



Superintendent, Anibal Soler, Jr.

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Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Family,

As we celebrated Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible educators, support staff, school nurses, counselors, teaching assistants, custodians, cafeteria workers, security personnel, and every member of the Yonkers Public Schools team who help make our schools special places for children each and every day.



Superintendent Soler with his first teacher -- his beloved mom.

The magic of Yonkers Public Schools is not found in a building or a program. It is found in the people who work tirelessly to support our students. Every lesson taught, every word of encouragement shared, every meal served, every classroom cleaned, and every child greeted with a smile helps create the caring and supportive environment our students deserve.

Our teachers and staff continue to inspire, uplift, and guide our students through both challenges and successes. Their commitment to excellence and their dedication to our children do not go unnoticed. On behalf of our Board of Education and the entire Yonkers community, thank you for all that you do to make Yonkers Magic come alive in our schools every day.

This week, we also had the honor of celebrating the life and legacy of Elaine Shine, whose impact on our district and school community will never be forgotten. We proudly dedicated the library at the Barack Obama School for Social Justice in her honor. Elaine Shine's passion for education, school improvement, and students touched countless lives, and it was a meaningful moment to ensure her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of learners.

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Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)

Regarding the New York State budget, Governor Hochul has indicated that negotiations are moving closer toward a finalized agreement. At this time, another budget extender has been signed through Monday, May 11, 2026. We remain hopeful that a final state budget will provide the additional support needed for Yonkers Public Schools as we continue working through our district budget process.

As a reminder, next week we will hold our monthly Budget Work Session, when the Board of Education will conduct committee meetings focused on Instructional Affairs, Finance, and Facilities. We encourage our community to stay engaged and informed as we continue these important conversations about the future of our district.

Finally, as we head into the weekend, I want to offer a very special message to all the mothers, grandmothers, guardians, and mother figures throughout our Yonkers community as we celebrate Mother's Day.

For me personally, my **mother and grandmother hold very special places in my heart**. Their love, sacrifice, guidance, and support helped shape the person and leader I am today. This weekend, I join our entire community in celebrating and honoring all the amazing women who nurture, encourage, and uplift our children and families every day.

To all the mothers in our Yonkers Public Schools family—thank you, and Happy Mother's Day.

Have a wonderful weekend.

With gratitude,



Anibal Soler, Jr.

Superintendent of Schools

Elaine Shine Library Dedicated With Love

The library at the Barack Obama School for Social Justice now carries a name that reflects decades of dedication to the students and families of Yonkers Public Schools.

Today, the school community officially dedicated The Elaine Shine Library, honoring an educator, mentor, and advocate whose influence continues to resonate throughout Yonkers Public Schools.

Elaine Shine devoted her life to education with compassion, purpose, and a steadfast belief in the potential of every child. Her career began as a teacher at Commerce Middle School — now the Barack Obama School for Social Justice — and grew into a legacy defined by service, opportunity, and care for students across the district.

The dedication ceremony celebrated not only Elaine's professional contributions, but also the warmth, humility, and encouragement she brought to every classroom and every relationship. Fittingly, the library now stands as a place where curiosity, learning, and possibility come together each day — values that reflected Elaine's approach to education throughout her life.

The commemorative plaque reads:

"A lifelong champion of giving, curiosity, and the power of education. Her spirit lives on in every page turned here."

Special thanks to Principal Jamell Scott, the staff of the Barack Obama School for Social Justice, and the students who helped make the ceremony so meaningful. The participation of the school's MBK and MSK students added a personal and memorable touch to a day centered on community, learning, and legacy.

For Elaine's family, the dedication offered an opportunity to reflect on the profound connection she shared with her students and the lasting impact she made through a lifetime in education. The naming of the library ensures that future generations of students will continue to encounter her story in a place devoted to discovery, imagination, and growth.

May The Elaine Shine Library inspire students for years to come to read widely, think deeply, and recognize the difference one dedicated educator can make in the life of a community.



