



Superintendent, Anibal Soler, Jr.

Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Families,

I hope this message finds you and your families well.

As we continue moving forward together, I remain grateful for the strong partnership that exists across our Yonkers community. Each week, I am reminded that the strength of our district lies in the collective commitment of our students, educators, families, and community leaders who believe deeply in the promise of Yonkers Public Schools and the vision outlined in our Yonkers 2030 Strategic Plan.



*The Journal News/lohud visits
School 17 UPK program*

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This week, I joined colleagues from the Conference of Big 5 School Districts in Albany to advocate for the resources our students deserve. I was proud to stand alongside Mayor Mike Spano as we met with state officials to address the significant structural deficit facing Yonkers Public Schools—now estimated at \$101 million. Together, we made it clear that Yonkers cannot continue to be left behind by a funding formula that fails to recognize the true cost of educating students in our city.

Our message to Albany was clear: Yonkers Public Schools has made tremendous progress and has become a model urban district, but protecting that progress requires meaningful state intervention. We are advocating for fixes to the funding formula and additional support so we can protect the investment, protect our progress, and protect the opportunities our students deserve. While advocacy continues, our schools remain vibrant places of learning and celebration.

Across the district, we also continued celebrating academic excellence as we announced more of our Valedictorians and Salutatorians. These remarkable students represent the very best of Yonkers—hard work, perseverance, and a commitment to achievement. We are incredibly proud of them and look forward to honoring all of our graduates in the months ahead.

Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)

And of course, there is great excitement in our athletics community. Please join me in wishing the Yonkers Montessori Girls Basketball Team the very best as they head into the Championship Game this Sunday at the Westchester County Center. If you can, come out and support these outstanding student-athletes. It promises to be a fantastic game, and there is nothing like seeing the Yonkers community come together to cheer on our students.

As we look ahead, I want you to know that I remain committed to working closely with Mayor Spano, our Board of Education, and our community partners to protect the student experience in Yonkers. While we confront the realities of a significant structural funding gap, our focus will always remain on ensuring that our students continue to learn, grow, and thrive.

Next week, I will also be joining our Yonkers Council of PTAs (YCPTA) and our students as we rally for additional funding and resources for Yonkers Public Schools. Our voices matter, and together we will continue advocating for the future our students deserve.

Even in challenging times, I remain hopeful and inspired by the resilience, talent, and spirit of this community. The magic of Yonkers lives in our classrooms, on our stages, on our courts, and in the hearts of our students.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to Yonkers Public Schools.

Please enjoy your weekend.

With gratitude and pride,



Anibal Soler, Jr.

Superintendent of Schools



Yonkers Students Celebrate Youth Art Month

DISTRICT

Digest

From key moments with Superintendent Soler to exciting events across our schools, Yonkers Magic was on full display. Catch up on all the highlights and celebrations happening in YPS this week!

Voices of a Century



Students Celebrate Black History

A glorious celebration marking 100 years of Black History observances brought the past and the future into perfect alignment on Tuesday, March 3, 2026.

This year's celebration was not simply an opportunity to ignite pride, self-expression, and hope; it was also a time of reflection - a challenge to our student community to see themselves as the scholars, innovators, servant leaders, and change agents of the future.

2026-27 Bus Transportation Applications Due April 1



Non-Public School Bus Transportation

Transportation applications for students who will attend a private, parochial, or charter school within the City of Yonkers for the 2026-27 school year are **due April 1, 2026**. Alternate school bus transportation requests are also due on April 1st. **Visit our website** to apply today.

Yonkers MBK Fellows Attend Statewide MBK “Stand & Deliver” Event



Building Leadership Through MBK

Yonkers MBK Fellows recently attended the statewide Stand & Deliver: My Brother's Keeper Fellows Leadership Workshop and Speaker Showcase hosted by NYSED in Albany. The event brought together MBK communities from across New York State for a day focused on leadership, communication, and brotherhood. During the workshop, Fellows stepped to the center of the room to deliver speeches, strengthening their public speaking skills and amplifying their voices and experiences.

Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday



Safety Reminder

With the arrival of Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, mornings will be darker for the next few weeks. Please remember that many students are walking to school or waiting at bus stops in low light. Please drive with extra care.

PEARLS Read-A-Thon



Celebrating a Tradition of Reading and Community

This year's PEARLS Read-A-Thon was a tremendous success, continuing a beloved tradition that began 11 years ago in honor of Ms. Tina Doufekias, a cherished PEARLS teacher whose passion for literacy shaped the school community.

The youngsters read 5,564 books and logged an incredible 376,805 minutes, raising \$11,543 for the PEARLS PTA Fund. These funds will directly support classroom enrichment and schoolwide experiences that benefit all PEARLS students.

The school celebrated all participants at a Finale Assembly and awards presentation on Thursday, March 5, 2026 with special guest Superintendent of Schools Aníbal Soler, Jr.

The Journal News/Iohud Visits UPK Program at School 17



UPK Visit

Today, Superintendent Aníbal Soler, Jr. welcomed a reporter to School 17 who is working on a story about how Governor Kathy Hochul's proposed increase in state aid could affect Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs in Westchester County, including Yonkers' program serving nearly all eligible four-year-olds.

Advocacy Day in Albany

PROTECT OUR PROGRESS PROTECT YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Join the YCPTA/PTSA as We Unite and Rally in Albany

Parents, students, and educators from Yonkers Public Schools will gather at the New York State Capitol for Lobby Day and a Rally on the Million Dollar Staircase, calling on state leaders to Protect Our Progress and ensure long-term, equitable funding for Yonkers schools.

PARENTS ARE ADVOCATING FOR THREE KEY ACTIONS:

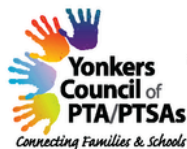
- Fixing the Foundation Aid formula to reflect true regional operating costs
- Protecting Universal Pre-K expansion by stabilizing enrollment funding so districts are not penalized for circumstances beyond their control
- Providing sustainable funding for community schools that integrate academics, health care, mental health services, and family engagement

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Buses will be leaving Yonkers at 7:30 AM

FOR OUR KIDS, FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

INTERESTED? Contact the YCPTA at
ycpta@ycpta.com or (914) 295-2454



Make Your Voice Heard

Parents, staff, and community members are encouraged to support efforts to protect funding for public education. Proposed changes at the state level could impact resources that directly support our students and schools. Staying informed and making your voice heard helps ensure our schools continue receiving the support they need.

Two Powerhouse Teams. One Big Game.



YMA Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Alexander Hamilton

Support the Lady Eagles on Sunday, March 8 at 5 PM at the Westchester County Center and watch them soar!

Two High Schools Announce Their Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the Class of 2026



Saunders High School



Lincoln High School (Val, Center; Sal, Right)

Recognizing Academic Achievement

Saunders Trades and Technical High School and Lincoln High School held events this week to proudly announce their Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Top 20 students. This outstanding group of leaders, scholars, and difference-makers worked hard, stayed focused, and rose to the top. Their dedication and resilience truly set them apart.

Saunders Trades and Technical High School

Valedictorian: Hannah Silva

Salutatorian: Alanis Abreu

Lincoln High School

Valedictorian: Anthony Elias Peter

Salutatorian: Daira C. Aguilar

Upcoming YPS Events

My Sister's Keeper

YOU'RE INVITED TO YONKERS 2ND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

We are delighted to invite all MSK Members and MSK Liaisons from active Yonkers Public School MSK Chapters.

Join in a celebration on Sisterhood, Unity, Empowerment and Possibility.

When:
Saturday, March 7, 2026

What Time:
9:00am - 12:00pm

Where:
Justice Sonia Sotomayor Community School
121 McLean Avenue
Yonkers, NY

Who:
MSK Liaisons and MSK Members Enrolled in Grades 4 - 12

Activities will include MSK Sisterhood and International Women's Day Crafts, Service Learning Opportunities, Creative Connections, Sisterhood Community-Building Initiatives and SO MUCH MORE!

