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es on Aug. 4th for the school BOND proposal





SPECIAL SCHOOL EDITION —





Quick Hits

Meeting the changing needs for the district's curriculum

By Carol Paul

Curriculum and

Assessment Department The Hamtramck Public School District has established itself as a leader in quality educa-

Evidence of its quality is confirmed by the support from community members, teachers, parents, students, and leadership. Since its introduction, the Hamtramck Public Schools Curriculum and Assessment Department has been a leading influencer on diversifying educational practices for all learners.

Overall, the department is responsible for developing curricula and assessments based on the Michigan Department of Education's es-

tablished standards. The department also supports the development of supplemental budgets and implemen-

Continued on page 2

Hamtramck **Public School Board Members**

Your



Jihan Aiyash





Salah Hadwan Vice President



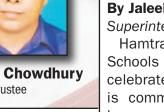
Moortadha Obaid



Dennis Lukas Treasurer



Showkat Chowdhury



Your tax dollars go a long way in Hamtramck's schools

By Sherry A. Lynem

Director of Finance

The General Fund is the Operating Fund of the District. It is where all the money used to run day-today operations is accounted for.

Magdalena Srodek

These operations include making payroll for more than 400 employees, providing teachers and staff with training, purchasing supplies, materials, furniture and equipment, utilities, and repairing and maintaining our buildings.

We collaborate with management and the School Board to make sure the District's priorities are met. Because of our strong financial management our General Fund has a healthy sur-

The district's finances are audited by an independent auditing firm every year. We are very happy to report that we once again have received an Unmodified Opinion from the auditing firm of Yeo & Yeo.

This is the highest rating possible of our finances and internal controls

We have concentrated our spending on supporting the classroom. We have been able to pur-



chase a new reading curriculum, increased our EL staff and equipment &

programs to support our EL students.

Continued on page 2



From the **Superintendent: Despite** challenges, we are thriving

By Jaleelah Ahmed

Superintendent

Public Hamtramck Schools is a district that celebrates diversity and is committed to excellence.

We understand the challenges that we have in both the equity gap and the achievement gap and yet we are resilient and will continue to work to be a distinguished school district.

It starts with everyone in the district knowing our purpose, understanding our goals and working towards them. Our students are our purpose.

Day One on the job and already, Mrs. Lynem, Mr. Wawryznki , Mr. Larsh and I were doing facility visits. It was important to see the space that our students and staff are using for the duration of the school year.

Making note of areas of concerns and devising an action plan was a priority. The summer

Continued on page 3





Vote on Aug. 4th for the school BOND proposal

Continued from front page

tation of state and federal

Acting as a centralized

hub for all departments

within the system, we

align learning expecta-

tions for what all students

should know and be able

to do as a result of rigor-

ous instruction. It is an

honor to serve all stu-

dents and grade levels at

Leadership Councils at

the K-6 level developed

observation walkthrough

tools, generated adap-

tions for our curriculum

pacing guides, and insti-

tuted an assessment

progress monitoring sys-

The District also imple-

mented Mystery Science,

which has been getting

rave reviews from both

In grades, 7-12 teach-

ers adopted power stan-

and

curriculum within Rubicon

In addition, at the sec-

ondary level, the District

approved two new supple-

mental programs to catch

students up before they

Furthermore, at the mid-

paced

teachers and students!

tem (Easy CBM).

dards

fall behind.

Hamtramck

Schools.

funded programs.

Hamtramck Public Schools have served us well for many years

This week's issue of The Review is dedicated to the Hamtramck Public School District.

We are proud to be partners with our school district. Hamtramck has a long history of providing quality education to the community.

But the talented teachers and administrators are more than educators: The district is part of our families.

This excellence is no accident. We have long enjoyed dedicated educators who have a special knack in serving our multi-cultural commu-

That is no easy task. There are plenty of

challenges associated with a community that speaks several languages, and is home to newly-arrived immigrants. The needs are many, but the district has always been able to provide and rise up to the challenges.

There is a reason why students in the district are nicknamed "The cause the district is

tramck schools and the very talented teachers and administrators who serve our community.

Your tax dollars go a long way in Hamtramck's schools

Continued from front page

We have continued to upgrade technology throughout the District, and we have almost at a one-to-one student/device ratio.

We have made numerous building improvements, including new playscapes and parking lots at Holbrook and Tau Beta, new roofs on the Community Center, Tau Beta, and Horizon, renovated the building exterior of Holbrook, to name a few.

Many more improvements are needed than

the district can afford with its current revenues.

The bond election that was scheduled for May 2020 has been rescheduled for August 2020. Wayne County is mailing ballots to all registered voters in the county.

I would like to encourage all parents and community members to take a moment and complete the ballot and mail it in to cast their vote.

The job of the Finance Department is to support the instructional efforts of the school district so

that they can have the ability to afford human resources and supplies they need to do the best job possible in nurturing and educating our students.

As a 9-year Director of Finance in Hamtramck Public Schools, I am very proud of the dedication that our instructional team puts forth on a daily

I consider myself to be blessed to be able to do my part to help them.

Cosmos." That's betruly composed of cosmopolitan students students from around the world!

We salute the Ham-

You are our heroes. Go Cosmos!

Adult education remains popular and strong

due to COVID-19.

