



Superintendent, Anibal Soler, Jr.

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Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Family,

As we move closer to the end of another school year, I continue to be inspired by the incredible work happening across Yonkers Public Schools and the resilience of our students, staff, and families.

This week, I had the pleasure of attending an inspiring My Brother's Keeper (MBK) and My Sister's Keeper (MSK) Awards Celebration at [DiChiaro Elementary School](#). It was wonderful to recognize students who continue to demonstrate leadership, perseverance, character, and growth.



Documenting the moment, and the progress behind it.

Programs like MBK and MSK continue to create opportunities for our students to thrive and remind us of the importance of mentorship, belonging, and empowerment.

I also had the honor of attending our annual Teacher of the Year Dinner, hosted in partnership with the Kiwanis Club and the City of Yonkers. Once again, congratulations to our outstanding Teachers of the Year:

- Julie Cupertino – School 5
- Richard Harman – Yonkers Montessori Academy
- Noreen Garvey – Westchester Hills School 29

Their hard work, passion, and commitment to students truly represent the very best of Yonkers Public Schools.

This week, we were also proud to announce and recognize Jamie Morales, Principal of Gorton High School, as our [2026 Administrator of the Year](#). Principal Morales is an outstanding and passionate leader who continues to create meaningful experiences and opportunities for the students and staff at Gorton High School. His dedication to the Wolves community and commitment to student success are truly deserving of this recognition. Congratulations, Principal Morales!

[continued on page 2](#)

Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)

In addition, this week we presented our proposed 2026–2027 district budget, which is based on the recently released New York State aid runs and several assumptions regarding additional state support. As part of this proposal, we had to make some very difficult recommendations, including staff reductions, a proposed school closure, and the reconfiguration of certain grades and schools. These recommendations are intended to better align our district's resources, improve operational efficiency, and address the financial realities associated with transportation, facilities, and declining enrollment.

I fully understand that these discussions are deeply emotional for many members of our community. Change is never easy, especially when it involves schools and neighborhoods that families care deeply about. However, I encourage all of us to remember that our children often follow the emotions and energy of the adults around them. The reality is all of our schools are quality schools, and no matter where your child attends, they will continue to have access to high-quality instruction and supports. As we move toward June and the close of the school year, our focus should remain on celebrating and supporting our students.

The reality is that Yonkers Public Schools must begin the **important work of “right-sizing” our district to ensure long-term sustainability**. Over the last decade, our district has lost more than **3,200 students**, including nearly **600 students this year alone**. While many factors contribute to these declines, student enrollment directly affects state aid, which ultimately determines which programs, services, and facilities we can responsibly sustain.

Next week, I will present our budget to the Yonkers City Council and continue advocating for the support our students and schools deserve. I want to thank our city leaders and community stakeholders for their continued partnership and ongoing support of the important work happening in our buildings every day.

Finally, as we head into the Memorial Day weekend, I hope everyone has an opportunity to rest, recharge, and spend time with loved ones. We also pause to honor and remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership, support, and belief in Yonkers Public Schools. Have a safe and restful Memorial Day weekend.

With gratitude,



Anibal Soler, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

Yonkers Welcomes 9th Class of NYS MBK Fellows



On Thursday, May 21, 2026, MBK Yonkers celebrated the induction of its 2026 New York State My Brother's Keeper Fellows, marking the ninth class of Yonkers and New York State Fellows.

Newly inducted Fellows Donaven Melvin, Akil Kamara, Okello Allen, and Oscar David Arias Luna joined students from across New York State at the 2026 New York State My Brother's Keeper Induction Symposium at Empire State Plaza in Albany, where more than 1,000 delegates gathered in celebration of leadership, achievement, and future success.

The statewide symposium featured remarks from Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr. and Betty A. Rosa, who encouraged Fellows to pursue college and career readiness while striving to realize their full potential. Featured speakers also included MBK alumnus Denva Nesmith, Jr. and Brad Butler III.

