskill Schools are excited to announce an opportunity to enhance our District facilities with **NO ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT!** On October 7, Peekskill residents will be able to vote on two Capital Project propositions that have been designed to address District needs. Please attend the Town Hall on September 24 to learn more. There will be an informational presentation, followed by a question and answer session. Please vote on October 7 at Peekskill High School!

**INFORMACIÓN DEL PROYECTO CAPITAL**

¡El Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Peekskill se complace en anunciar una oportunidad para mejorar nuestras instalaciones del Distrito **SIN IMPACTO AL ESTIMADO DE IMPUESTO!** El 7 de octubre del 2019, los residentes de Peekskill podrán votar sobre dos propuestas del Proyecto Capital las cuales están diseñadas para atender las necesidades del Distrito. Únase a PCSD para una junta el 24 de septiembre para obtener más información. Habrá una presentación informativa, seguida de una sesión de preguntas y respuestas. ¡Por favor venga y vote el 7 de octubre en Peekskill High School!

For more information, please visit the Peekskill City School District website:  
Para obtener más información, por favor, visite el sitio web del Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Peekskill:

[www.peakskillcsd.org](http://www.peakskillcsd.org)

# VOTE!

PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1031 ELM ST  
PEEKSKILL, NY 10566

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 6696  
White Plains  
New York 10610

October 7, 2019  
7 de Octubre, 2019

POLLS OPEN | URNAS ABREN: 7AM-9PM

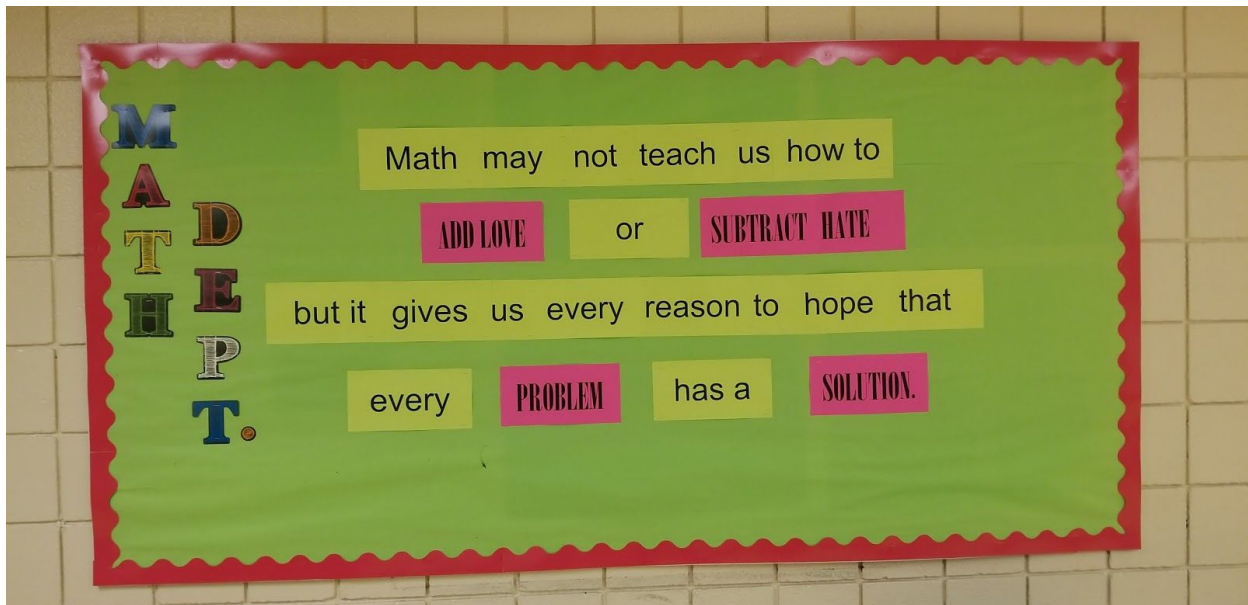
POLLING PLACE | LUGAR DE VOTACIÓN:  
PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL



PROPOSITION/PROPOSICIÓN #1

PROPOSITION/PROPOSICIÓN #2

This week, we would like to end our Superintendent's Brief with a message brought to us by the Peekskill High School Math Department. Let it be an inspiration for all of us to live by...



Enjoy your weekend!

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent of School