Meeting the changing needs

for the district's curriculum

implemented

dards.

dle school level, we have

which is an interactive

Science program that

aligns with the Next Gen-

eration Science Stan-

Teachers and students

are our top priority, which

is why the Curriculum and

Assessment Department

has dedicated more fund-

ing toward professional

Effective professional

development enables our

staff to further develop skills, keep up with educa-

tional trends, address stu-

challenges, and alters the

climate and culture within

We are proud of our

staff and the professional

development opportuni-

ties they immerse them-

selves in. Thank you to

our community partners

who donate their efforts

and dollars toward sup-

porting our staff and stu-

A vast hallmark of the

District this year was the

transition to an online

learning setting. As you

know, Governor Whitmore,

closed school buildings

dent trainings!

the school system.

learning

development.

dents'

IQWST,

By Kristen Hurt

Hamtramck Adult Education

how strong our Adult Ed- their education. ucation Program is!

With the Covid-19 Pandemic and the governor's "Stay at Home," order our participants and staff stepped up as we transitioned to online learning.

Our participants were determined to continue their education and class meetings. Also, our teachers worked hard to continue "lessons as

transition and encour-This year proved just aged them to continue Five participants will be

This was an exceptional year for Hamtramck Adult Education with over 450 participants enrolled in our beginning, intermediate, and advanced Enga Second lish as Language. GED, and High Completion School classes.

Within our program, many GED participants passed one or more of

usual," and reached out the four GED tests and to participants during the continue to work diligently towards their goal. receiving their school diploma with ages

Along with parents,

teachers, and school

leaders throughout the

tramck Public Schools en-

sured that learning was

not disrupted due to

school closure. Lead by

the Curriculum and As-

sessment Department,

the team developed a

plan and transitioned to

an online emergency

This overhaul was a

major shift and encour-

aged the District to imple-

ment systemic changes

for a more globalized vi-

sion of teaching and

At Hamtramck Public

schools, it is our goal for

students to develop

strong skills and strate-

gies that will be carried

forward into their college

We believe instruction

starts within the home,

and community support is

the key to reaching this

As educational part-

ners, we are honored to

work with the Hamtramck

community and are look-

ing forward to continued

success.

and career years.

learning.

teaching environment.

Ham-

school district

ranging from 20-45. This year, Adult Education participants took a field trip to the Ford Rouge Factory Tour. The trip was educational, inspirational and a tremendous success.

We are looking forward to adding more field trips next year for all learners in our program!

Keeping the district's building and grounds in order

By Richard Wawrzynski **Building and Grounds**

Director

The Hamtramck Public Schools Building and Grounds department maintains a clean, safe, and secure environment for our students, staff, and fami-

We are responsible for

the maintenance and up- working in our district. keep of all district buildings and properties.

Presently the Building and Grounds Department and our custodial staff are concentrating our efforts in response to the current COVID-19 Pandemic in order to provide the safest environment for everyone

These are challenging times but, through our solid team effort, we will persevere.

I would personally like to wish everyone a pleasant summer and most importantly please stay safe.

Keeping Hamtramck students up to date on technology

By Marc Wilkinson

Hamtramck Public Schools Technology

The technology department provides information technology support for the Hamtramck Public Schools students, staff, and community.

We service our students and parents by providing help desk support that directly supports district online learning initiatives.

This includes access to online resources, Chromebook troubleshooting, and training in the use of Public Hamtramck Schools provided soft-

ware and hardware. Initially our goals for the year centered around upgrading our infrastructure,

distribution of new de-

vices, and investigation of new software and hardware for planning of an upcoming cyber security program. We are also working on developing a new website!

With the closure of schools, the technology department shifted all efforts to facilitating remote learning and telecommuting for our students and staff members.

Some of our goals in 2019-2020:

- Completion of the new fiber optic cable network connecting Tau Beta School, Early Childhood, and the Buildings and Grounds department to all the buildings in the dis-
- Tau Beta School cam-

era system and access card system installed.

- Purchase and installation of a new backup server.
- Capacity planning for Hamtramck High School network implementation 2020-2021.
- Engineering of a passing time countdown clock system upgrade at Hamtramck High School.
- Expanding our Tech Training YouTube channel. Please subscribe! https://tinyurl.com/HP-STechTraining

Board of Education YouTube Live streams available at my YouTube Channel: https://tinyurl.com/HPS-Board

Providing fun for our families

By Craig Daniels

Recreation Department, Director

The Hamtramck Recreation 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 offer sports, arts, and special events and the 2019-2020 year was great!

We started the year off strong with our bi-annual Back to School Carnival

at Pulaski Park! The Autumn season is always the busiest with

events and activities.

Cider and donuts at the

Fall Harvest, haunted houses and costume the Halcontests at loween Boo Bash and multiple family and senior

After the new year, we jumped right into our winter season with the Junior Basketball League, Indoor Soccer Clinic and Youth Dance Classes! From there we hosted the Family Skate Night, new this year

Not to mention the Fitness Center at the Community Center for adults is always a great place to work out or take a class in anything from cardio or

belly dancing. We are looking forward to the summer months when the adult leagues sports leagues kick off.

For some friendly competition, adults can join leagues in softball and kickball. Our active seniors program offers fitness, leisure 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 for "Movie in the Park" and some other events and thank you for a great year!

