



Pathways to Graduation

Preparing for high school equivalency and beyond

THE BRONX BEAT

**P2G Bronx Borough
Principal, Suri Singh
Tuesday, November 8, 2016**

Upcoming Events and Reminders

November 8th: Chancellor's PD Day @ Tenzer
November 9th: TABE Testing Begins
November 11th: Veterans Day (No School)
November 14th & 15th: TASC Testing @ Mid-Manhattan ALC
November 15th – 17th: ORT Testing @ Bronx Hub
November 16th – 19th: Key to The City @ Bronx Hub
November 17th & 18th: Spanish ORT Testing @ Bronx Hub
November 17th & 18th: Spanish TASC Testing @ Mid-Manhattan ALC
November 24th – 25th: Thanksgiving Break (No School)
December 12th & 13th: TASC Testing @ Mid-Manhattan ALC
December 14th & 15th: TASC Testing @ Brooklyn ALC

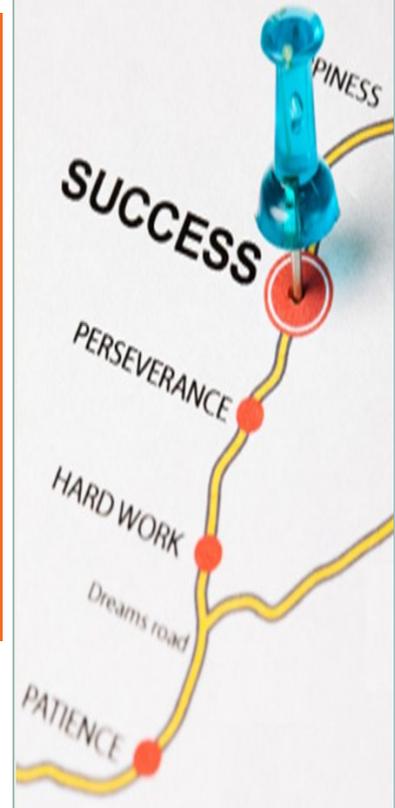
Principal's Perspective

The 2016-2017 school year is highlighted with the election of a new president, the opening of new sites, new teachers, and new students. We are also introducing our new Vision, Mission, and Creed which was voted on by the staff. Be on the lookout for guidance on how to demonstrate and live out these principles.

Vision: P2G Bronx will develop productive members of a global society who are prepared for college and careers.

Mission: P2G Bronx is a supportive, student-centered program where students will have the opportunity to change their lives.

Creed: We believe that our success depends on hard work, dedication, and continual practice. We believe we can make it!



BRONX REGIONAL REFERRAL CENTER

10 10 Rev. James A. Polite Avenue
Bronx, NY

Tel: (718) 518-3320

Fax: (718) 518-4009

Yesinia Vargas-Criales, AP

Adlai Stevenson

Argus

Bronx Youth Center

P2G @ Children's Aid Society

Lehman H.S. – PM

New Settlement

Project Ready

Michelle Guzman, AP

Bronx NeON

Dewitt Clinton High School

Future Now@ Bronx CC

Mary Mitchell Family & Children's
Center

North Central Bronx Hospital

Workforce One

Dannette Queen, AP

Bronx Regional Referral Center/Hub

Davidson

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT**Yesenia Vargas - Criales**

Happy Fall Semester and Welcome Back to School Year 2016-17!

I would like to thank all staff at Project Ready, New Settlement, Bronx Youth Center, Argus, Children's Aid and Stevenson for being open to great possibilities and ideas for the new school year as we jump start this year with successful trips. As of November 1st, our sites have participated in the following:

- College Fair: 13 students
- Career Fair: 37 students

Ms. Faltas and Mr. Nunez provided students at New Settlement with a financial literacy workshop which was very successful and students enjoyed. They will also be providing a workshop for Project Ready, week of November 7th.

Mr. Nunez has booked the following trips:

- 11/9: Lehman College
- 11/22: Mercy in the Bronx

Project Ready has scheduled 4 Planned Parenthood Workshops for the month of November. Ms. Fonseca, director of Project Ready/ Mount Hope Community Center will be providing a Thanksgiving Community Dinner and a Community Toy Drive which our students have been invited to participate and volunteer for the events.

