

## Superintendent's Communication Brief: September 3-7, 2019

A big thank you to our team captain, new Athletic Director Mr. Goldberg, coaches, staff, Board Trustee Mr. Jenkins and Dr. Mauricio who took time out of their weekend to join the Peekskill Educators team in a game of kickball at Depew field. The games hosted teams from the Peekskill Fire Department, MBK Black Diamonds, former students, the Peekskill Rotary and more. The event was organized by Peekskill Mayor Andre Rainey. The day was the perfect reason for community organizations across Peekskill to get together for some summer fun just before the start of the new school year.



In keeping with her annual tradition, the day before our first day of school Woodside Principal Mrs. Rebecca Aviles-Rodriguez treated our young students to a virtual read-along! [Listen along here](#) as she reads, "I Lost My Bear." Principal Aviles-Rodriguez looks forward to another great year at Woodside Elementary.



Peekskill Schools eagerly welcomed back our students this week! Dr. Mauricio and Board of Education President Mrs. Maria Pereira made their rounds, stopping at each building to welcome students, parents and staff back personally and to see that the school year was off to a great start. At each school, caring administrators and staff did a wonderful, organized job at helping students settle into their classrooms. At Peekskill High School, Freshman students enjoyed an orientation day structured just for them to help acquaint the ninth graders to their new school. The orientation featured a club fair hosted by PHS advisors and older PHS students. It's going to be a great year at PCSD!

To assist parents in supporting their children in having a successful year, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Dr. Mary Keenan Foster, and her committee created curriculum guides for parents. [Click here](#) to see what your children will be learning this year. The guides will be enhanced this year with additional resources for parents.



A big shout-out goes to our Peekskill Police Department and Peekskill Fire Department for their participation in this year's back to school celebrations at Peekskill High School. The Peekskill Police hosted a barbecue for our Freshman Orientation event, while the Peekskill Fire Department grilled the following day as we welcomed back our Grade 10-12 students. Thank you to both groups for showing us what a caring community is all about!





Special thanks to Peekskill Mayor Rainey for coming to welcome our Hillcrest students back to school this week. The Mayor wished the students a successful year and gave them some inspiring words to remember.



Over 100 parents attended the "Meet the Principal" meeting hosted by Uriah Hill Principal Mrs. Carmen Vargas. Mrs. Vargas gave an informational talk about everything Pre-K parents need to know about their student's first year of school. Our two new Dual Language Pre-K classes are

already on their pathway to create bilingual learners. A parent of a child who does not speak Spanish commented that her child has already come home singing a song in Spanish!



Dr. Mauricio and PCSD Athletic Director Mr. Austin Goldberg met with Peekskill High School senior Malachi McDonald to discuss the District's plans for a new multi-purpose turf field stadium at Torpy Field. Malachi was the lead voice of a group of PHS athletes who came to a 2017 Board of Education meeting to request the District improve our athletic facilities. Dr. Mauricio presented the proposed improvements and spoke about how the project is contingent on voter approval at the October 7th Capital Project Referendum vote at the high school from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.. **Your vote matters - mark your calendar and invite your family and neighbors to vote! Also, join us on September 24th at our town hall meeting about our exciting innovative projects. See the postcard below with the details.**



Thank you to our friends at The Field Library who set up this lovely display to support our District's Commitment to Character monthly theme - September is "Hopes and Dreams!" Visit the library today and look for the Commitment to Character book selection. Talk to your children about their hopes and dreams of excellence this school year and beyond!



This week Peekskill High School welcomed Jay Forbes of CoHope and Jackie Baker of the NAACP, who briefly spoke to our senior students about the voter registration process. Dr. Mauricio and PHS Principal Rodney Arthur gave greetings and spoke at the session and spoke to students about the importance of having their voices heard.





Thank you to the Peekskill Seniors group for coordinating a collection and donation of school supplies for our Hillcrest students! The supplies were delivered to the school by Wendy Kelly, Luis Segorra and Lena Lent of the organization. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our Seniors!



This week the Peekskill Athletic Department hosted their fall parent and coaches meeting at Peekskill High School. The event was led by PCSD Athletic Director Mr. Austin Goldberg and Dr. Mauricio welcomed families to the event. Thank you to our families, students and coaches

who joined us for the occasion. We wish all of our teams and athletes a successful season. Let's go Red Devils!



Uriah Hill welcomed back Dr. Zoila Morell, a multilingual expert from CUNY Leman, who recently met with our Pre-K teachers to discuss our new Pre-K Dual Language program and our Emergent Multilingual Learners. This week Dr. Morell was able to interact with our students as well, teaching our Emergent Multilingual Learners about birds (pájaros).



Peekskill City Schools are proud to have been asked to host the season kickoff event for the nationwide 2019-2020 FIRST Robotics Challenge! The event was held on Saturday at Peekskill High School and revealed the national challenge for this year's competitions. Special thanks to PHS Robotics Teacher Mr. Carlo Vidrini for his unwavering dedication to Peekskill's Robotics program over the years that led to this opportunity. The event was also made possible thanks to the collaboration of Mr. Vidrini, PCSD Director of Technology Mrs. Janice Reid, PHS Principal Mr.

Rodney Arthur, the Peekskill PTO, our partners at FIRST and of course, our PHS Robotics students. Go Iron Devils!



Join the Peekskill Parent-Teacher Organization for their first general meeting of the school year: Thursday, October 17, at 7 PM in the Administration Building. There will be a "meet and greet" session, as well as an opportunity to sign up to join a committee for those looking to be more involved in the PTO.





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**



Save the date for our Annual "Dads Take Your Child To School Day" event! After receiving feedback from our school community, this year we will host individual school events on separate days to allow parents of multiple children the opportunity to accompany their students to each school and participate in their Dads Day events.



**Calling ALL Father Figures!**

**Please join us on the following mornings at your  
child's school:**

**PHS/PKMS: Monday, September 16**

**Uriah Hill: Tuesday, September 17**

**Woodside: Wednesday, September 18**

**Oakside: Thursday, September 19**

**Hillcrest: Friday, September 20**

Actively involved fathers are a positive force in the lives of their children and their community. "Dads Take Your Child to School Day" is a statewide event that promotes father involvement by encouraging fathers and significant male caregivers of all kinds to take their children to school. Each school will have their own special events planned to celebrate this day.

Father figures have an undeniable effect on the children in their lives. Studies overwhelmingly show that positive male role model involvement is associated with improvements in children's:

- Academic performance
- Cognitive development
  - Behavior
  - Confidence
- Health and well-being
- Household economics

**Share your moments with us on  
Facebook, Twitter & Instagram:  
@PeekskillCSD  
#bethere #peekskillpride**

**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. Please [click here for a webpage with more information](#) about the two propositions that will be on the ballot.**



# Town Hall Meeting

## Reunión del ayuntamiento

PROPOSITIONS #1 & #2

Tuesday, September 24

7PM, Peekskill High School

PROPOSICIONES #1 & #2

Martes 24 de Septiembre

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.peekskillcsd.org](http://www.peekskillcsd.org)

# VOTE!

October 7, 2019  
7 de Octubre, 2019

POLLS OPEN | URNAS ABREN: 7AM-9PM

POLLING PLACE | LUGAR DE VOTACIÓN:  
PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL

PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1031 ELM ST  
PEEKSKILL, NY 10566

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 6656  
White Plains  
New York 10610



PROPOSITION/PROPOSICIÓN #1

PROPOSITION/PROPOSICIÓN #2

Enjoy your weekend!

Dr. David Mauricio, Superintendent of Schools