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## **Quick Hits**

#### **Tech upgrades** coming this summer

#### By Marc Wilkinson, **Technology Coordinator**

The School District of the City of Hamtramck Technology Department is planning summer improvements to our network.

New fiber optics will be added to the Tau Beta School that will increase speed and reliability. We will be replacing lines that provide very poor speeds for data communications.

Tau Beta School will also be receiving a new wireless access point system that will improve wireless speeds for the students' Chromebooks.

Hamtramck Technology also plans to enact our fiber build and fiber maintenance agreement and inspect every inch of our fiber optic cabling and making necessary repairs for all the buildings.

We received federal funding, and are in the process of scheduling the installation of high-Continued on page 7



**Members** 

Salah Hadwan

Secretary



**Magdalena Srodek** 

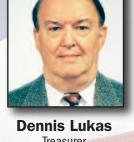


Jihan Aiyash



**Evan Major** 

**Moortadha Obaid** 



Treasurer



**Showkat Chowdhury** Trustee



#### By Nahim Miah

Wrapping up her final year of high school with an astounding cumulative grade point average of Valedictorian Priyanka Laskar is a sound embodiment of the idea that due diligence and patience will result in a grand payoff - no matter where you come from or where you started.

Her leadership skills and strong sense of identity leave a trail for all of those behind her to follow.

Priyanka knows more than anyone that it took a long time to get where she is today. Her awe-inspiring academic, personal, and extracurricular achievements didn't come with a snap of her fingers.

She's had to do a little bit of soul searching to become one of Hamtramck High School's greatest.

immigrated Priyanka from Bangladesh to Hamtramck when she was just 5 years old. She never attended preschool or kindergarten, and to be thrown into an environment so foreign to what she was used to - at such a young age - was a hurdle, to say the least.

She took ESL classes when she enrolled at Dickinson East Elementary, and it took a great deal of time to find focus and drive.

She wanted to go home. Nothing made sense here: the language, the people, the culture.

At one point, the State of Michigan sent her parents letters of her failure to be present at school and demanded she attend. The peering, judging

eyes of a select few around her didn't help either. They compared her to those her age and teased her for the little she had accomplished.

Nevertheless, she eventually realized that sitting by, waiting for something that would probably never come was a waste of time.

She wanted to grow and make the best of her opportunities in America. She wanted those same eyes to look at her again with the same intention, only to shield them at the sight of her radiance.

After endlessly dedicating time to learn to read and write in English, all while staying in contact with her Hindu heritage, Priyanka graduated from Kosciuszko Middle School and went on to Ham-

Continued on page 2







**Superintendent's** 

Message...

ment draws near, please know that it has been both an honor and a privilege to work in Hamtramck Public Schools for 41 years, the last 11 of those as Superintendent.

Having been accepted by the school community as well as the community at large for over four decades as a teacher, teacher, principal and finally as superintendent, humbles me.

I have been extremely fortunate to have a great team working with me in every job classification I have held.

I have also been fortunate enough to have worked with excellent Board Members over the years.

Public School Boards of Education are the governance body that is the backbone of every community. The time and effort put in by Board Members is substantial compared to the minimal monthly stipend they re-

Continued on page 2

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### Valedictorian: Priyanka Laskar Salutatorian: Amila Hatibovic

**Continued from front page** 

tramck High School.

She began to challenge herself in ways that eventually cemented a realization of her love for education and the possibilities it could offer.

Taking 12 honors, four AP, and two dual enrollment courses over the course of four years is something not many could say they have done successfully, yet alone attempt.

Priyanka has also been involved in a seemingly endless amount of extracurriculars, inside of Hamtramck High School and out. As the President of LEAP, she's guided students interested in protecting the Earth and educating the community on the importance of environmentally being

In FIRST Robotics, she's led a group of students to craft essays that showcase Team 123 in the best light possible. She is in her fourth year on Student Council, second year in the National Honor Society and Be a Good Neighbor Project, and third year in the Princess Project.