DiChiaro Mock Trial Students Make Their Case



Eighth grade students at Patricia A. DiChiaro School are participating in the Thurgood Marshall Jr. Mock Trial Program, an engaging opportunity that introduces students to the judicial system through hands-on learning and teamwork.

As volunteers, students study a mock criminal case and take on the roles of prosecuting and defense attorneys, as well as witnesses. They prepare arguments, question witnesses, and present their cases in a courtroom-style setting that mirrors real legal proceedings.

Students then compete against other schools at the Bronx Supreme Courthouse, where they demonstrate their legal knowledge, public-speaking abilities, and critical-thinking skills. Through the experience, students develop a deeper understanding of the legal process, civic responsibility, collaboration, and the importance of effective communication.

Girls Intramural Volleyball Brackets



YPS Marching Band Strikes a Winning Note



Yonkers Public Schools is proud to congratulate the YPS Marching Band on being named the 2026 “Best Public School Marching Band” by the Yonkers St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee.

At a special recognition ceremony held on Monday, April 27, the award was accepted on behalf of the District and the YPS Marching Band by Eric DiVito, instrumental music teacher at Yonkers Montessori Academy and District Music Department Representative, along with Edward Kuhn, instrumental music teacher at Yonkers Middle High School, and Mrs. Wendy Landrau, Assistant Principal.

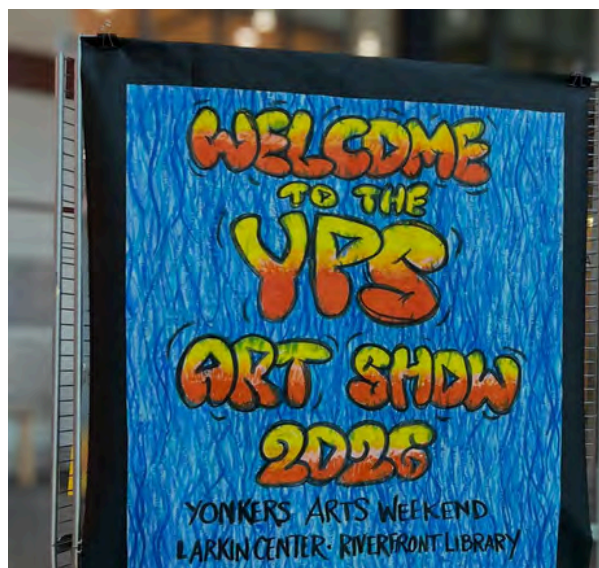
The honor reflects the talent, dedication, and school pride demonstrated by the student musicians and the educators who support them throughout the year.



Saunders Baseball has now captured its third Yonkers City Championship Tournament championship in the last four years, while **Softball** continues its dominance with a fourth consecutive title.

Congratulations to Coaches Robert Crescenzo and Charles Dematteo (Baseball), and Coaches Joseph Curbelo and Amanda Kiriakos (Softball), along with all of the outstanding student-athletes, on this tremendous accomplishment!

The Weeks Ahead



- Districtwide Science Fair: May 9
- YCPTA Citizenship and Scholarship Awards : May 14
- Yonkers Public Schools Art Show: Through May 17
- Yonkers Arts Weekend: May 15-17
- Shakefest 2026: May 18
- Staff vs. Staff Charity Softball Game: May 22
- Memorial Day: May 25
- Relay for Life May 29

Join Us!

Friends. Family. Fighters



Fighting cancer takes many things like research, free rides to chemo and lodging near hospitals, and our 24/7 helpline. But we can't do any of that without you. Join Relay For Life, the largest, most inspiring, and supportive cancer fundraising event on the planet.

Help end cancer as we know it, for everyone. REGISTER TODAY!

Relay For Life of Yonkers

Friday, May 29, 2026 | 3-11PM
Gorton High School
3PM – Games & Activities BEGIN
5PM – Free Survivor Reception
6PM – Opening Ceremony
9PM – Luminaria Remembrance Ceremony

RelayForLife.org/YonkersNY
1.800.227.2345



Survivor Reception

Join the celebration!