From the Superintendent: Despite challenges, we are thriving

Continued from front page

months were dedicated to making the improvements in all the schools.

Unfortunately, removable of the portables, new restrooms and new windows were beyond what the district could handle.

Immediately, I reached out to see what options we had to make these urgent improvements just to find out that Michigan is one of twelve states in the nation that does NOT provide any funding for school infrastructure and a bond was our only option

Soon after, we started working on the Bond 2020 initiative, establishing a task force and were making good progress until ... COVID-19 put a halt to our plans.

The election was moved from May 5th to August 4th and now we are continuing our efforts to share information with our valuable community members.

Bond 2020 is about making the necessary improvements at all schools, removing the portables and building a new school and making the necessary updates at the Community Center for all residents to enjoy.

Constructing an addition for a fitness center with new fitness room equipment and a multipurpose room will provide a healthy option for all community members.

While it is critical to have the facility improvements, it was important that our district develop a Strategic Plan.

Thriving organizations rely on strategic plans to help them understand their challenges, threats, opportunities and strengths so it was essential that we move forward with the plans.

A Strategic Planning Task Force came together to work on the district vision, mission, and goals and again just as soon as we started to break into our subcommittees ... COVID-19 put the work at a halt.

With two major projects that are set to create a strong foundation for teaching and learning, this year has been an incredible experience.

The collaborations of members of various committees with representation of many stakeholders has been a tremendous part of all the improvements in the district.

To name some committees: District Safety Committee, Advisory Group of the Hamtramck Recreation District, Bond Campaign Steering Task Force, Curriculum Learning Councils, Student Youth Voice, Council for Exceptional Children and so many other committees

We are all about creative, collaborative and relevant work put towards continuous growth.

Despite COVID-19 challenges and the move to distance learning, we have a new appreciation for one another. We came together to support efforts in the community, collaborated with Detroit Friendship House, J & E Community Relief Inc., Zaman International and other organizations to make sure that our community members have food during this tough

We have numerous meal sites to offer our children daily breakfast and lunch meals. Our School and Community Facilitators, SPED Service Team, ELD Teams and Parent Engagement Liaisons offer support, make wellness calls and share resources with our families in the mental health areas.

Our teachers are working tirelessly to support the continuity of learning. And our leaders are there to support students, staff

and families with any concerns

Among our heroes to celebrate is our parents and students, our parents have been so supportive and are to be commended for taking on the extra responsibilities of educating their children at home with the distance learning.

They are true partners and have been a pleasure to serve. We value our students and their families and are committed to strengthening our partnership for many years to come.

The Class of 2020 is a special group and will be remembered, we are looking at honoring them on July 10th in an in-person graduation ceremony.

As a first-year superintendent, I have embraced the opportunities and challenges and have learned so much.

It is an honor to serve at Hamtramck Public Schools. I love our students, their families and community members. Hamtramck City is a second home to me.

The many people, partnerships, and organizations have made my work so much more meaningful. We are resilient and will continue to cultivate positive thinking, reframe situations, and stay optimistic.

Cultivating positive thinking is enjoying the new learning that is taking place during this process.

Reframe situations, while this is an overwhelming experience for all, it is amazing to see everyone step up and go above and beyond the call of duty.

Remaining Optimistic, I et us visualize a strong community that invests in its youth and honors its senior citizens.

Wishing you all continuous health and a pleasant summer!

HHS valedictorian is Harvard bound

This year's Hamtramck High School valedictorian, Rudra Barua, is heading off to Harvard University this fall, closing out one of the most successful four-year academic careers in Cosmos history.

Rudra wraps up his time as a Cosmos with a 4.23 GPA as he prepares to leave the state of Michigan to attend the world-renowned lvy League university this

The list of top-tier universities that Rudra received full-scholarship offers from is lengthy and glowing, including many of the lvy League's best institutions like Yale, Princeton as well as MIT and Stanford.

In all, Rudra received 21 colleges, which all were coupled with full-ride scholarships. While at Harvard, Rudra is considering pursuing a pathway in computer science and economics.

His leadership skills have been vast, as Rudra has provided an example of leadership and workethic for the entire community. Rudra not only took advantage of the extra-curricular opportunities offered, but he took on the challenge of leading and bettering each of the organizations that he



Rudra Barua

was a part of.

The fruits of his efforts are rounded out in a resume that includes numerous leadership roles, including being named President of Hamtramck High School's famed DECA team, where he qualified for the national championship competition in Nashville.

He also starred as the Head Programmer for the Cosmos' Robotics FIRST Team, which he was a part of for four years. Barua's resume rounds out with taking on the CEO roll for the Cosmos



Wear company and taking on a two-year membership with the National Honor Society.

When looking back on his time at high school, he credits the lessons he learned from mentors for getting him to the next level.

"I would not be here where I am today without the influences of my peers, teachers, and mentors. When the going got tough, I had clubs and internships to look forward to. It was through experiences like DECA and General Motors Student Corps, that I was able to meet valuable mentors and deepen friendships," Barua commented.

"Most importantly, through these programs, I was able to give back to the community that had given so much to me."

Rudra has been a proud Hamtramck Public Schools student since he started his schooling, attending Early Childhood Elementary, Dickinson East Elementary and Kosciuszko Middle School before becoming a Hamtramck High School student.