These clubs' members and her close friends would agree that they wouldn't make do without her.

Valedictorian Priyanka Laskar has faced countless hurdles, well before reaching high school.

*ভ* আলাদা রান্নাঘর

ত্বায়ের অনুসারে ভাড়া

ঙ*ভবনের ভেতরে* ডাক্

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She knows more than most that realistic doesn't mean "easily achievable". She's decided to matriculate to Wayne State University where she intends to study pre-medicine. No matter what path Priyanka ends up taking, she's become truly an inspiration to everyone. She'll never stop breaking barriers,

even if she's created them

#### **Salutatorian: Amila Hatibovic**

herself.

With an exceptional cumulative grade point aver-4.1814, age of Salutatorian Amila Hatibovic occupies a seat in HHS Graduating Class of 2019 that is unlike any

Her vibrant personality and infectious laughter have made her into someone that just about everyone wants to be near. Her unmatched academic and extracurricular achievements, coupled with her ambition and resourcefulness, have shaped her into a student with countless successes; someone that is undoubtedly deserving of this honor.

Facing challenges with confidence and grace has always been a specialty of Amila's.

She's also never been afraid to look for them; a quick glance at her academic transcript would prove that. Amila took 13 Honors, four AP, and two Dual Enrollment classes.

Amila has slowly but steadily built a depth of knowledge that could only be achieved by hard work and a desire to overcome hurdles that she faced.

Many of her close friends might argue that Amila's academic excellence is matched only by her myriad pursuits and extracurriculars that she's been involved in at our high school and in our community.

As the Vice President of LEAP, Amila was been able to educate the school and community on being environmentally aware. Being part of a group that was truly student-led, unguided by an outside organization or school teacher's views, was very challenging.

But Amila faced it headon. Being a third-year member and two-year executive board member of the Princess Project has made her irreplaceable to the organization.

Most, if not all members, would agree that the club's mission to provide a comfortable and safe space for religious students to let loose wouldn't come to fruition without her leadership.

She's reflected those skills in many of her other clubs and activities: two years in FIRST Robotics, four years in Student Council (one being an e-

**Medical** 

**On-Site** 

board member), two in the National Honor Society, and two in the Be a Good Neighbor Project.

With her indomitable spirit and incredible work ethic, she helped these clubs grow and evolve, and she's also learned quite a few things about herself.

Salutatorian Amila Hatibovic, whether she first decided to or not, has left a phenomenal mark in Hamtramck High School's his-

She will be matriculating to Wayne State University, where she intends to study pre-medicine.

She's understandably a little perplexed by the sheer career possibilities medicine has to offer, but she knows that her passion lies in that realm.

Finding that exact field is just another challenge Amila will surely overcome.

### Superintendent's Message...

### **Thank You Hamtramck**

**Continued from front page** 

ceive.

All past and present Board Members deserve the respect and gratitude of all for taking on these responsibilities.

Every single employee is considered to be a valuable member of the team including administrators, teachers, parapros, secretaries, etc., whether full or part-time, union or non-

Members of the team have changed over the years, which is to be expected. But like the city itself where people come and go, with its core of long-term Hamtramck residents, there is also a core of long-term employees in Hamtramck Public Schools.

Stability is absolutely necessary in any organization. Change is constant and cities and school districts that have stable foundations are better able to thrive and handle that change.

Places like Hamtramck, that are able to adapt to change, are usually great places to live and attend school. I am confident that the future of Hamtramck Public Schools and the City of Hamtramck is a bright one.

Hamtramck will forever be my home and you will continue to see me in town - a lot. As always: Start here, Stay here and Succeed here.

## Horizon High School's top students shoot for the stars

By Kristen Hurt, Principal

There are many students excelling at Hamtramck's Horizon High School.

Yet. two students. Alanood Alduis and Issa Ghareeb, rank at the top of the class of 2019.

