

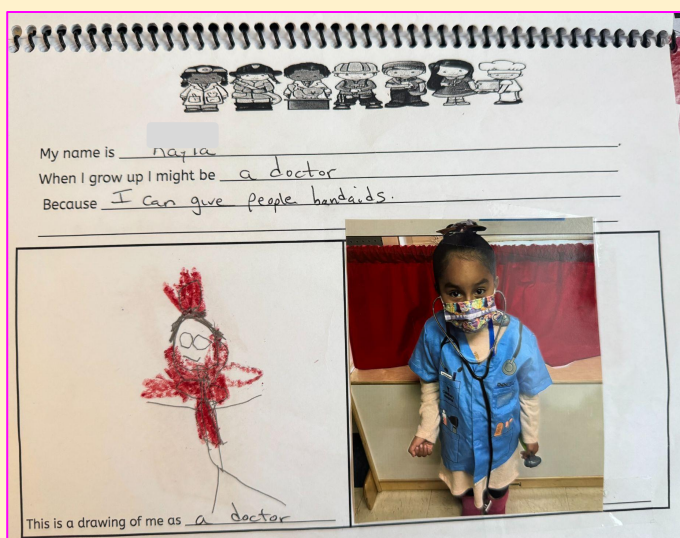
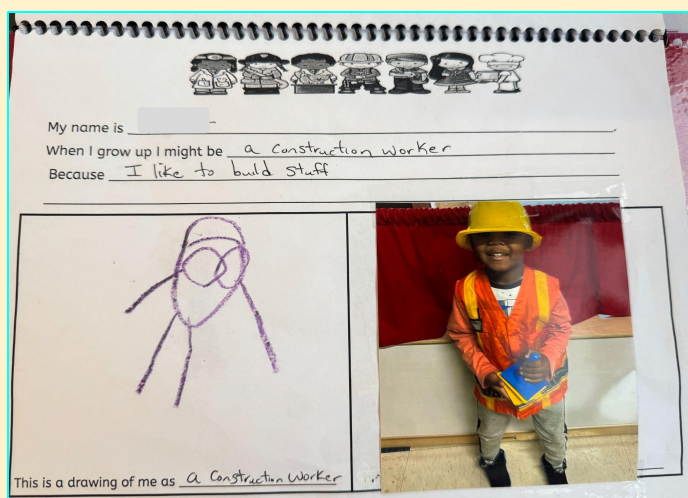
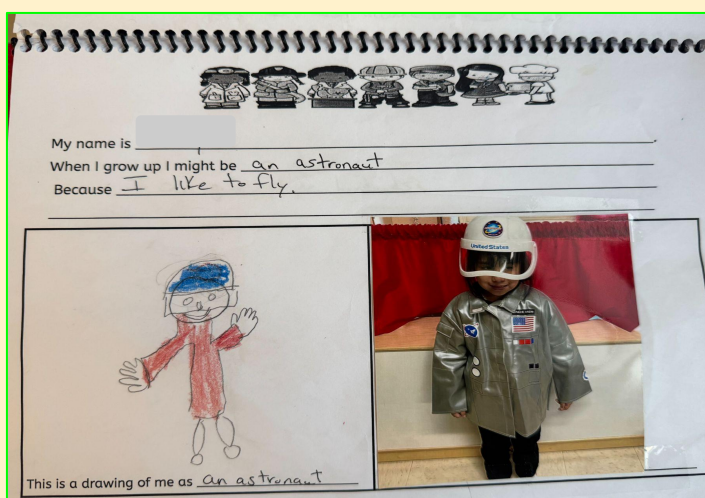
PCSD College Readiness and Workforce Education Newsletter

May 2025

Elementary-College and Career Readiness from Exposure to Awareness

Pre-k Students' Dream Jobs!

Being exposed to college and career readiness in the early grades supports students development of self actualization- the concept of self discovery and understanding, leading to a greater sense of purpose and fulfillment.



Parents/Guardians can support Career Readiness at home by asking questions that spark Exploration & Curiosity:

- "What kind of jobs do you think you might like to learn more about?" (This encourages exploration of different careers.)
- "If you could have any superpower, what would it be and how could it help you in your job?" (This connects imagination to potential career applications.)
- "What would you want to learn more about if you were going to be [a specific profession]?" (This encourages deeper thinking about specific careers.)

These questions are designed to spark curiosity and open conversations about potential future careers, rather than to pressure children into specific career choices at such a young age. The goal is to foster a sense of self-awareness and a positive attitude towards work.

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



The Performing Arts are Back at the Poughkeepsie Middle School!

Disney's HS Musical Junior

The performing arts supports students in their development of employability skills such as: Team work, self awareness, time management, communication skills and much more!



The Art Career Pathways in our High School include: The Individual Arts Assessment Portfolio (IAAP), Drawing and Painting, Media Arts, 3D Arts and The Smarts Scholars Early College HS- Performing Arts Academy (Dance, Music, Theater). These students may as well be our future artists!



Disney's HS Musical Junior- The Plot- The story follow high school students navigating high school life, dealing with family, love, cliques and friendship while balancing high school classes and extracurricular activities. The characters must decide if they stay with their cliques or break away. They auditioned for the school musical and navigate the challenges and triumphs that come with trying something new.

We want to thank

Ms. Nicole Schmitt, Ms. Cadia Chambers, Mr. Pedro Johnson, Ms. Nisa Sharma, Principal Schinella, Mr. Grusenmeyer (Supervisor of Secondary Ed) and the PMS students and parents who worked tirelessly to make this Theater Production a Success!

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



High School: College and Career Exploration, Planning and Development

Smart Scholars Early College High School- Performing Arts Academy

Our Smart Scholars had the privilege of touring the Bardavon. Today a premier Hudson Valley destination, the Bardavon holds the distinction of being the oldest continuously operating theater in New York State, and one of the oldest in the entire country. James Collingwood, its founder, generous public spirit, lives on as the Bardavon continues to delight the community with its proud history, breathtaking architecture, and outstanding programming for all to enjoy.

Did you know that the Bardavon is a theater house? The difference between a Theater House and a Performing Arts Center is that a Theater House is used by different theater groups to bring their live performances and a Performing Arts Center serves as a hub for a wide range of artistic performances, including music, dance, theater, and film. Beside the Tour of the Bardavon, students asked questions about careers in the performing arts front stage and to backstage. They also played a warm up game that some actors use before performing. Students in this Career Pathway will be able to earn college credits as well as explore the areas of Dance, Theater and Music. Students in this Career Pathway can go into the performing arts majors offered in all our local colleges or use the transferable skills to choose different majors in college. No matter what they decide, the performing arts will give them a headstart in their career paths.



The Career Action Center- Chamber of Commerce

Students participated in a Wellness Workshop by Amoy Virgo and Gina Burton-Fisher, from The Loc Artistry by AV, at the PHS. They view loc care as a transformative path to self-expression, empowerment, and wellness. By prioritizing hair and scalp health, we aim to inspire confidence, provide education, and foster a supportive community that celebrates individuality, beauty, and holistic well-being. They discussed the importance of peace and wellness. Students created oils for natural hair and body with essential oils and worked with a herbalist. Exploring non-conventional career paths is part of the College and Career Readiness Initiative.



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.