Note: This event is open only to enrolled MSK Student Members. Students are responsible for their transportation both to and from the event and should coordinate with their families for pick up and drop off.

Scan to RSVP or Learn More: 

Please direct any questions to MSK Executive Director, Madelyn Guzman at mguzman@yonkerspublicschools.org.

YONKERS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL
PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AS WE HONOR

Ed DeChent

WITH INDUCTION INTO THE YMHS WALL OF FAME



3.11.2026 | 4:30 PM

150 ROCKLAND AVE
YONKERS, NY 10705
IN THE GYMNASIUM

THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION WILL RECOGNIZE MR. DECHENT'S LASTING IMPACT, DEDICATION, AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE YONKERS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO COMING TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE HIS LEGACY AND ACHIEVEMENTS. WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR THIS MEANINGFUL OCCASION.

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO THE YONKERS COUNCIL OF PTA/PTSAs

Annual Fundraising Gala

Honoring
Brenda Cardeza
YCPTA President

And
Rose Anne Collins-Judon
Associate Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools

APRIL
THURSDAY 30 AT 5:30 PM
2026

Westchester Manor
140 Saw Mill River Road
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706

\$100 Per Person • Includes Dinner & Entertainment.

Please RSVP by April 10, 2026 to NarisaSaleem@YCPTA.org

YPS Proudly Presents
2ND ANNUAL

FAMILY MATH CARNIVAL

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FAMILY MATH FUN AND EXCITEMENT!

FUN MATH GAMES FOR GRADES PRE-K - 5
WIN RAFFLES AND PRIZES
FAMILY WORKSHOPS
FREE ADMISSION



THURSDAY MARCH 26, 2026
5:00 - 7:00 PM

William Boyce Thompson School
1061 N Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701



REGISTER BY MARCH 19!

914- 376-8068 jgionfriddo@yonkerspublicschools.org

YPS Presenta con Orgullo
SEGUNDO ANUAL

CARNAVAL DE MATEMÁTICAS FAMILIAR

ÚNETE A NOSOTROS PARA UNA TARDE DE MATEMÁTICAS Y DIVERSION FAMILIAR!

JUEGOS DE MATEMÁTICAS DIVERTIDOS PARA LOS GRADOS PRE-K - 5
GANA RIFAS Y PREMIOS
TALLERES FAMILIARES
ENTRADA GRATUITA



JUEVES 26 DE MARZO DEL 2026
5:00 - 7:00 PM

William Boyce Thompson School
1061 N Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701



(REGISTRATE ANTES DEL 19 DE MARZO)

914- 376-8068 jgionfriddo@yonkerspublicschools.org

Yonkers History Day



Student Projects Take the Spotlight

Yonkers History Day was a remarkable celebration of learning and discovery, centered on the theme “Revolution, Reaction, Reform in Yonkers History.” Students proudly showcased projects exploring the pivotal moments and transformative ideas that have shaped our world, competing across four categories: Exhibit, Documentary, Performance, and Website.

The most exciting news of all, 12 teams will advance to compete at the **Hudson Valley Regional Competition this Saturday, March 7, 2026!**

Congratulations to every student who participated, and special recognition to our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners and regional qualifiers. We are so proud of your hard work and achievement!

Stay connected with Yonkers Public Schools!

Follow us for the latest news, events,
and school highlights.

Be part of the #YonkersMagic!