Alanood, class valedictorian, holds a GPA of 4.0.

Issa, class salutatorian, is finishing strong with a

The staff and students are quite proud of these two as they have worked hard these past few years.

Alanood and Issa came to Hamtramck in the summer 2016 from Yemen. They both picked up the English language quickly and often helped their fellow classmates both with academic content and language skills.

They are true leaders in the school!

Issa will be attending Wayne County Community College in the fall and will transfer to Wayne State University to pursue a degree in mechanical engi-

He intends to continue to work full time as a stock clerk while attending college. This is one of the many aspects that makes Issa's accomplishments so special.

He has worked full time while attending high school and has near perfect attendance! In his

spare time, he likes to play soccer and go to the gym.

Alanood will also be attending Wayne County Community College in the fall and plans to transfer to Wayne State University to pursue her dream of becoming a heart surgeon.

Alanood has been interested in the medical field since she was a young girl. In her spare time, she likes spending time with her family and loves to read non-fiction books.

We are all so proud of these two top stars and are eager to hear about their future accomplishments!

Go Cosmos!

## Meet the 2019 graduates of Horizon High





Afjol Uddin



Ali Almansob



Arius Tarver





Baleeq Obaid



Brianna Jones



**Destiny Jones** 



Falah Obeid







Continued on page 4

**ভ ব্যায়ামাগার** Start Here, Stay Here, হ্যামট্রামিক হাউসিং কমিশন (এইচ এইচ এস) বর্ণ, গোত্র, ধর্ম , জাতীয় উৎস, লিঙ্গ, বিকলাঙ্গ বা পারিবারিক অবস্থানের ভিত্তিতে কারেও অবজ্ঞা করেনা। সেকশান ৩ এর যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন আগ্রহীদের র্গি.যঁফ.মড়া এ নিবন্ধন কর্তে অনুরোধ করা যাচেছ। Hamtramck Housing Commission Succeed Here ২৬২০ হলক্রক স্ট্রাট, হ্যামট্রামিক ত ৩১৩ ৮৭৩ ৭৭৮৭ basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap or familial status



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### Early childhood: Students focused on science and art at Early Childhood Elementary School



Mike Morse, Attorney, read to ECE students



Hamtramck Fire Chief, Danny Hagen reading to ECE students



Second grade teacher, Mr. Helminiak, reading to his

#### **By Colleen Stevens**

The Early Childhood Elementary School provides quality education for preschoolers through second graders.

The school is proud to say that they have a highquality Great Start Readiness Preschool Program in their building for 4-year-

The program has a fourstar rating from The Michi-Department Education.

March was Reading Month and it was a busy

There was Read-A-Shirt Day, Round Robin Reading and Guest Reader

The school was happy to have district staff visit, Mr. Dennis Lukas (a school board member), local firefighters (among others) read to the students.

This year's surprise guest was Mike Morse from the Mike Morse Law Firm, who came with his daughter.

Everyone took time out of their busy schedules to read to the students. It was much appreciated.

The Early Childhood Elementary has focused a lot on science this year.

The students went to Schoolcraft College several times for hands-on science activities. In addition, they explored plants, magnets, force and motion and numerous other scientific topics Jupiter Jaye from High-Touch/HighTech Science.

These activities gave the students lots to talk and write about.

One of the favorite activities each year is the visit to The Detroit Institute of Arts.

After the visit, the students returned to school, wrote about their experience and created art in the style of a particular

The school had an art show in conjunction with a concert featuring the kindergarten, first grade and second graders. Art from the entire school was on display before and after the concert.

The Early Childhood Elementary is definitely a great place to be!



Top: Live reindeer visit from Carousel Acres. Left: More hands-on science with Jupiter Jaye. **Below: Dumpster Doug** (Doug Scheer Assembly Shows) on Earth day, talking about recycling and pollution





## In one year, Tau Beta School experienced huge growth

By Nabil Nagi, Principal

Tau Beta School is a kindergarten to 8th grade school that is dedicated in providing the very best education for all students.