Rudra and his family are proud Bangladeshi immigrants, and Rudra will be the first in his family to attend college.

Salutatorian chooses University of Michigan

Sanzida Chowdhury closes out her four years at Hamtramck High School with a remarkable 4.127 Grade Point Average and a resume bursting with leadership experience.

Sanzida's efforts as a Cosmos culminate in a four-year full scholarship to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Other top-tier universities that Sanzida was accepted to include: Penn State University, Virginia Tech, James Madison University, University of California-Davis, Michigan State University and Wayne State University.

Overcoming challenges with both grace and tenacity have been part of Sanzida's make-up since moving to the United States as a 10-year-old.

Since then, Sanzida's passion for living life to fullest and diving into opportunities that push her have become integral



Sanzida Chowdhury

parts of her reputation as a leader.

Her resume includes experience as a General Motors intern, a member of DECA who competed at the state competition, a two-year member of the National Honor Society, a two-year member of the FIRST Robotics team, where she was a leader of the Awards group. Finally, Sanzida was proudly the Marketing Director of the

Cosmos Wear venture.

Sanzida's infectious positive attitude and well-rounded approach to leadership have pushed the culture of her classes and her clubs to a new level.

When reflecting back on her time as a Cosmos, Sanzida says, "All in all the best part of it was growing as a person because of the great experiences and also watching the people around me also grow, and being able to get to know my teachers and classmates."

As an avid reader and someone who has a passion for learning new things, Sanzida will make the most of diving into her freshman course load and exploring her interests before deciding on a major in Ann Arbor.

She is sure to continue to make our community proud with whatever path that it is she decides to take.

Keeping the tradition of service alive at Tau Beta

By Kimberly Winiarski *Tau Beta School, Principal*

Tau Beta has been thriving since 1916, in a variety of ways, helping to shape the life of generations of Hamtramckans.

Due to its rich historical

importance, it is now listed on the state's Register of Historic Buildings.

isted on the state's Register of Historic Buildings.
Hamtramck Public Schools purchased the vacant building on October 12, 2017, and Tau Beta School opened its

doors on January 29,

2018, to provide high-

quality education to the

children of Hamtramck in

Kindergarten through 8th

graui Wit

With the leadership of our Parent Liaisons, Tau Beta Schools provides Parenting Classes for mothers to help them learn English and adapt to our community.

Collaborating with Mrs. Corlis Brown, the Parent LiaisonTeam also implemented "Mommy and Me," a class for parents with young children that focuses on building social skills in an educational setting and who are exposed to numbers, letters, and sounds, to help

prepare the children for

Kindergarten.

With the unanticipated "Stay Safe, Stay Home Order," and COVID-19 pandemic, Tau Beta teachers rose to the occasion and quickly transitioned to online learning and the mindset "Learning Never Stops."

Tau Beta had great success with packet and Chromebook distribution and learning to navigate and teach from different learning platforms.

While we are not sure

what Fall 2020 will look like, we look forward to a successful year.

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Copy Editor: Alan Madlane

This newspaper is not responsible for mistakes in advertising beyond the cost of the space involved.

