

SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

Together, We are the Champions for Children in Poughkeepsie City School District

ISSUE NO 72 | May 10, 2023

VOLUME 4



PCSD recognizes teachers for all they do



"If you have to put someone on a pedestal, put teachers. They are society's heroes."

– Guy Kawasaki

Monday marked the first day of Teacher Appreciation Week and the Poughkeepsie City School District celebrates all of its teachers.

Poughkeepsie City School District teachers have and continue to represent themselves as strong and committed professionals, addressing the academic, social and emotional needs of all children. This is evidenced by a history of PCSD teachers going above and beyond their call of duty during the school day,

after the school day, and on weekends. Each of you are truly Champions (heroes) of PCSD children! Teacher Appreciation Week was started in 1984 by the National Parent Teacher Association, which wanted to set aside a special time to honor teachers. Each year there is a different theme. This year's theme is, "Teachers Drive the Future." According to the [pta.org website](https://pta.org), it "celebrates the idea that teachers are not just educators – they are one of the key drivers for every child's journey to their future." Teachers help to instill values, shape character and empower children to pursue their dreams and make a positive difference in the world. The website has ideas on how you can celebrate your child's teacher(s).

On behalf of the Board of Education, district and school leadership, parents, and students, I provide a heartfelt thanks to all PCSD teachers. What you do on a daily basis to elevate student success in and beyond the classroom is unparalleled.

Activities our parents and the community can do to recognize PCSD teachers

- [Send a digital card.](#)
- Have your child create an [acrostic poem](#) honoring their teacher.
- Have your child [Color a picture](#) for their teacher.
- [Create a Certificate of Appreciation](#) for your child's teacher.
- Send a letter of gratitude to your child's teacher.
- Bring/send school supplies such as pens, pencils, highlighters, sticky notes.
- Suggest to your child to offer to carry a teacher's books in the hall.
- Post a thank you to teachers on your social media pages. Find some graphics on the [National PTA page](#).

– Superintendent Dr. Eric Jay Rosser, superintendent of schools

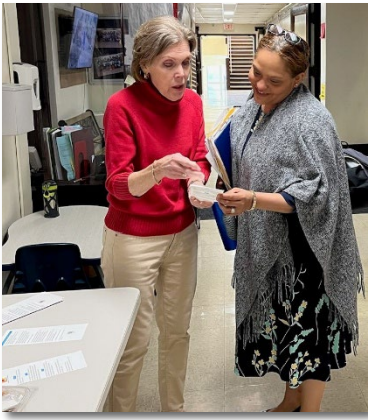
Foundation celebrates staff, offers grant information

Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation trustees and others took time out of their day Tuesday to bring breakfast to teachers and staff at all seven Poughkeepsie City School District schools to say, "Thank you."

In total, 530 breakfasts from Akbar's, 104 Smith St., and [The Chocolate Mousse Catering](#) were served. Both businesses work

PMS staff get ready to eat on PPSF Appreciation Day.





Clockwise from top: PPSF President Ellen Staino explains funding opportunities to a Warring Elementary School teacher, Appreciation Day breakfast at ELC, a Warring teacher selects a breakfast, PHS staff get ready to eat, PPSF trustee Demaj Ffriend visits his old elementary school - Clinton Elementary School.

with PCSD on many projects.

"As a retired teacher myself, I know the dedication and commitment our district's teachers and staff give to the students and families every day. It is important to recognize that and thank teachers and staff publicly," PPSF President Ellen Staino said.

The Appreciation Breakfast tradition began last year as a way to encourage teachers to apply for funding from the foundation, which provides grants of up to \$1,000 for activities and experiences that meet the PPSF mission and that the district cannot fund. Over the years, it has funded activities provided during Saturday Morning Lights, Summer Reading programs, field trips to museums and colleges, the Pioneer Post, creation of school gardens and more. Learn more at ppsfonline.org. To make a donation, visit

www.CommunityFoundationsHV.org.

But, PPSF wanted to honor everyone at the schools.

"We don't always know the impact of an adult on a student – a maintenance technician, a school nurse, a counselor or a cafeteria worker can play an important role in a student feeling seen, heard and safe. Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation is grateful to all the adults who

interact with the district students and families," Executive Director G. Angela Henry said.

Many members of the PPSF board are PHS graduates themselves. Tamoya Norwood is one of them. The Class of 2001 member is vice president of the foundation and the parent of students at PHS and Morse.

"From a parent's perspective and as an alum, I truly appreciate all the teachers and staff have done for all students." Fellow board member, Demaj Ffriend, PPSF trustee, agrees.

"It's true everyone in the school community plays an important role in creating a safe and supportive learning environment for the students," he wrote after the event. "It was heartwarming to see my old Clinton Elementary School teachers again."

School budget voting nears

Poughkeepsie City School District

2024

BUDGET

Annual School District Budget Vote

May 16, 2023

Find more information on District webpage and access the updated Spring 2023 Budget Newsletter

Vote date: May 16, 2023 **Voting times:** 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Voting locations:

1st and 3rd Wards

Morse Elementary School, 101 Mansion Street

2nd and 4th Wards

Clinton Elementary School, 100 Montgomery Street

5th Ward

Warring Elementary School, 283 Mansion Street

6th and 7th Wards

Poughkeepsie Middle School, 55 College Avenue

8th Ward

Krieger Elementary, 265 Hooker Avenue

Visit the Voter Information Portal to see if you are registered to vote and where to vote.