Teachers have a dedication to their students and it shows. Tau Beta School was officially opened in January of 2018 and there were approximately 150 students who attended when Tau Beta first opened its doors.

The school now services more than 270 students.

The school has a rich history and distinct look. Tau Beta School is now officially a Michigan Historical Site. The building started as the Tau Beta Community House, and then several other schools were at the building before it became a Tau Beta School in 2018.

Tau Beta is ensuring our students are well equipped for the present and future in technology.

We are a one-to-one school - meaning that every child in the school has an assigned laptop to use daily.

through Kindergarten

field trips to Schoolcraft College several times for hands-on science activities to increase their engagement in science education.

The Scholastic Book Fair took place in our library from April 29 – May 3.

We reached our goal of \$1,500!

It was a very successful event for it being our first book fair at Tau Beta.

We held the event after school one day for families and friends to buy books and meet Clifford the Big Red Dog, Tau Beta Tiger, and Tyrannosaurus Rex.

We had many wonderful guests throughout the year!

Guests came to our school as speakers and readers. Our guests were Fire Chief Danny Hagen, Fire Marshall Bill Diamond, and several Hamtramck Firefighters.

Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition members Virginia Skrzyniarz, Geneva Rivera, Malgosia Tulecki, Lisa Harper, Dylan Siwicki, Robin Koyl, and Francis Foote came during parent and teacher confer-

6th grade classes went on ences and our open house.

> Our teachers and students went on educational field trips through the academic year. Music students went with Ms. Papas to Grosse Pointe South to watch the Beauty and the Beast Musical.

> Students also went on field trips to Henry Ford Museum, Detroit Historical Museum, and the Detroit Institute of Arts.

> Tau Beta School and the Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition created an amazing partnerincluded that educating our scholars and their families about many aspects of drug prevention, being safe, and healthy.

> Free Coalition Drug members came to read to all of our classes during March is Reading Month. Tau Beta also held a Health Hike Kick-Off the Friday before the district's Health Hike.

> We had a very exciting first full academic year at Tau Beta! Go Tigers!

## **Special services** expanded programs to enrich more students

By Shalika Robie

The 2018-2019 school year has been yet another busy year full of new adventures for the Hamtramck Public Schools Special Services Depart-

We have had a few new additions to the department by way of new teachers at Dickinson West Elementary and Hamtramck High School, as well as a new school psychologists and paraprofessionals at various buildings.

All of them did an awesome job of adjusting to the newness of Hamtramck Public Schools.

The Special Services Department has been working more collabora-

Curriculum, English Language Learners and Pupil Services departments to become a more cohesive team for the forward movement of all students in the HPS district. As a result, we have

tively this year with the

combined efforts districtwide to further implement PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) at all schools. PBIS is a proactive ap-

proach based on a threetiered model of prevention and intervention aimed at creating safe and effective schools.

Emphasis is placed on teaching and reinforcing important social skills and data-based problem solving to address existing behavior concerns.

A PBIS district leadership team was formed during the 2016-17 school year and has been getting stronger with each passing school year.

The team consists of general and special educators working together to strengthen relationships practices among staff, students and the community!

The PBIS efforts combined with the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) system is guiding Hamtramck Public Schools to be a more intentional district as it relates to the achievement and behavioral needs of all learners.

#### Recreation program offered something for everyone By D'Juana Jackson. houses and costume conanything from cardio or

Coordinator The Hamtramck Recre-

ation Department offers a variety of fun activities for the entire family from the youngest child to the oldest child at heart. Our programming goes beyond just sports related programs.