Argus @ Davidson Community Center will be providing a "Recruitment Open House" for students interested in our Program and will also be providing a Thanksgiving Potluck for the community which the director, Angel Caballero has invited our local P2G staff and students.

Children's Aid Society is one of our new sites of 2 classes which provide many services for our students such as art therapy, music/DJ workshops, and cooking.

Bronx Youth Center is our brand new sites this year of 2 classes which is also a TASC site. BYC opened this school year with a Fall BBQ to jump start the school year.

I would like to welcome and wish everyone an exciting, successful school year!

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT**Michelle Guzman**

It's hard to believe that we are already more than 20% through the 2016-17 school year! There are so many good things are happening around the Bronx! All of our sites are special and fill a need for our students. Bronx NeON is co-located in a Department of Probation facility where students can see their POs and work toward their HSE. NeON embeds strong arts programs and a Nutrition Kitchen for food support. Clinton is in a large high school setting which provides LYFE and medical clinic services. It is also the only satellite site in the Bronx to offer both English and Spanish HSE services. Future Now is located on the campus of Bronx Community College. They offer mentoring programs and college prep classes to transition students from HSE to college. Mary Mitchell is the only dedicated satellite site to provide HSE preparation to our native Spanish speakers. North Central is our only gender specific site providing a safe haven to pregnant and parenting young ladies. This site offers agency-provided childcare as well as the Social Work Department coming in to provide workshops.

This year, with the desire to continually enhance the services we provide, a new collaboration was born: West Farms Workforce1. This collaboration blends HSE preparation with career development training in the fields of cable installation, front desk/medical assistant and web developer. The doors opened on Monday, October 31 and 22 students walked through the door brimming with excitement for the opportunity Workforce1 could provide. After the first day, students were heard saying, "This school is like no other-and I've been in a lot of them." Another student commented, "This place is going to change my life." The Workforce1 model took time to develop-over a year to be exact. The curriculum is one of the most distinguishing features of Workforce1. We know curriculum to be the "Sum total of all experiences we expose our students to." Prior to Workforce1's opening, our teachers underwent numerous hours of training to learn the customized contextualized curriculum that has been designed and developed for this site. They have been learning about the demands of the career tracks, and the gaps where potential employers have informed that candidates are missing skills and we are intentionally building those skills into the curriculum, so when we hand off these kids to their career developers, they will be better able to make a smooth transition from HSE to career development and ultimately employment.

Michelangelo is quoted as saying, "If people knew how hard I had to work to gain my mastery, it would not seem so wonderful at all." One of my goals is to share the mastery which exists in the sites, and share them with one another, so if a student is in one site, that student is benefiting from the work taking place all over the borough. I look forward to continuing our work together, and I know that, together, we will have a successful year.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT

Dannette Queen



The Bronx Hub welcomes Ms. Varga-Jackson, Ms. Perez, and Ms. N'Diaye.

Below is a brief autobiography:

My name is Ana I. Perez. I was born and raised in The Dominican Republic. I came to New York City when I was 18 years old. As an immigrant, I struggled to learn English, and it took me many years to graduate from college because of the language barrier. Soon after arriving into Manhattan, my mom who had already set up my goals, took me to register at Hostos Community College. Since I didn't know English this was the only college I could go to learn it and advance in my career of choice. It took me three years to graduate from with an Associate Degree. I continued my studies at Lehman College where after about four years I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Minor in Secondary Education. A few months after graduating, I started working as an ESL teacher in a high school in the Bronx and started to pursue a Master's degree in TESOL at NYU (New York University). This was when my passion for teaching ESL students began. Teaching English as a Second Language gave me the opportunity to serve children from many backgrounds, but all with one thing in mind, learning English. I stayed at that school for three years and a half and then went to work in a middle school in Manhattan. I worked there for thirteen years. Being an ESL teacher is having the opportunity to let my students know that I also came to this country without knowing the language, and I can relate to the struggles and frustrations they go through in order to learn English. It also gives me opportunity to help them grow and make them realize that it is not easy but not impossible to reach their goals and better themselves. Learning English gives you the power to become whoever you want to be in the United States.