MBK Yonkers was proudly represented by its current Fellows: Marcus Knight Jr., Max Hernandez, Quilan Wilson, and Joel Gonzalez, alongside the newly inducted class, with support from Executive Director Dr. Marvin Robinson III and Program Coordinator Greg Joyner.

Congratulations to the 2026 MBK Fellows on this important milestone and welcome to Yonkers' ninth class of New York State MBK Fellows.



2ND Annual High School Roundtables



The 2nd Annual High School Problem-Solving Roundtables brought together student mathematicians from across our high schools for an exciting afternoon of collaboration, critical thinking, and competition. A total of 72 high school students from across our district participated, working in teams to compete in three engaging math challenges designed to strengthen problem-solving, collaboration, and mathematical reasoning. Congratulations to all participating teams for their hard work and enthusiasm. A special recognition to our winning teams: BronzeByCalculation, The Equalizers, both representing Yonkers Middle High School and From Negative Infinity to Positive Infinity representing Yonkers Montessori Academy. We are proud of all students who represented their schools and showcased their mathematical thinking!

1st Place Winners: YMHS “BronzeByCalculation”

Bledor Thaqi
Xavier Nicholas
Ryan Rabbaa
Fiza Ali

2nd Place Winners: YMHS “The Equalizers”

Amy Kim
Ada Rein
Thomas Letona
Marc Ethan Cruz

3rd Place Winners: YMA “From Negative Infinity to Positive Infinity”

Valentina Mehaj
Noah Sermenio
Alban Dreshaj
Sarah Mohamed



2nd Place



3rd Place

Big Ideas on Display at Middle School Science Fair

The Yonkers Public Schools Districtwide Middle School Science Fair was a celebration of curiosity, creativity, and authentic learning in action. More than 230 students participated in this year's event, showcasing impressive projects that reflected their ability to ask meaningful questions, conduct research, solve real-world problems, and bring their learning to life.

The fair highlighted the talent, dedication, and hard work of Yonkers Public Schools students, along with the support of teachers and families who help make these learning experiences possible.

Thank you to the event's sponsors, Ms. Jennifer Degl, Executive Director of Science & Instructional Technology and to Lincoln High School science teacher Sunitha Howard, whose vision, leadership, and commitment were instrumental in making this year's fair a success.

Congratulation to the Winners!

Special Award Winners:

- Most Innovative Project – Rae Liam Romero, Hollman David, Art Mic Gashi (YMA)
- Best Board Design – Annabella Polanco Lima, Mila Carrington, Grace Ruiz (PULASKI)
- Most Comprehensive Data – Ethan Garbrah-Arthur (PEARLS)
- Best Oral Presentation – Alayah Thompson (PEARLS)
- Greatest Impact Project – Platon Damaskin, David Adamo (PEARLS)

1st Place Winners:

- Life Science – Rae Liam Romero, Hollman David, Art Mic Gashi (YMA)
- Physical Science & Chemistry – Abigail Kim (PEARLS)
- Earth & Environmental Science – Ethan Garbrah-Arthur (PEARLS)
- Engineering, Tech & Comp Science – Dylan Martinez-Orbe (PEARLS)
- Mathematics & Data Science – Ines Sadudi, Sarah Sajjad (PEARLS)
- Excellence in Science Participation – (PEARLS)

2nd Place Winners:

- Life Science – Aisha Sadiq-Onilenla (PEARLS)
- Physical Science & Chemistry – Emma Boyce (PEARLS)
- Earth & Environmental Science – Asem Elkhateb (School 16)
- Engineering, Tech & Data Science – Ximena Anaya (PEARLS)
- Mathematics & Data Science – Eliana Ayala (PEARLS)

3rd Place Winners:

- Life Science – Camilla Rodriguez (PEARLS)
- Physical Science & Chemistry – Abelino Rosas, Taylor Delgado, Jacob Moton (School 16)
- Earth & Environmental Science – Lyla Chadwick, Ida Faulkner, Isabel Torres (PULASKI)
- Engineering, Tech & Data Science – Aries Perdja, Ayah Henry (YMA)
- Mathematics & Data Science – Rhianne Puthukudy (PEARLS)

Middle School Science Fair Photos



Research Fair Showcases Riverside Student Growth



This week, 11th and 12th grade students in Ms. Youhan's Elements of College Writing course showcased their work at the annual **Riverside High School Research Fair**.