We started the year off strong with our bi-annual Colors of Summer Fire-

works at Keyworth Sta-The autumn season is always the busiest with

tests at the Halloween Boo Bash and multiple family and senior trips. After the new year, we

jumped right into our winter season with the Junior Basketball League where the Dickinson West students took home the championship again! From there we hosted

Daddy Daughter Brunch, new this year, and the Easter Egg Scramble, and coming up we'll bring this year to a close with our new event, Inflate-a-Thon at Pulaski, and our

is always a great place to

workout or take a class in

annual trip to Cedar Point. Not to mention the Fitness Center at the Community Center for adults

belly dancing.

We are looking forward to the summer months when the adult sports leagues kick off. For some friendly competition, adults can join leagues in softball and kickball.

Our active Seniors prooffers fitness, leisure and learning -with monthly trips, special classes, and events. We encourage you to

participate in all we have to offer. A world of friends, fun, and fitness awaits just outside your door. We hope to see you this summer and thank you for a great year!

#### Students' success is a team effort at Holbrook Elementary School By Myron Miller, Principal cited about the school sessment, M-STEP. This

I cannot be prouder of my team at Holbrook.

They've been consistent in taking care of each and every Holbrook Hawk each and every day.

The job is tough, but we continue to push for student success. Here are some thoughts of our 2018-2019 school year:

Each year, the teachers at Holbrook anxiously await for the arrival of their students. Our teach-

ers are usually just as ex-

year as our students are with a different class full of jubilant students, and the new strategies they use to prepare their stu-

dents for success. We've been fortunate to have both Wayne County RESA Consultants, READ 180 Consulting staff, and

others within and outside

our district to support instruction, student engagement, and learning.

Last year, we made

gains on our state as-

accomplishment could not have occurred without the hard work and dedication of our students, staff and families. We, as a team at Holbrook continue to make a

difference in every Holbrook Hawks education. Come on in and visit our

busy, vibrant learning environment at Holbrook. The Palace on Alice awaits you!

We offer sports, arts, and special events and the 2018-2019 year was

dium!