Relay For Life of Yonkers Friday, May 29 | 3 P.M. – 11 P.M.

Gorton High School
100 Shonnard Pl, Yonkers, NY

Survivors, caregivers and former caregivers are invited to attend a free Reception to recognize and honor you!

Survivor Reception: 5:00 P.M.
Opening Ceremony, and Survivor Lap: 6 P.M.
Luminaria Ceremony: 9 P.M.

Survivors can register online to receive a FREE Survivor shirt by mail.

Scan the QR code or visit:
RelayForLife.org/YonkersNY

RelayForLife.org
1.800.227.2345



YONKERS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STAFF VS. STAFF

★ CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME ★
FUNDRAISER

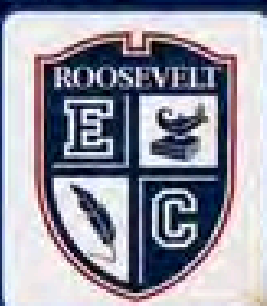


SUPPORTING THE YONKERS RELAY FOR LIFE
CANCER FUNDRAISING EFFORTS



TEAM FORCE

★ 4 HIGH SCHOOLS ★

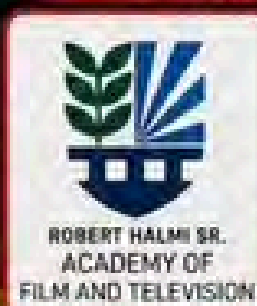


VS.



TEAM BRAVE

★ 5 HIGH SCHOOLS ★



FRIDAY
MAY 22ND



4:30 PM



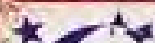
ROOSEVELT HS FIELD
631 TUCKAHOE ROAD
YONKERS, NY 10710

SIGN UP FEE

★ **\$100** ★

SEE BACK FOR
REGISTRATION
DETAILS

(DETAILS TO FOLLOW)



RELAY
FOR LIFE



TOGETHER,
WE CAN MAKE
A DIFFERENCE.

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



YONKERS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

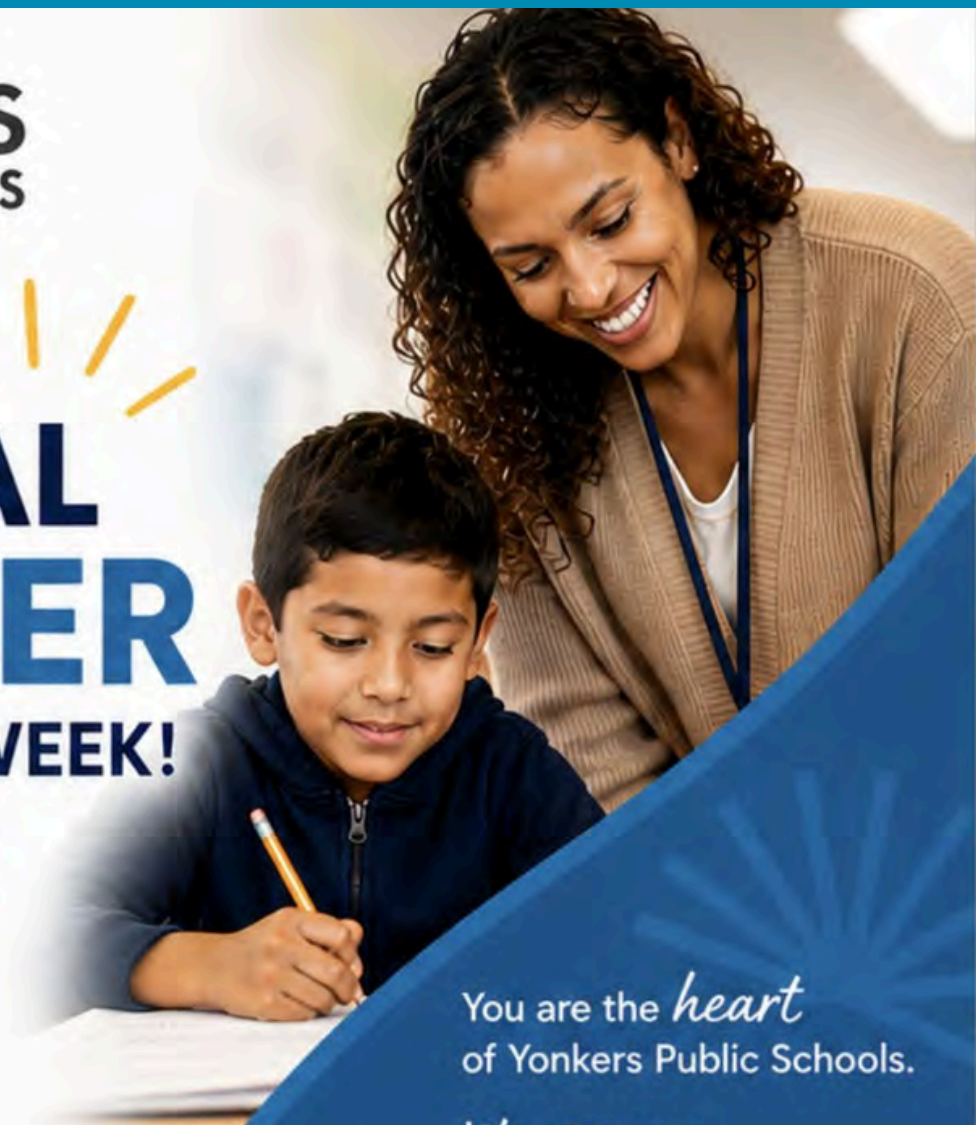
HAPPY
**NATIONAL
TEACHER**
APPRECIATION WEEK!