Throughout the year, students built skills in research, analysis, and college readiness. The fair served as a capstone celebration of their growth, creativity, and academic achievement.

Jamie Morales Honored as Administrator of the Year



The Leadership in Education award, also known as the Administrator of the Year, is presented to an administrator who personifies the spirit, dedication and accomplishments of an outstanding instructional leader. **Jamie Morales, principal of Charles E. Gorton High School, is just such a leader.**

Mr. Morales began his career with Yonkers Public Schools in 2008 at Enrico Fermi School. In 2018, he joined the administrative team at Gorton High School as an assistant principal and was appointed principal in 2022.

Under his leadership, Gorton now houses two PTECH programs, a Smart Scholars program, and four certified CTE pathways, including Medical, Marketing, and Engineering. Principal Morales has expanded academic opportunities, strengthened student support programs, and sustained graduation rates above 90%.

The traditional Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers and the Yonkers Board of Education dinner celebrating Mr. Morales takes place on June 2, 2026. [More information here](#)

Growing Our Own Future Teachers



The Take A Look At Teaching/Grow Your Own (TALAT/GYO) initiative, was brought to Yonkers by Yonkers Federation of Teachers President Samantha Rosado-Ciriello in 2020. Since then, the program has continued to grow and thrive through union grant funding, helping address the looming teacher shortage by inspiring students to pursue careers in education and, hopefully, return to teach in Yonkers Public Schools.

This year, 137 students participated in the program across eleven Yonkers Public Schools, with hopes of expanding even further through additional community partnerships and funding opportunities. The program includes elementary school, middle school, high school, college students, and interns, all working alongside certified Yonkers Public School teachers who generously serve as mentor teachers.

Students gain valuable hands-on experience working with children in elementary classrooms. Middle school and upper elementary school students assist with small group instruction in reading, vocabulary, math, and other foundational skills under the guidance of their mentor teachers.

High school students build upon that experience by learning classroom management, writing lesson plans, participating in role-play scenarios, and, in some cases, putting their lessons into action with younger students in elementary schools, such as Lincoln High School students working with students at School 17.

When Future Teachers First Raise Their Hands

In 2013, during Yonkers Public Schools' annual *College is My Future* program, a kindergarten student from the **Class of 2026** confidently chose "teacher" as his future career. Since the program's inception, teaching continues to be the top career aspiration among kindergarten students across the district. *Every year*. Initiatives like TALAT/GYO help turn those early dreams into real pathways. This year, *College is My Future Week*, celebrating the **Class of 2038**, begins on June 1, 2026.

DiChiaro Honors MBK and MSK Student Leaders

On Monday, May 18, 2026, 59 students from Patricia A. DiChiaro School took part in an uplifting My Brother's Keeper (MBK) and My Sister's Keeper (MSK) celebration honoring their growth and accomplishments.

Throughout the school year, students participated in activities focused on leadership, confidence, communication, and personal growth. During the celebration, they received certificates and letters of recommendation and reflected on their goals, dreams, and progress since the start of the year.

Families, staff, and distinguished guests, including Superintendent Soler and community leaders from city, county, and state government, joined in recognizing these inspiring students and celebrating their achievements.

Special thanks to Principal Schrade, MSK Liaison Maritza Fasack, and MBK Liaison Zachary Tazi for organizing this meaningful event.