events and activities. Cider and donuts at the

Fall Harvest, haunted

#### **Continued from page 2**

### Meet the 2019 graduates of Horizon High



Isam Abdullah



Issa Ghareeb



Jamal Alzamzami



Jesse Lee



Joshua Williams



Juli Begum







Mohammed Musaid





Nadar Mohamed





Omar Obeid



Rahim Uddin



Rayid Shamakh













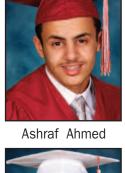




# Meet the 2019 graduates of Hamtramck High



Basem Abbas

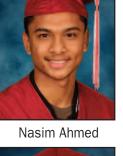




Hamida Akter



Fuzul Ahmed



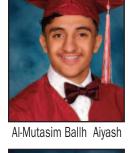




Mohamed Al-Kuhlani



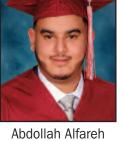
Saleh Alasad





Tania Akhter

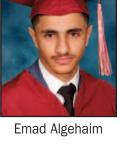


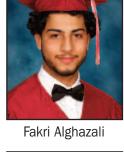


Shabina Akther



Arkan Al-Ghazali



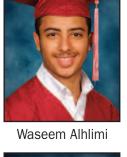




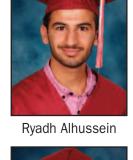


Omar Alhadad

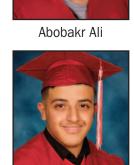




Kashif Ali



Mahbub Ali



Wesam Ali



Abdulrahman Aljahim



Ammar Aljamali



Izaldeen Aljamali



Bashar Alqusaimi





Ahmed Almadrahi







Anbarah Alsaidi

Noah Alpara



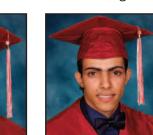
Khalid Salah

Thomas Teeple Trevon Winston



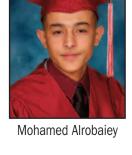
Yahya Al-Hubaishi

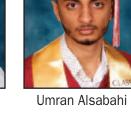




Basem Ali







Hamood Alsahari

Imran Alomari

Emaad Alqosimi

## Meet the 2019 graduates of Hamtramck High



Yunas Alsayyadi



Ya'Qoob Alwageeh





Eldin Arifovic



Hany Ashabi



Hassan Ashaif



Sharafadin Ashubi





Elmin Atic



Husain Aymen



Kristian Baker



Mirela Baltic



Nedim Basic



Tarsha Baynham



Dina Begum



Husnaara Begum



Mahnaz Begum



Zacchaeus Brown



Jaylin Caldwell





Saadman Choudhury



Gabrielle Belcher



Abdus Chowdhury



Ahmed Chowdhury



Brianna Brown

Fahima Chowdhury









Basher Ghaleb

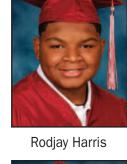
Haroon Hassan



Patryk Czubek



Waseem Dagenah



Mukta Das



Deb Diganto



Laronda Hubbard

Jordan Dicus

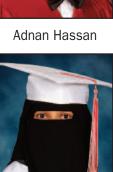


Asmahan Hussain

Tahera Islam

Mianna Jordan

Ty'Rice Ford







Muad Hassan



Amila Hatibovic



Fahd Hezam



Shayma Howaig



Tauhida Anzum











Brianna Frame





Bakir Islamovic

Jubeda Juby



Faizah Juhi



Martin Juncaj



Elma Jahaj



Emad Kaid Ermina Karasuljlic

## Meet the 2019 graduates of Hamtramck High



Esam Kasem



Mjad Kassem







Zamia Khan



Aklema Khanom



Filloreta Kllokoqi







Amra Lekic



Tierra Lewis



Mashia Lima



Jamar Luster



Marcel Mackey





jabin Kazi





Ghadah Mozeb



Aminul Mukith



Abid Munsif



Fahad Murshed



Saif Musleh



Abdo Mohamed

Tahmid Mustafa



Thair Mohamed



Wajdi Mosleh



Zahra Rahimee



Tahmina Noushin









Jada Plam



Ifinan Quray



Bazlur Rafi



Kamal Sayed



Alyamamah Saleh

Haris Tufek



LaKela Tyler



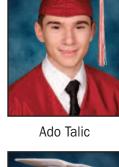
Jenny Uddin

Kamal Zokari



Raafit Saleh





Anika Sara



Sandro Saravija



Kother Kassim





Armando Mitaj



Demarkos Oneil



Shamim Parvez







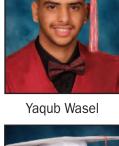






Bayan Obahi







Poll Chowdhury







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speed lines to not just Tau Beta School, as well as two other buildings: Early Childhood, and Buildings and Grounds. They will be added to

**Quick Hits** 

**Continued front page** 

the Hamtramck Public Schools' network.

We are currently in the process of deploying new computers for staff members and students this summer.



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julaj@thehamtramckreview.com

Editor: Charles Sercombe

Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron

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### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED** 2019-2020 BUDGET

The Board of Education of the School District of the City of Hamtramck will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 3201 Roosevelt Street, to review and consider the school district's 2019-2020 proposed budget.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Copies of the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget will be available for examination in the Superintendent of Schools Office, 3201 Roosevelt, from 8:00 a.m. June 25, 2019, until the time of the Public Hearing.

Salah Hadwan, Secretary Hamtramck Board of Education



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### **Program enlightened KMS students** about the world's religions

By Nuo Ivezaj, Principal

Students Kosciuszko Middle School participated in the Religious Diversity Journeys (RDJ) field trip program sponsored by the Inter-Faith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit throughout the 2018-2019 school year.

The students, 7th graders enrolled in the KMS English Language Learners program, visited various houses of worship across metropolitan Detroit to learn about other faiths, traditions, and cul-

Students learned about Judaism at Temple Emanu-El in Oak Park; Christianity First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham; Islam at the Muslim Unity Center in Bloomfield Hills; Sikhism at the Sikh Society of Michigan in Sterling Heights; and Hinduism at the Sri Venkateswara Hindu Temple in Novi.