yonkerspublicschools



yonkersschools



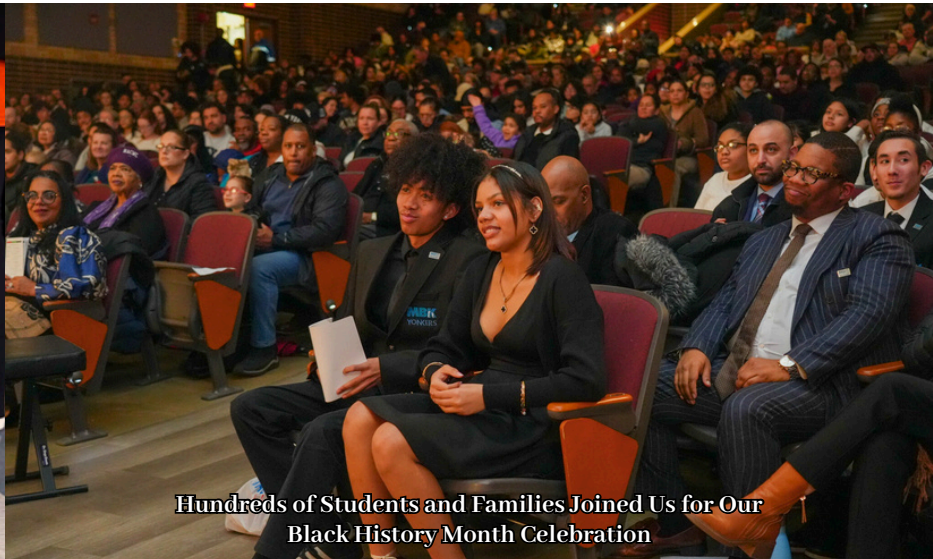
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District Digest

Photos from Across the District



Green Eggs & Ham Event at Yonkers Early Childhood Academy



Hundreds of Students and Families Joined Us for Our Black History Month Celebration



School 17 Yonkers History Day Competition Winners



"Hats Off to Reading" at School 17

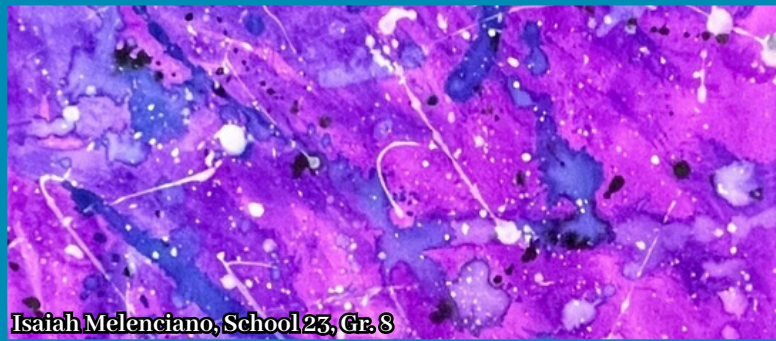


Saunders High School Arch 10 Students Present Their Park Projects



Lincoln High School Takes a "Lucky" Approach to Learning

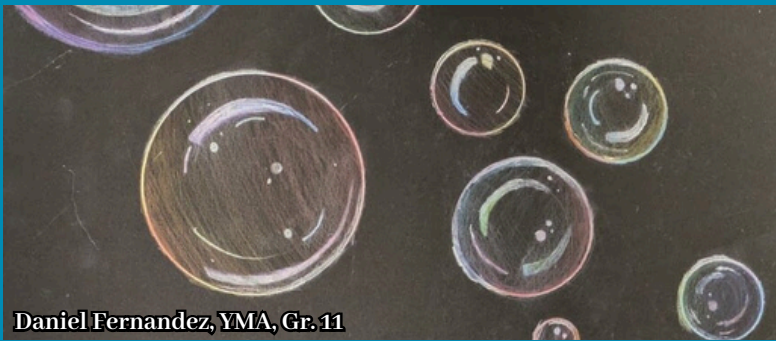
YPS STUDENT ARTWORK



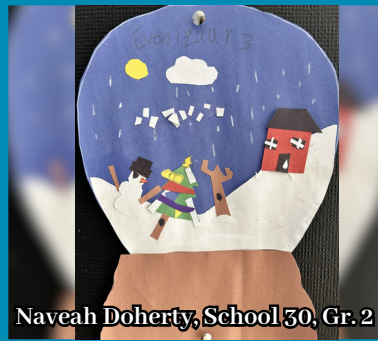
Isaiah Melenciano, School 23, Gr. 8



Walmy Manzuela Taveras,
Dodson, Gr. 7



Daniel Fernandez, YMA, Gr. 11



Naveah Doherty, School 30, Gr. 2



Dunia Salameh, School 30,
Gr. 2



Kelly Defino, School 23, Gr. 8