Meet the 2020 graduates of Hamtramck High



Mohamed Abdlmalek



Alkhatab Abdullah





Yasmeen Abdullah



Jennifer Afreen









Sabbir Ahmed



Shooji Ahmed









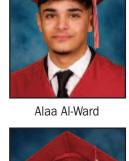
Shamima Akther

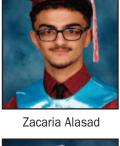






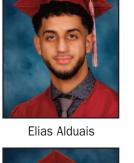
Sahar Al-Waisi



















Galawy AlMadhrahi



Wael Almaisari





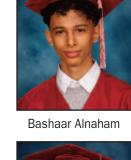
Ali Alhayany



Mousa Alhussein



Ismial Ali







Nakhla Alrohani



Alqaqaa AlShaheri





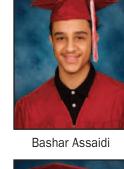


Wael Anam

Fayaz Bakkar



Waleed Alrefeai



Abdulwahed Alreyashi



Hussain Atwain





Mita Begum

Afruza Bithi



Noah Burns

Refath Azad



Jasmine Cain





Elma Balija



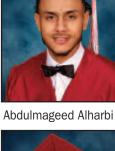




Jarin Begum

Nawaf Abdullah

































Meet the 2020 graduates of Hamtramck High



Mahiya Chowdhury



Nabeer Chowdhury



Nuran Chowdhury



Oliza Chowdhury





Sanzida Chowdhury

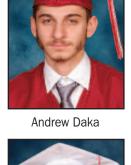


Thanvir Chowdhury





Nori Crawford





Joydeep Das



Magdeline DCosta





Bakil Deumah



Yousef Dhaifullah



Sadia Dipa



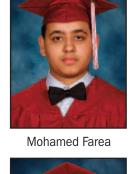
Enida Dzaferovic

















Dorean Grimes



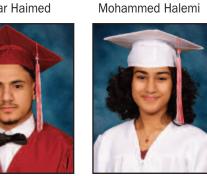
Naseem Hassan



Nawaf Hassan

Aminul Islam





Yahya Hassan Mori Hossain



MD Hamja



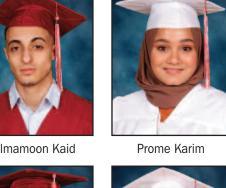




Mursalh Hassan



Shahariar Hussain





MD Islam



Fahmida Khanom

MDJalal Islam



Shamia Khatun

Mohammed Islam



Omor Jabbar





Abdullah Juwair



Tanim Khan



MstMonira Munni

Zainab Khan



Latefah Musaid

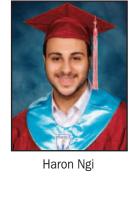
Hurayra Khanam





Dina Mohamed





DaShaun Morris



Derrick Mumford Jr















Naimul Hasan







Waale Mohamed

Rehana Laskar

Meet the 2020 graduates of Hamtramck High





Eliyas Obeid



Melissa Padilla



Cobie Patterson-Henderson





Mahbub Rabbani



Lian Rahman



Syedur Rahman



UmmaMahjabin RahmanSumaiya



Jawad Rashid



Juan Rhodes



Ferdous Ria



Lydell Richard



Zaire Richardson



Rehena Rima



Rakib Roky



MD Rumman

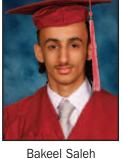








Ali Saleh





Hamim Saleh

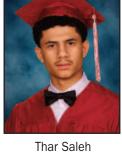


Sam Saleh



Shams Saleh







Abdul Samee





Ufnan Sultana



Jakob Syswerda



Ammar Shammakh

MSTTania Tanni



Shahana Shanu



Jadon Tillman



Mumena Titly



Kuba Stypula

Antoine Tramble Jr



Jasmina Sulejmani

Fujael Tuhin



Mohammed Uddin





Fathema Zannat



DeSean Thomas

Helal Zokari



Start Here, Stay Here, **Succeed Here**

Student Services works with students and families

By Menhem Aouad Director of Special Education

I oversee the day-to-day operation of the Special Education and Student Services departments. The department man-

ages to the provision of Special Education services to students, beginning with the Multitiered Systems of Supports (MTSS), Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS), and ADA Section 504 plans.

With the school's closure, many of our servare now implemented virtually. Our staff has been working hard on ensuring stu-

dents continue to have access to their education in a new virtual reality where services are pro-The goal for the depart-

ment for this school year was focused on ensuring parent engagement in the student placement process for students who require a more specialeducational setting.

Parents experiencing this process required additional support from the district to ensure parent have a voice in the placement selection process as well as ensuring their understanding of the pro-

gram design before ac-

cepting placement recommendations. Meetings were held with

stakeholders to receive their input and share procedural information. While great strides were made towards meeting this goal, unfortunately, the school closure has interrupted this process. We do look forward to

continuing this work over the course of the 2020-2021 school year. Regreat gardless, conversations took place between and among the Hamtramck Special Education Staff and partner districts.

As for the next school year, with the transition

to virtual learning, the Special Education Department will begin the process of re-establishing normal school operawith in-person service provision. Our priority will be

placed on re-integrating students in school normative behaviors, providsocial-emotional supports to respond to students experiencing trauma, grief and loss. The schools and teams

will also resume establishing student baseline data and developing appropriate instructional

goals and targets.

Online enrollment makes it easier for parents By George Blankenbaker which parents enroll their

Pupil Services Coordinator The Pupil Services De-

partment provides a variety of support to over 3,400 students and the various staff members of Hamtramck Public Schools. Some of the services

that our department provides to the community centers on the enrollment of new and returning students to the district, address changes, clarify related residency concerns, and the reporting of various data points to the State of Michigan.

A goal this year was to focus on increasing the option of online enrollment and increasing the ease by

children. We were successful in

reaching this goal and are proud to share that our online enrollment is open and available to the community. This option has been particularly necessary during this time of social distancing in order to "Stay Home, Stay Safe." We enjoy the opportu-

nity to meet with our families from the community in a variety of formats so that successful enrollment of their children in Hamtramck Public Schools is successful. We look forward to all of

the new students for the 2020-21 school year.

Meet the 2020 graduates of Horizon High



Alharin Abdulsalam



Rithwaan Abdun-Nur



Nelufa Ahmed



Omar Ahmed



Yacoub Al-Shame



Asem Aldalaly



Jamal Aldalaly



Moath Alhalmi



Abdulnaser Almasmari



Mohamed Almorisssi



Jihad Alnajar



Suliman Alsaidi



Zackary AlSaidi



Shareen Alward



Ibrahim Alzokari



Mohammed Awadh



Devin Brooks





Kelvin Craighead



Brianna Dewalt



Zachary Esch



Abdulrahman Faddell



Ali Humran





Mykhal Jefferson





Fahmida Mahima



Daejuan McWilliams



Casey Mehall





Odae Obeid





Mufitur Rahman



Shariar Rai



Emersyn Ruzycki



Ghassan Saleh



Huthaifa Saleh



Madison Sebra









Kvon Thompson-Doze



Joe White



Abuzaid Zenalabidin

Start Here, Stay Here, **Succeed Here**

For many students, learning English is a first step

By Nabil Nagi **ELD Director**

As ELD Director my role is to ensure that students that are acquiring the English Language (EL), and those that speak English as a second language (ESL), are provided with services across the district to grow their language and literacy skills.