The program ended with an exploration of faith in art at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Volunteers at all of the houses of worship welcomed students, shared their faith, and even prepared traditional meals.

Highlights for the KMS students included participating in a traditional wedding ceremony at Temple Emanu-El, and being dressed in saris and trying on turbans at the Sikh So-

According to Wendy Gamer who directs the RDJ program, the InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit created the program in the wake of the 9-11 attacks as a way of promoting religious tolerance and understanding throughout Southeast Michigan.

## Students share in the adventure of learning at Dickinson West

By Corey Pitts, Principal

The staff of Dickinson West Elementary School takes pride in sharing the learning opportunities with each student, parent and community member.

Each year Dickinson West opens its doors to share many of the learning opportunities our students experience with the Dickinson West family. The Guest Reader Day, African-American History Day and Passport to Learning are just three such opportunities to share with our DW family.

The African-American History Day activities were complete with singing, dancing, and art. The students spent the day imthe mersed in African-American historical story. The students were introduced to many figures historical African-American History and heard their stories of triumph and perseverance.

annual Guest The Reader Day welcomed 22 guest readers to DW, including WDIV's Larry activities. Spruill in Mrs. Seawood's class.

This was a great day to share in the joy of reading



উপরে: ডিকিনসন ওয়েস্ট এলিমেন্টারি স্কুলের কর্মচারীরা ছবি তোলার জন্য প্রস্তুত। নিচে:শিক্ষার্থী এবং পিতামাতাদের জন্য স্কুলের 'পাসপোর্ট টু লার্নিং' একটি প্রিয় ইভেন্ট



and we hope all of our students will be lifelong readers.

Passport to Learning is an event where parents are led by their student(s) through the school where they participate, as a family, in different educational

Each station focuses on a different county or region of the world. The activities for each station

represent that countries academic contribution to the world.

periences has been a pleasure for this school year. The staff of Dickinson West Elementary looks forward to continuing this tradition next

great summer.

# Sharing our learning ex-

I hope you all have a

### At the Adult Ed program, students find success

**By Kristen Hurt** 

Hamtramck Adult Education Continues Thrive!

As the school year winds down and the teachers, administrators and participants of Hamtramck Adult Education prepare for finals, graduation, and summer vacation, we are pleased to report another exceptional year.

Over 300 participants enrolled in our Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced English as a Second Language classes, GED and High School Completion classes.

Within our program, seven participants received their GED certification. Many passed one or more of the four GED subject area tests and continue to work diligently toward their goal.

At graduation this year, many participants will be receiving their high school diploma. With ages rang-



year. Below: Adult Ed students visited the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Ford Rouge Factory.



years of age, our participants prove it is never too late to achieve your goal!

This year, we took learning outside of the class-

troit Institute of Arts and the Ford Rouge Factory. Both trips were educational, inspirational and a tremendous success!

## Meeting the needs of English Learners requires many tools

By Jaleelah Ahmed, ELD **Director** 

English learners (ELs) continue to be the fastest growing student population in the United States with over eight million students.

In our school district, the English Learners (ELs) make up 65% of the entire district while about 10% are the Former English Learners (FELs).

As a district with so many ELs, it is essential that we implement the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) Model. The SIOP Model is a research based instructional model that has been effective in meeting the needs of ELs throughout the United States.

We are proud to have nine teachers that will lead our district with the SIOP Model. The teachers attended an intensive training sponsored by MDE.

In addition, to teachers

leading the professional leadership efforts we are excited to continue to provide 100% tuition reimbursement for the HPS teachers who are working towards their ESL endorse-

Another big accomplishment includes the establishment of the Parent **Engagement Department** that is within the ELD Department.