MAY 4-8, 2026



Thank You,
YPS TEACHERS!

Your dedication shapes futures,
inspires dreams, and strengthens
our entire community.



You are the *heart*
of Yonkers Public Schools.

We *see* you.

We *appreciate* you.

We *celebrate* you.



THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO. TODAY AND EVERY DAY.



Deepest Gratitude,

Superintendent Soler.

Yonkers Public Schools

District Digest

Photos from Across the District



Riverside High School Senior Trip to Yankee Stadium



Reading with a Purpose at Paideia School '15



Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea Party at School 30



Celebrating the Famous Star Wars Holiday at Westchester Hills School 29



William Boyce Thompson Students Wish Their Principal Mr. Ryan a Happy Birthday!

YPS STUDENT ARTWORK



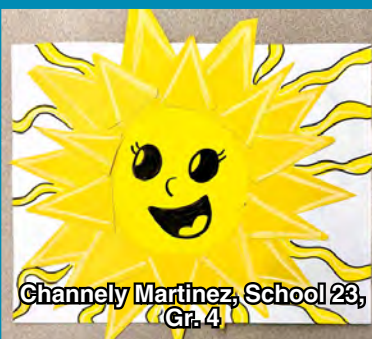
Jessie Paulino, Siragusa, Gr. 1



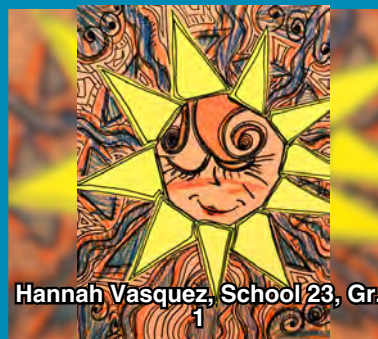
Linavel Valdez Rosario, Dodson, Gr. 5



Luis Rosario, Siragusa, Gr. 6



Channely Martinez, School 23, Gr. 4



Hannah Vasquez, School 23, Gr. 1



Jose Lopez Gomez, Dodson, Gr. 4



Mia-Isabella Rose Rivera, Dichiaro, Gr. 7