vided with support both in and outside the classroom. They are provided additional support from our ELL Teachers at their school. EL Teachers also pro-

English learners are pro-

vide additional support in addition to their homeroom teachers to ensure there is continued growth in their language and literacy across all subjects. Our District provides

Adult Literacy classes for parents/guardians of students who attend our District. These classes not only teach literacy, but also serve as a bridge to support our parents with their children's learning and communicate on how they can assist their children learning at home with strategies as well. We also have Parent Li-

aisons who support with translations, interpreting. and any other support parents may need to connect that bridge between home and school. The English Learner De-

partment (ELD) department's goal for the year is to ensure students that are English Learners and students that speak a second language are provided with the best support possible from their homeroom teachers, English Learner specialists, and EL paraprofessionals. Student progress is

continually met as we ensured that staffing for our department was fulfilled throughout district. Also, many materials and resources were purchased to ensure sig-

closed due to the COVID-

nificant growth in English language development. As buildings

19 pandemic, we had to adapt and succeed with remote/online learning during the stay at home order. In addition, it was criti-

cal to ensure continued support for our English Learners and their development of the English language in the online/remote learning platform. The English Learner De-

partment is continually striving on working towards empowering our students and families more with online learning. In addition, we plan on

adding more Adult Literacy classes for the parents of our students. As we are a District with more than 80% of stu-

dents who speak a second language, we ensure that all of our educators continue to develop their teaching skills to meet the needs of our students.

At Dickinson West, it's a 'student-centered' approach

By Joi Danforth

Dickinson West Elementary School, Principal

tary School, home to almost 500 students, kindergarten through sixth Grade is a school filled with teachers, specialists, social workers, and a host of other educational community workers who work hard to educate and enrich the lives of children. Our student-centered

Dickinson West elemen-

approach to instruction focuses on supporting students in academic, social and emotional growth. We are committed to

providing instruction in all core subject areas in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies and to providing educaexperiences learning opportunities.

through classroom instruction as well as field trips, and other authentic In addition to our core subjects, Dickinson West

also provides enrichment

opportunities, through our visual arts, music, math enrichment, library media, and physical education classes. All students participate

in our W.I.N. (What I Need) time. During W.I.N. time, students work in small groups to receive extra help with reading and math. We also support our

students with reading and language skills with the help of our Reading Specialist and English Languages Learning Specialist.

Dickinson West has experienced an administrative change this year as well as a shift in our master schedule to better serve our students.

We are committed to the academic growth of each and every child as well as the social, emotional and economic growth of the Hamtramck Community. We look forward, and

are committed to partnering with our parents and community members to invest in the future of our students!



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rehabilitation program.

villa

We are an Active Parish Serving the Community

It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

Sunday English Mass 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Svervone is Welcome to Worshin with Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family

Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

Our first Sunday Service will be held after the temporary closing due to Covid-19
Face coverings will be mandatory
Hand sanitizer will be on site
You will be seated with 6 foot social distancing A complete list of safety guidelines will be provided June 14 – Reopening of Holy Cross Parish,

Welcome back!!!
June 21 – Father's Day
June 30 – Mass for people on our
Prayer List 7 pm

PNCC - Sunday Mass at 9:00 am

Celebrating 98 Years of Traditional, Catholic, and Democratic Church
Holy Cross Parish Polish National Catholic Church
2311 Pulaski, Hamtramck • Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Pastor
313-365-5191 www.HolyCrossPNCC.com



9517 Jos. Campau
— Hamtramck —

Providing a solid core of programs at Dickinson East

By Todd Losié

Dickinson East Elementary, Principal

Dickinson East Elementary has been a staple of the Hamtramck community for over 100 years.

Guiding and educating students from Kindergarten to 6th Grade, Dickinson East provides students with a wholechild approach to instruction.

We provide solid core content instruction in Math, Science, Social Studies, and English Language Arts through a series of integrated, experience-based learning opportunities.

We also integrate Art,

Music, Physical Education, and Library/Technology into our student's experience for a well-rounded approach.

Students are supported in their coursework through teacher intervention but also small-group instruction in reading and math.

Students needing English as a Second Language instruction are supported with a variety of supports, not only through teacher instruction, but also small group intervention.

Also, students are supported by Social-Emotional Learning through our positive behavior-focused support.

Dickinson East is proud to support parents through a series of parent engagement workshops focused on helping parents better support their students in school.

Dickinson East experienced a new administration this school year, and one of our primary goals was to ensure a smooth transition and continued improvement in the core content areas of Math, Science, Social Studies, and English Language Arts.

Dickinson East continues to excel academically and also support our students who do not speak English.

The pandemic that we are all experiencing was unexpected and has really highlighted the degree of excellence and professionalism that our Dickinson East staff exhibit

Moving forward, Dickinson East Elementary will continue to ensure that students are receiving the highest degree of instruction, with wraparound supports for Social-Emotional Learning and English as a Second Language.

After all, that's what Hamtramck students expect and deserve.

Getting a head start at the Early Childhood School

By Colleen Stevens

Early Childhood Elementary, Principal

Our school services preschool through second grade students.

Our goals have always primarily been to assist students learning English and have all students show gains in reading. We were making good progress until the virus hit us all.