Eva Varga-Jackson

- *Hungarian
- *Studied English as Second Language in Serbian
- *Taught English in Yugoslavia before moving to USA for religious and political freedom.
- *Taught at Morris High School for 15 years.
- *Taught at Phoenix Academy Residential Drug Rehab for 15 years.
- *Teaching inspires and motivates .
- *Hobby: Cooking, gardening.
- *Ran two NYC Marathons.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT

Dannette Queen

Spotlight Cont'd

Marie-Ange N'Diaye, ESL teacher

Being a new staff member at the Bronx Hub of Pathways to Graduation for the past two months has been a very gratifying experience. I enjoy my new colleagues and especially the diverse student population.

Since 2005, I have been a teacher in the Bronx supplementing curriculum for ELA, Science and Social studies classes. I challenge students to have an opinion and explain their thinking as well as to develop students' good reading and writing habits.

My classes focus on preparing the students to be active members of a diverse community and help them understand the demands of their future as college students and /or of their future professions. My classes' environment stresses respect of the individuals, their culture and their prior knowledge and in developing their critical skills through activities and discussions.

I believe in education as a means of freedom and try my best to promote lifelong learning for all students. I make sure to provide them with the tools they need to be independent and curious about everything around them.

Marie-Ange, my first name is French and translates to Mary Angel. My Parisian mother, the daughter of WWI veteran chose it for me. N'Diaye is from Senegal, West Africa. It was my father's family name. My grandfather came from a long line of village chiefs. My Father moved to France before WWII.

I was born and raised in a small town in Normandy, France, biracial before it was fashionable and moved to the United States twenty-six years ago. I also lived two and half years in Germany. I have experience in business management, accounting and psychology but my passion is education.

I speak several languages and know and value many different cultures. I love to travel to new countries and places. Meeting new people is very exciting for me and I try my best to keep in contact with them.

As a mother of two girls in college, a teacher, a reader, an animal lover and rescuer, and a community member, I hold many responsibilities. My interests are many and I get excited easily about new situations.

Compromising is still hard for me, but I have a lot of patience and understanding for people especially students who try their best and put effort in their work.

What I really would like in life is to have more time to do things such as reading and writing. Also, I would like to be more active as an environmentalist and involved in causes dear to my heart such as nutrition, politics, and working for making the world an even better place to live.

Who Has a Job That Is Better Than Mine? - K. Durica

I started the day with a kid named Fred

Who told me that his cat was dead.

I began to express my sympathy

When he started to laugh and said with glee:

“Don’t worry about it Mrs. D. My cat’s only *imaginary!*”

Mid Morning the lesson began with long *e*.

We put words in sentences so we’d know what they mean.

When I asked sweet Susannah, our Georgia-born girl

To take the next word, and give “*heel*” a whirl

She confidently said, with a voice so genteel:

“He got very tired when he walked up the heel.”

Playground duty was getting dull

When Carlos gave my sleeve a pull.

“That a kid over there said the *e* word, “ he cried.

“Hon, I don’t know such a word,” I replied.

Startled, he looked up like I was a nut—

“Don’t you know that he called me an *e*-diot!”

Afternoon brought our Thanksgiving Day play.

Teachers wore Native American costumes that day.

Erin took note of the blouse I’d chose,

Showing Pawnee dwellings in colored rows.

With pure innocence, she jabbed at my chest,

And said: “Mrs. D., I like your tepees best.”

Science class always ended our day.

Our dinosaur unit was underway.

Anne’s report on mother dinosaur care

Caused David to suddenly gasp with despair.

“No!” he screamed, as he stomped the floor,

“you mean there were *GIRL* dinosaurs!”

On my way home, I stopped for some gas;

Reached into my purse to get out some cash,

When a paper all gummy with raspberry jam

Came out with the dollars and stuck to my hand.

Peeling it off, I read through the goo:

“Surpriz, Mrs. D.! I rely luv you.”

Now I know that the work can be a grind.

But who has a job that is better than mine?

Now I know that the pay is close to a crime,

But who has a job that is better than mine?

Now I know there are days you can lose your mind,

But who has a job that is better than mine?

Now I know there are days when you work 9 to 9

But who has a job that is better than mine?

Now I know there are days that you want to resign,

But who has a job that is better than mine?

Now let me ask you one last time,

Who has a job that is better than mine?

