

PCSD College Readiness and Workforce Education Newsletter



March 2025

Elementary-College and Career Readiness from Exposure to Awareness

Clemente Elementary School is embracing the District's College and Career Readiness Initiative. They visited the SUNY New Paltz Campus on March 10th where the President of the University, a good friend of Principal -Dr. Scott, met with our 3rd grade students. While there, the students visited the admissions office and did a scavenger hunt. They also visited the green house, the art gallery and the gym where they did a push-up contest and had a Q and A with one of New Paltz all star basketball player before lunch time in the university's cafeteria. Ms. Post, the elementary school counselor, shared that the students had an absolute blast - "some even saying it was the best day ever!" Thank you SUNY New Paltz and President Darrell P. Wheeler!



As students discover different careers, they begin to think about their future and what they want to be when they grow up. They also begin linking academic work with the world of work.

Dr. Janety Encarnación
Director of College Readiness and Workforce Education



PTECH Applications Are Still Available

Eighth grade student recruitment is underway for the P-TECH- Mechatronics program housed in the Wappingers School District.

Contact Ms. Muse, smuse@poughkeepsieschools.org or Dr. Encarnacion, jencarnacion@poughkeepsieschools.org for applications.

There are only 6 spots available!

Smart Scholars-Early College High School-Performing Arts Academy

Student recruitment for the Smart Scholars Program has begun for 8th grade students.

Contact Ms. Muse, smuse@poughkeepsieschools.org or Dr. Encarnacion, jencarnacion@poughkeepsieschools.org for applications.

There are only 25 spots available!

Coming Up: College Exploration Expo- 3/28

College and Career Connections

Extra Curricular Activities:

Extracurricular activities play a significant role in fostering college and career readiness by developing valuable skills, enhancing confidence, and promoting well-rounded development.

Engaging in extracurricular activities allows students to connect with others who share similar interests, expanding their social network and developing valuable interpersonal skills.

Some of the the Middle School Clubs include:

The Sister to Sister Club is designed to foster a sense of community and support among female students, often through mentorship and academic tutoring, and to enhance their confidence and motivation. The Student Government and the National Junior Honor Society build leadership skills, resilience and help students learn advocacy skills.

Encourage your child to take advantage of clubs and other extracurricular activities as they foster 21st Century Skills, like collaboration, problem solving and self awareness.

**At the Middle School,
students begin their career exploration and planning.**



High School: College and Career Exploration, Planning and Development

High School Alumni Panel

1. Jiahni Higgs (Class of 2024) – SUNY New Paltz, Organizational Communication
2. Jazylo Alexis-Taylor (Class of 2024) – Pace University, Business Management
3. Aida Hernandez – Dutchess Community College, Early Childhood Education
4. Marrell Lewis (Class of 2024) – SUNY Albany, Theater
5. Kayla Hawkins (Class of 2022) – Vassar College, Africana Studies and Sociology
6. Amira Ibrahim (Class of 2022) – Yale University, Political Science
7. Saanie Moody (Class of 2022) – SUNY Albany, Psychology



After the Alumni finish discussing with the Seniors their experiences with college life, they get to meet with Ms. Kelly Semexant, school counselor for college and career readiness and Dr. Janety Encarnacion, Director of College Readiness and Workforce Education to discuss further any suggestions to enhance the work of the college readiness and workforce education Team.

We want to Congratulate Serenity Barcelona-selected to receive the 2025 Carson Scholarship Award! She was chosen because she demonstrated the highest standards of academic achievement, integrity, and civic and social responsibility.



This **yearly** event allows our Seniors to connect with recent PCSD graduates and now college students to be able to ask questions about college life.

At the High school, students advance their college and career planning to include real life work opportunities and learn that the same skills needed to be a success in school apply to the workforce.