The Early Childhood Elementary Staff was quick to move to online learning.

This was new to not only the staff but to the students and parents as well.

We are currently working our way through this and are curious as to what the fall will bring. We hope everyone stays healthy and the students continue to learn.



People's Community Services Samaritans Community Food Assistance Program for Hamtramck Resider and Surrounding or arilly Bring proof Centrol Closed ... campau 11am-12pm Every 2nd Monday

of the Month

City of Hamtramck Notice of Public Hearing Plan Commission

The City of Hamtramck Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 6:30pm via Zoom and streaming live on the city's Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/CityofHamtramck/) due to the inability to gather in person because of COVID-19 concerns. The public is invited to virtually attend and comment or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Address written comments to Alex Iseri, ATTN: Plan Commission, 3401 Evaline St., Hamtramck, MI 48212. Information about how to log on to the Zoom meeting can be found at Hamtramck.us or by calling Alex Iseri at (313) 800-5230 ext. 316.

The subject of the hearing is:

 $\bullet \qquad \text{Text amendments to the City of Hamtramck Zoning Ordinance} \\$

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to Individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x. 821.

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হ্যামট্রামিক হাউসিং কমিশন (এইচ্ এইচ্ এস্) বর্ণ, গোত্র, ধর্ম , জাতীয় উৎস, লিঙ্গ, বিকলাঙ্গ বা পারিবারিক অবস্থানের ভিত্তিতে কারেও অবজ্ঞা করেনা। সেকশান ৩ এর যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন আগ্রহীদের ািিয়ফ.মড়া এ নিবন্ধন কর্তে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।



Hamtramck Housing Commission (HHC) does not discriminate on the

basis of race, color, religion, national

Support Local Businesses

This week at the library...

REOPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

We are happy to announce that the Hamtramck Public Library is ready to reintroduce some of its services to the community!

• Beginning Monday, June 15th, we will start Curbside Pickup Service as a way to provide safe access to books and other physical materials for our patrons. The curbside service will be available Monday through Friday, from 10 AM to 4 PM.

You can place a hold on the items you want or call us to have holds placed for you. Please have your library card ready when you arrive to pick up your holds.

• Our book return box (at the library's front door) is now open and patrons are encouraged to return all the library materials they still have at home.

In order to safeguard the health of our patrons and staff, we will be quarantining all returned items for 72 hours.

 On Monday, June 22nd we will reintroduce more services (via curbside process) including some printing and fax.

• On Monday, July 6th we plan to reopen the library facility for limited walk-in services.

services.
YES. We have electronic resources.
Cardholders

can use our virtual library to read, listen, and watch on their computer or mobile device 24/7. Go to the library website www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us

and check our E-resources. YES. You can still pick up your holds that were ready prior to the closure. We will keep them for 10 more days, so call us if you want them.

NO. Until further notice we do not accept any book or magazine donations.

If you have any questions about your library account please contact us at (313)733-6822.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822, or visit its website at http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us where you can also access the online catalog.

The library is located at 2360 Caniff.



Frequently Asked Questions

about the August 4, 2020 School Bond Election

When is the election?

Tuesday, August 4, 2020.

Why is the purpose of this proposed bond?

The primary purpose of the bond election is to construct a new elementary school (eliminating the Dickinson West portable classrooms), renovate school facilities, and eliminate unnecessary expenditures for maintenance and energy costs.

If approved by voters, the bond proposal will also enhance student safety and security, improve student comfort, provide much needed additional classrooms at the High School and Community Center, as well an expanded fitness center for the whole community.

The bond proposal on the May ballot is an outgrowth of the school district's strategic planning process, and $\underline{\text{will affect every Hamtramck student}}.$

Why pursue a bond initiative during a pandemic?

Based on all available data and expert opinions, we know the following things:

- 1. Our community is growing overall, and specifically in school age children
- 2. Many of our facilities are currently at capacity, including 2 schools co-located in one building with temporary portable classrooms.
- 3. The proposed improvements are a bare minimum of what is needed for a quality learning
- 4. In person schooling will resume at some point, and delaying projects only makes them more expensive to complete in the future.
- 5. School districts are currently being encouraged to slash budgets due to decreased funding from the State because of the pandemic.
- 6. Michigan was already one of 12 States to not provide any infrastructure money to districts, requiring them to self-finance infrastructure improvements.

Wasn't this the point of the sinking fund?

The sinking fund was phase I. Through the commitment of Hamtramck voters, HPS was able to use approximately \$750,000 per year to address some of the most critical infrastructure needs- primarily sealing the envelopes of existing buildings. This meant new roofs and windows for multiple schools. General funds were also used to supplement these projects where needed. However, due to the scale of needs and the rising cost of construction every year, this amount would never allow us to provide the large-scale improvements proposed in the current bond initiative. Just for example, the cost of the new elementary building construction alone is projected at more than \$14,000,000. This one piece of the total project is more than our current general fund balance and could never be accomplished without a bond

Please see $\underline{\text{http://www.hamtramckschools.org/}} \text{ for a full list of projects completed and funds}$

Is HPS a good steward of public funds?

The auditing firm of Yeo & Yeo have found ZERO material findings in our annual public financial review for 5 years in a row. This puts us in the small minority of districts in the State with such exemplary financial practices.