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT**Dannette Queen**

Karen Morrow Durica, author of *How We 'Do' School*, International Reading Association, was inspired to write this poem, "Who Has a Job That Is Better Than Mine?". She wrote this after rereading her journals and remembering the joy that her students brought to her. She states, "As Graves (2001) reminds us in *The Energy to Teach*, we need to cultivate that which gives us strength and motivation in our work—that which feeds our spirit." She also remarks, "I believe that the greatest source of energy for us is the students, if we take the time to appreciate them."

As I sat at my table at 12:00 AM trying to get my thoughts together with a 12:00 PM deadline to submit my highlights, I looked at my journals/ notebooks and began reflecting on the beginning of my second year as a school leader at the P2G Bronx Hub. What a ride and a joy it has been developing and maintaining relationships with teachers, staff, and students both at the Hub and at Davidson Ave. We are only three months into the school year and wonderful events have taken place. This includes:

- A "Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month" with a gallery walk to view all the beautiful bulletin boards.
- Trip to see an Off Off Broadway Matinee, "The Roads To Home" at the Cherry Lane Theater
 - Trip to the Ship of Schools Cruise (City Sight Seeing Cruise)
 - Walking tour to South Street Seaport, Financial District, and One World Trade Center
 - Trip to a College Fair at Bronx EOC
 - Trip to the Career Day event at John Jay College
 - Participated in Voter Registration Day on October 6, 2016
 - Began "We Are New York" sessions.
 - Began partnership with New York Cares
 - Began an Art Residency with "Studio in a School"

So I ask, "Who Has a Job That is Better Than Mine?"
The Hub and Davidson Ave are alive and well.

Announcements/Flyers


**Pathways
to Graduation**
Preparing for high school equivalency and beyond

**New York
Cares**
THE WAY TO VOLUNTEER

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN?
**STUDY FOR THE U.S.
 CITIZENSHIP TEST**
 WITH NEW YORK CARES

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
 STARTING OCTOBER 19TH
 2:30 – 4:30 PM**

MANHATTAN HUB, ROOM 1115
 269 W 35TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10119

Have you lived in the US for 4 or more years? Do you want to learn about becoming a citizen? Now you can learn about naturalization, practice English, and study for the test with New York Cares tutors every Wednesday after school for FREE!

TO SIGN UP, COME TO ROOM 1115 ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH AT 2:30 PM


**Pathways
to Graduation**
Preparing for high school equivalency and beyond

**New York
Cares**
THE WAY TO VOLUNTEER

¿DESEA OBTENER CUIDADANIA AMERICANA?
**ESTUDIE PARA LA
 PRUEBA DE
 CIUDADANIA**
 CON NEW YORK CARES

**TODOS LOS MIÉRCOLES
 A PARTIR DE OCTUBRE 19
 2:30 – 4:30 PM**

MANHATTAN HUB, SALÓN 1115
 269 W 35TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10119

¿Ha residido usted en los Estados Unidos por más de 4 años? ¿Le gustaría aprender acerca del proceso para obtener la ciudadanía? Ahora podrá informarse sobre la ciudadanía, practicar su inglés, y estudiar para el examen de ciudadanía todos los miércoles después de la escuela con la ayuda GRATUITA de tutores de New York Cares.

**PARA REGISTRARSE: HABLE CON MS. ISTARICO, MR. CAPUTO,
 O SU MAESTRO/A**

Announcements/Flyers

**SPEAKER MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
AND THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
SPONSOR:**

A FAMILY RESOURCE DAY

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

AS PART OF THE NYC'S KEY TO THE CITY EVENT

Get it all in one place:

Saturday, November 19th, 2016

9am – 1pm

Pathways to Graduation
Bronx Regional High School
1010 Rev. James Polite Ave
Bronx, NY 10459

SERVICES & RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

- **Free immigration legal consultations by New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)**
- **Passports, Consular IDs and other services provided by the Consulate of México**
 - For an appointment, please call 1-877-639-4835
- Health, financial, and adult education information
- Parent Guide for College Readiness: what you can do for your child's education now!