Aquatic Therapy Program at the YMA Pool

Launched in 2022, the Aquatic Therapy Program at the Yonkers Montessori Academy Pool provides neurodivergent students from across Yonkers Public Schools the opportunity to learn the life skill of swimming in a supportive, structured environment. Schools participate on a rotating basis throughout the year.

Led by Aquatics Teacher Julie Schoenlank, students learn water safety, proper breathing, floating, kicking, and beginner stroke development. YMA's physical education staff assist with scheduling and supervision, while Pool Operator Michael Gonzalez and lifeguards help ensure student safety at all times. The Office of Student Support Services supports the program annually.

Charles E. Gorton High School students enjoyed the pool last week while learning about breathing and pool safety.



Registration Open for Summer Enrichment Programs

Registration is still open for the popular [Summer Enrichment programs](#) for **current** Kindergarten - Grade 5 students, and **current** Grade 6 - Grade 8 students. Registration is also open for **current** Kindergarten - Grade 8 Multilingual Scholars.

Both programs are **free of charge** and run Monday - Thursday from July 6 - July 30, 2026. Bus transportation is available for eligible students and breakfast and lunch are provided.

Check out the details at yonkerspublicschools.org, and submit your application soon. These programs fill up fast!



ELEMENTARY SUMMER ENRICHMENT ACADEMY

Join Us This Summer! Space is Limited!

Current K - 5th Grade Students
Dates: July 6, 2026 - July 30, 2026
Monday - Thursday | 8:30AM - 12:30PM
Location: School 16 - 759 N Broadway

Breakfast and lunch provided. Transportation provided for eligible students.

Low cost extended care available after 12:30 PM.
Neighborhood Kids: Mr. Cloud (914) 562-3632

Registration Request: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
or scan the QR code
Registration closes May 22
Families notified by June 12

For more information: (914) 376-8213 msantiago4@yonkerspublicschools.org

*Preference will be given to students receiving intervention or AIG services.



ACADEMIA DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DE VERANO

Acompañamos este verano! El espacio es limitado!

Estudiantes actuales de kinder a quinto grado
Fechas: Julio 6, 2026 - Julio 30, 2026
Lunes - Jueves | 8:30AM - 12:30 PM
Ubicación: School 16 - 759 N Broadway

Desayuno y almuerzo disponible. Transporte disponible para estudiantes elegibles.

Cuidado extendido a bajo costo después de las 12:30pm.
Neighborhood Kids: Mr. Cloud (914) 562-3632

Saludad de registro: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
O escanee el código QR

Para más información: (914) 376-8213 msantiago4@yonkerspublicschools.org

*Se da preferencia a los estudiantes que reciben servicios de intervención.



SUMMER ENRICHMENT Academy

Current YPS Students Grades 6-8

The YPS Summer Enrichment Academy exposes students to connections between science, technology, engineering, art, ELA, and mathematics through hands-on projects.

July 6-30, 2026
Monday-Thursday
8:30am-12:30pm
Location: Yonkers Middle High School
150 Rockland Avenue

Breakfast and lunch provided. Transportation available for eligible students.

Register Now!
Space is limited!
Cohorts are designed for a 10-12 students. Wait listed families.

Registration Request: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
or scan QR Code
Registration closes May 22
Families notified by June 12

For more information: (914) 376-8213 msantiago4@yonkerspublicschools.org



Academia DE VERANO DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO

Para Estudiantes de YPS en los grados 6-8

La Academia de Enrichimiento expone a los estudiantes a las conexiones entre la ciencia, la tecnología, la ingeniería, el arte, la literatura, la historia y las matemáticas a través de proyectos y experiencias prácticas.

Julio 6-30, 2026
Lunes - Jueves
8:30am-12:30pm
Ubicación: Yonkers Middle High School
150 Rockland Avenue

Desayuno, almuerzo, y transporte disponibles.

¡Regístrate ahora!
El espacio es limitado!
Los grupos de estudiantes por cohorte son de 10-12.

