

SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

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

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VOLUME 5



Fundraiser set to expand PHS football

A major fundraising campaign to expand the Poughkeepsie High School football program is underway as part of recent Poughkeepsie City School District efforts to expand athletics, extracurricular opportunities, and arts education.

Over the last three years, the district has installed new scoreboards in the gymnasium at PHS, refurbished the PHS tennis courts, made investments in the PMS pool, and refinished gymnasium floors at ELC and Krieger. The district has also created opportunities for students with exceptionalities to compete in competitive basketball and bowling and established a flag football team for female athletes.

Through the support of the Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation and Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, Pioneer Pride - a group primarily composed of Poughkeepsie High School alumni - is raising funds to supplement and expand the football program. Pioneer Pride believes that quality athletic programs enrich educational experiences and provide many positive youth development characteristics including

- Teamwork.
- Physical and mental well-being.
- Respect for one's self and others.
- Socialization skills.
- Pride in one's physical appearance.

Pioneer Pride says that a well-established program can provide our students with college scholarship opportunities and potentially lead to professional careers in athletics as a player, in sports medicine, in sports management, or other related fields. Team sports help enhance a student's competence on and off the playing field, self-worth, academic skills, body perception, empathy and awareness of others' positive attributes, communication, ability to listen, and the ability to plan methodically in the pursuit of goals.



"I was overwhelmed with a special joy when I learned that the Pioneer Pride was interested in starting this campaign. Being a former high school and college athlete, I can attest to how a well-established athletic program can lead to positive youth development and access to funding for college that many families are seeking," shared Dr. Eric Jay Rosser, superintendent of schools. "Pioneer Pride joins other grassroots organizations who have embraced a clear understanding that inspiring and nurturing children requires a school, home, and community approach." G. Angela Henry, executive director of the Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation, noted, "Academic support through tutoring and organized study periods will be part of the player experience, and I look forward to Poughkeepsie football student-athletes winning Academic Excellence Achievement Awards from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association."

Those interested in learning more about the campaign can access the [Pioneer Pride Fundraising Campaign literature](#). All donations are tax-deductible and are handled through the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.



PMS students keep the community warm

National Junior Honor Society members at PMS organized "The Cozy Comforts of Winter Drive" from Nov. 27 through Dec. 15.

NJHS members encouraged their classmates and teachers to donate socks, gloves, hats, scarves, and mittens.

Advisers Jennifer Burke and Joyette Walton delivered over 100 items to Hudson River Housing Homeless Shelter on Manchester Road in Poughkeepsie.



Library debuts new catalog, learning tablets

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) recently published its January & February 2024 editions of "The Rotunda," a bimonthly publication offering descriptions and dates of programs and services accessible to the community that promotes lifelong learning, literacy, and reading.

This issue of "The Rotunda" announces Vega, the new online catalog for all Mid-Hudson Library System member libraries. The new system allows patrons to place holds and renewals, check reading levels, create and share lists, provide an option to save reading histories, and more. The issue also announces the availability of bilingual early-learning tablets that are loaded with early-learning activities including science, technology, reading, engineering, art, music, and math. Most activities are in English and Spanish but several are in French, Italian, German, Russian, and Chinese. The devices are easy to use and ideal for all learning styles (auditory, visual, tactile, and kinesthetic). The content of the latest edition also highlights Black History Month at the Library, noting the following events taking place between Jan. 6 and Feb. 29:

- **In Concert: Souls United Choir** - Saturday, Feb. 3, 2:30 p.m. at the Cunneen-Hackett Art Center
- **International Demands for Educational Reparations: Memory Laws and Black Histories** - Thursday, Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m. at the Adriance Memorial Library (registration required)
- **Meet the Curator Exhibit Tour: Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts** - Thursday, Feb. 8, 10:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. at the FDR Presidential Library & Museum (registration required)
- **The Tuskegee Airmen**, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. (Virtual - registration required)
- **Root Doctors & Hoodoo Medicine**, Thursday, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m. (Virtual - registration required)
- **Black Inventors Scavenger Hunt** - Jan. 6 - Feb. 29 at Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library



The Rotunda also provides several high-quality events and programs in the following broad areas: Books, Writing, and more, Arts and entertainment, History and Current Events, Health and wellness, Connecting (social events), Rover Pupdates, Public Computer Center, Programs in Spanish, Teen Programming, Early Childhood, and Children. The Poughkeepsie City School District greatly values the PPLD and its role in Poughkeepsie in offering the community diverse services and programs resulting in an informed and educated public. Both organizations have collaborated to promote literacy and reading among pre-K- 12th grade students. Rover, the PPLD mobile library is frequently at PCSD Community School events, and through an invaluable partnership, PCSD students and teachers have access to PPLD's Sora digital library platform. To access the latest copy of the Rotunda click [here](#).

Other newsletters to keep you informed:

Poughkeepsie City School District publishes a variety of newsletters throughout the year. Here are the newsletters that are available now:

[CI Weekly](#) for Jan. 4, 2024

Upcoming events

- **Mon., Jan. 15:** Martin Luther King Day 6:30 p.m., No School
- **Wed. Jan. 17:** BOE Workshop Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building, 18 S. Perry St.
- **Sat. Jan 20:** Superintendent Fireside Chat, 9:00 a.m.
- **Thu., Jan. 25:** Beauty and the Beast, 6 p.m., Krieger Elementary School, 265 Hooker Ave., Free