Thanks to Pathways to Graduation and our community partners:

**LA PRESIDENTA DEL CONCEJO MUNICIPAL,
Y EL CONCEJO MUNICIPAL DE LA CIUDAD DE NUEVA YORK
PATROCINAN:**

DÍA DE RECURSOS PARA LA FAMILIA

PRESENTADO EN COLABORACIÓN CON:

COMO PARTE DE LOS EVENTOS "ACCESO A LA CIUDAD" ("KEY TO THE CITY") DE NYC

Consígalo todo en el mismo lugar:

Sábado, Noviembre 19, 2016

9am – 1pm

Pathways to Graduation
Bronx Regional High School
1010 Rev. James Polite Ave
Bronx, NY 10459

SERVICIOS Y RECURSOS PARA FAMILIAS INMIGRANTES:

- **Consultas legales de inmigración gratuitas proporcionadas por NYLAG**
- **Pasaportes, Identificaciones Consulares y otros servicios proporcionados por el Consulado de México**
 - Para una cita, llame al 1-877-639-4835. Citas disponibles dos semanas antes del evento
- Información sobre la salud, las finanzas, y de educación para adultos
- ¡Guía de Acción de Padres para que usted y sus hijos estén preparados para la universidad!

Agradecemos a Pathways to Graduation y a nuestros compañeros comunitarios:

Greetings Colleagues,

My purpose in writing to you is both informative in nature and hopefully helpful in your daily practices with regards to safety protocols and classroom management techniques.

In regards to safety protocols) I would just like to reiterate those measures to be taken in the following circumstances.

EVACUATION OF BUILDING. This is your typical fire drill exercise where the faculty will follow the egress/ingress procedures listed on your evacuation location near your respective doorways and lead your students to these locations. Faculty should also carry with them an evacuation folder that lists your current students and Assembly cards. Any missing students, injuries and /or problems should be communicated to first responders immediately. All use of electronic devices during this time is prohibited!

SHELTER-IN. The protocol for this calls for all students to remain in the building. Faculty should conduct classroom business as usual. Faculty should increase their situational awareness and continue protocol until they hear over the PA system the "All Clear "directive stating that the "Shelter-in has been lifted."

LOCKDOWN. If a notification of either a Hard/Soft Lockdown has been announced via the PA system, the following actions should take place.

Students must immediately return to their previous classroom and move out of sight from any doors/windows in classroom.

Faculty should shut off all lights and keep absolute silence in classroom during drill.

Soft Lockdowns will end with a message via the PA system calling for an All Clear message-The shelter-in has been lifted. Doors may then be re-opened and transitions may once again take place.

Hard Lockdowns may only be lifted by **FIRST RESPONDERS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR UNLOCKING ALL CLASSROOM DOORS FOLLOWING THE ALL CLEAR MESSAGE.**

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

First, if any student exhibits disrespect, disruptive or inappropriate behavior in your class, please follow these measures first:

Review classroom expectations to entire class.

If any individual student refuses to follow the above mentioned expectations ask the student to briefly conference with you privately outside your classroom door or at your desk. The main

inference being Private so as to avoid any possible drama by having other students getting involved in the situation.

If you feel the conference is not effective and the inappropriate behavior continues then you may have the student removed from your class by communicating to a hall monitor, guidance counselor, Dean or Administrator that such student must be removed during this class period and a follow up conference with written documentation will be followed up by faculty member. This conference should include but not be limited to GC's, Dean, Administrator and parent/ guardian. At no time should a student be told to leave your classroom unaccompanied to the assigned office or room. This may possibly lead to a safety issue.

Parental calls, conferences with the above mentioned facilitators, class transfers, school transfers, school suspensions are all protocols that may be employed depending on the infraction and or egregiousness of the offense.

Finally, let me just remind everyone that our particular population has their own set of issues. Some of these issues we can address using proper protocols, support measures i.e. TCI and/or the realization that some of these issues are not able to be addressed with our limited resources. Communication of these issues via documentation becomes paramount in order to most effectively and expeditiously resolve them.

Brian McCartin – Dean of Students
Bronx P2G

Resources

To access the curriculum, use the following information:

<https://district79-public.rubiconatlas.org>

The password for everyone on the public site is:

District79

For teacher resources and future updates on TASC, visit our P2G website at:

<http://pathtograd.org>

Sign in: p2g

Password: staff

New Website: www.P2G.nyc

BrainPOP!

brainpop.com

Sign in: p2g

Password: staff

P2Gprep.com

Password: District 79