Saludad de registro: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
O escanee el código QR

Para más información: (914) 376-8213 msantiago4@yonkerspublicschools.org



Multilingual Scholars Summer Academy

for Multilingual Learners
A free summer program for current Yonkers Public Schools Multilingual Learners (MLLs) Grades K-8

July 6, 2026 - July 30, 2026
8:30AM - 12:30PM
Eugenio Maria De Hostos Microsociety School

75 Morris Street, Yonkers, NY 10705
TRANSPORTATION FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
BREAKFAST & LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Register Now!

For more information: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
or scan the QR code
Registration closes May 22
Families notified by June 12



Académicos multilingües Academia de Verano

Para estudiantes multilingües
Un programa de verano gratuito para estudiantes multilingües de las escuelas públicas de Yonkers (Grados K-8)

Del 6 al 30 de julio del 2026, de 8:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.
Eugenio María De Hostos Microsociety School

TRANSPORTE PARA ESTUDIANTES QUE CUMPLEN LOS REQUISITOS SE PROPORCIONARÁ DESPUÉS DE ASISTIR

¡Regístrate ahora!

Para más información: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
o escanee el código QR
El espacio es limitado!
El grupo de estudiantes por cohorte son de 10-12.



Multilingual Scholars Summer Academy

for Multilingual Learners
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July 6, 2026 - July 30, 2026
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TRANSPORTATION FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
BREAKFAST & LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Register Now!

For more information: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
or scan the QR code
Registration closes May 22
Families notified by June 12



Académicos multilingües Academia de Verano

Para estudiantes multilingües
Un programa de verano gratuito para estudiantes multilingües de las escuelas públicas de Yonkers (Grados K-8)

Del 6 al 30 de julio del 2026, de 8:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.
Eugenio María De Hostos Microsociety School

TRANSPORTE PARA ESTUDIANTES QUE CUMPLEN LOS REQUISITOS SE PROPORCIONARÁ DESPUÉS DE ASISTIR

¡Regístrate ahora!

Para más información: <https://yonkerspublicschools.org>
o escanee el código QR
El espacio es limitado!
El grupo de estudiantes por cohorte son de 10-12.

The Weeks Ahead



2026 YONKERS ALL CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

featuring STUDENT ENSEMBLES

JUNE 4, 2026 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL
JOSEPHINE CARUSO AUDITORIUM
 375 KNEELAND AVENUE

- Memorial Day: May 25
- Relay for Life: May 29
- College is My Future Week: June 1 - 5
- Staff vs Staff Charity Softball Game: June 4 (New Date)
- All City Music Festival: June 4

Two Fun Events. One Cause That Matters.

★ YONKERS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS ★

STAFF - VS. - STAFF CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME

SUPPORTING THE YONKERS RELAY FOR LIFE CANCER FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

RESCHEDULED!

NEW DATE - SAME TIME, SAME LOCATION

YONKERS COMMUNITY - YOU'RE INVITED!
 ★ COME OUT, CHEER, AND SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE! ★

THURSDAY JUNE 4TH 2026 **4:30 PM** FIRST PITCH **ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL**
 631 TUCKAHOE ROAD YONKERS, NY 10710

FUN. COMPETITION. COMMUNITY. ALL FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN!
 Bring the whole family and enjoy an exciting afternoon of softball!

SPECTATORS WELCOME!
 Let's pack the stands and show our support for our amazing staff!

REFRESHMENTS!
 Food & drinks available for purchase!

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
 All proceeds support the Yonkers Relay for Life and local cancer research, support services, and community programs.

BE LOUD. WEAR YOUR COLORS. STRIKE OUT CANCER!

★ ONE TEAM. ONE MISSION. | STRIKE OUT CANCER. ★

LET US SHINE!

American Cancer Society **RELAY FOR LIFE**

Join Yonkers Public Schools for this year's Relay for Life as we raise vital funds for cancer research and support services.