Currently, we have two Parent Engagement Facilitators who are experts in the following areas: health, safety, nutrition, ESL, Adult Ed., and education.

With the support of the facilitators, Mrs. Brown-Llyod and Mrs. Alnajar, we were able to accomplish many things to support our parents, students and community.

We have had life skills classes run for two semesters and will continue to run them during the sum-

Parents in the Newcomer Parent Engagement Program are learning life skills as they promote their language and literacy skills in English, learn strategies to support the family literacy, and parenting skills.

"Decades of research show that when parents are involved students have: higher grades, higher graduation rates, better school attendance, increased motivation, lower rates of suspension, decreased use of drugs and alcohol and fewer instances of violent behavper Michigan Department of Education.

It is a goal to move the parents from being cultural survivors to being cultural leaders. The ELD Department is working towards empowering staff, students and parents; this alliance will support student achievement.

### Student support service expanded to further nurture students

By Jamie Jankowski MTSS stands for Multi-

Tiered System of Support. Hamtramck Public Schools adopted MTSS as an approach to look at each child as a whole three years ago.

Upon the adoption of this system a committee was formed including district level administration, teachers, social workers, and psychologists across the district.

The team studied the current approaches to understanding academic and non-academic effects on student learning and sought to develop a system that worked for Hamtramck.

district created a coaching position to help refine our district process of supporting students.

This school year, the

This position supports MTSS teams at each building, supports teachers, develops profesdevelopment sional around the MTSS process including interventions and progress monitoring, and is involved with curriculum development at all tiers.

A member of the Hamtramck MTSS team was hired for this position in January and has since been working on using HPS technology and data available to better sup-

port students and teach-

She has presented the MTSS process to the HPS Board and started training buildings on progress monitoring.

She has been involved with curriculum development teams at both district level and county level and has been a representative for Hamtramck at the county level for MTSS.

The district is excited about this approach of helping each student by understanding their individual needs and will continue to support this important work.

### At Dickinson East, students take advantage of extracurricular activities

By George Hill

The 2018-2019 school year has seen lots of new changes at Dickinson East Elementary School.

We are currently at 760 students. Success was reached in many different forms at Dickinson East Elementary: academics, community involvement, building improvements and extracurricular activi-Academically, the Dol-

phin students are working hard while learning from our new elementary ELA Curriculum. Our continued academic

success can be attributed to the hard work of our outstanding group of students coupled with the most dedicated, and one of the most experienced, staff of teachers that can be found anywhere. Reading and literacy are

instruction.

a strong focus and we Student of the month continue as the highest performing elementary school wide school in the district, Safety of the month which can be attributed to

our focus on small group

revamped math curriculum where students engage in number talks and rigorous math tasks at all grade levels.

Dolphin students have extracurricular opportunities this school year that enhance their academic school experience along with several other initia-

Here are a few of the opportunities this year: Newly formed student

- council Band during the
- school day "Fin"-tastic ticket pro-
- gram with weekly and monthly events such as "painting with a wish" · Golden Shoe, Mic,
- Paintbrush and Book weekly awards to reward students for good choice in enrichment classes.
- Golden Tray for cafeteria success.
- in each classroom and
  - Sprouts gardening
- First annual "Kicking This year, we launched a it with Dads" event

· Positive office refer-

The Dickinson East

rals

school building is rapidly improving with a lot of community support. Our cafeteria renovation has been completed and we have new food options as well as "A La Carte" choices. Our first floor has been painted and we have a new gymnasium floor. In addition, we have added trash receptacles outside the school and we continue with our school recycling program. In our classrooms, we have moved many classes to flexible seating and we are proud to announce that we are a "1 to 1 technology" school. We have Chromebooks or I-Pad carts in every classroom including special subject classes and have 11 classrooms with new touch screen digital displays. The main office, now uses student scan to

We invite you to stop by and check out the Dickinson East Dolphins!

check in late arriving stu-