Our community has always stood together, and now we have a chance to make an even bigger impact.

Building on last year's success, we are coming together to support two very special members of our school family: **Brenda Cardoza**, whose dedication and compassion have touched so many lives, and **Belen Ruiz Benito**, a brave second-grade student at Enrico Fermi School whose strength and courage have inspired our entire community.

JOIN OUR TEAM
 Walk with us and stand united in hope.
Friday, May 29, 2026
3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Gorton High School, 100 Shonnard Place, Yonkers

DONATE
 Every contribution, big or small, brings us closer to a cure. You can donate here:

SPREAD THE WORD
 Rally friends, family, and colleagues to support this vital cause. They can donate by using the QR code above.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Together, we walk. Together, we give. Together, we make a difference.

District Digest

Photos from Across the District



Lincoln High School Annual Memorial Day Remembrance



Gorton High School Unified Basketball Team



Westchester Hills School 29 at DPW Day

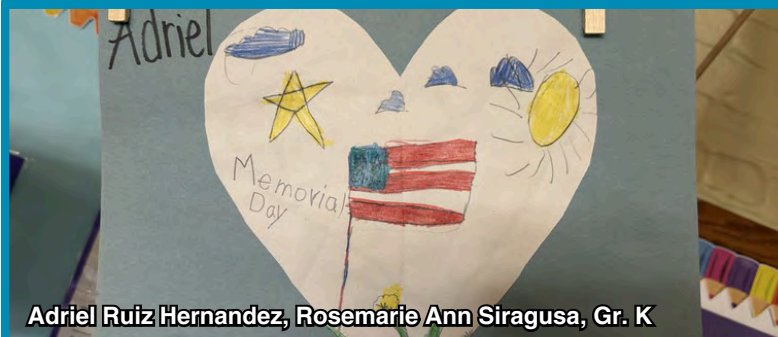


School 5 Egg, Caterpillar, Butterfly, Kindergarten

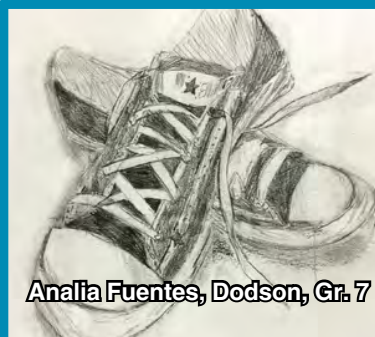


New York State Women's Champion Basketball Team Yonkers Montessori Academy Recognized at Board of Education Stated Meeting

YPS STUDENT ARTWORK



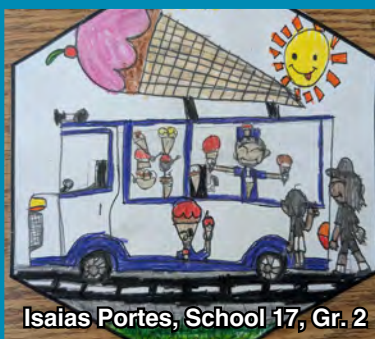
Adriel Ruiz Hernandez, Rosemarie Ann Siragusa, Gr. K



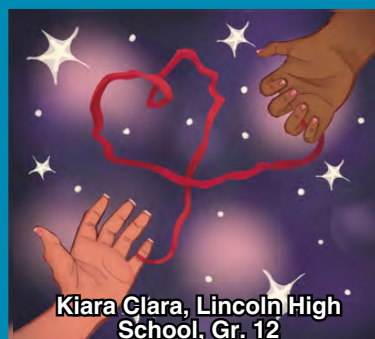
Analia Fuentes, Dodson, Gr. 7



Aimee Oroczo, Dodson, Gr. 7



Isaias Portes, School 17, Gr. 2



Kiara Clara, Lincoln High School, Gr. 12



Maileen Herrera, Yonkers Montessori Academy, Gr. 8



Kiara Clara, Lincoln, Gr. 12