All construction projects, sinking fund and otherwise, are competitively bid following the state bid threshold guidelines to find the best price for qualified work.

How was the current list of projects determined?

HPS has worked with Partners in Architecture for all our construction planning needs. They are a reputable firm with vast experience in public infrastructure development. The proposed projects are only the most essential and those that align with our strategic plans.

The bond projects fall into six basic categories:

- 1. Construction of a new elementary school to replace the portable classrooms that are currently located at Dickinson West Elementary.
- 2. Renovations at Hamtramck High School to create four (4) new classrooms and construction of a building addition to connect the High School with the Community
- 3. Mechanical system improvements to provide air conditioning (cooling) to
- 4. Construction of a building addition onto the Community Center for fitness center with dedicated community entrance separate from daytime school use/access. Additional classrooms will also be created.
- 5. Replacement of exterior windows at multiple school buildings including: Hamtramck High School, Dickinson East, Holbrook and Early Childhood Elementary.
- 6. Restroom renovations at multiple school buildings including: Hamtramck High School, Kosciuszko Middle School, Dickinson East, Holbrook and Early Childhood

If approved by voters, the bond proposal will positively impact all current and future generations of Hamtramck students

How will the bond proposal benefit students and the community?

The bond proposal will benefit students and the community in several ways, including...

creating an all new modern elementary school upgrading school facilities and improving learning environments attracting new families to our community enhancing residential property values by having up-to-date school facilities assuring that school facilities are upgraded, renovated, and kept in good repair providing much needed fitness and educational space at the community center

All bond proposal projects are designed to reflect positively on homeowner property values and the community's "small town-good schools" reputation.

How much are we seeking to raise and what will it cost the average tax payer?

If voters approve the bond proposal, the current tax rate will increase by 7 mills directly from property taxes and the District will borrow \$35,265,000 from a special low interest fund set up by the State to support school districts bridging funding gaps in bond

That means \$7 for each \$1,000 of taxable value. According to our city assessor's office, the average home value in Hamtramck is \$65,000. That means the average taxable value is \$32,500. Therefore, the average homeowner would pay \$227.50, or slightly more than \$4 per week. Some people will pay less. Some people will pay more. Visit http://www.hamtramckschools.org/ for full cost breakdowns.

What's included in the bond proposal?

If approved by voters on August 4, 2020, the following projects will be completed at each school:

Hamtramck High School

- Upgrade mechanical system to provide cooling throughout instructional areas Upgrade electrical service
- Replace exterior windows
- Remodel restrooms
- Reduce size of pool locker rooms to allow for (4) new classrooms and (2) smaller remodeled locker rooms
- Construct secure building addition to connect High School with Community Center New furnishings for (4) new classrooms

Kosciuszko Middle School

New Dickinson West Elementary School

- Upgrade mechanical system to provide cooling throughout instructional areas
- Upgrade electrical service

Remodel restrooms

- Demolish portable classrooms (all 10 which currently serve as the elementary building with the exception of a few rooms that are shared in the adjacent Kosciuszko Middle
- Construct New Dickinson West Elementary School (approximately 37,000 SF this building will be constructed to attach to the existing Kosciuszko Middle School).
- New furnishings
- New instructional technology Minor site improvements

Dickinson East Elementary School

- Upgrade mechanical system to provide cooling throughout instructional areas
- Upgrade electrical service Replace exterior windows
- Remodel restrooms

Holbrook Elementary School

- Upgrade mechanical system to provide cooling throughout instructional areas
- Upgrade electrical service
- Remodel restrooms

Early Childhood Elementary

- · Upgrade mechanical system to provide cooling throughout instructional areas
- Upgrade electrical service Replace exterior windows
- · Remodel restrooms

Tau Beta School

• Demolish existing house adjacent East of school to prepare for dedicated early education green space without crossing the street.

Community Center

- Construct fitness center and classroom addition
- Demolish and reconfigure main entry ramp and retaining walls
- Site restoration and landscaping · Modern fitness room equipment

Individual cost breakdowns and complete application submit to the State Treasurer can be found at http://www.hamtramckschools.org/

What will happen if voters do not approve the bond proposal?

What is the schedule for bond proposal projects?

The proposed bond projects cannot be addressed because the general fund cannot

Planning for the new projects will begin immediately after August 4th and all projects are required by the State to be completed within a three (3) year period.

Will all bond proposal revenue stay in the Hamtramck School District? Yes. All revenue from the bond proposal will stay in the Hamtramck School District. None of the revenue will go to Lansing or to any other school district or political entity. The bond

funds can only be used for bond proposal projects and cannot be used for salaries If the bond proposal is approved by voters, will property values be affected?

Real estate values tend to be higher in communities with school districts that offer a quality education program and have up-to-date school facilities. Property values tend to be lower in communities that do not offer an adequate curriculum or that have schools that are out-of-date and poorly maintained. Remodeling and upgrading school buildings and facilities will protect the community's investment in the school district. All bond proposal projects are designed to reflect positively on homeowner property values and the community's enviable "small, tight-knit-" reputation.

What are the student enrollment projections for the next five years?

According to the Middle Cities Annual Report, HPS enrollment has grown consistently over the last 5 years and is projected to grow more than 15% over the next five years

What is a bond proposal?

A bond is a State-approved funding process that specifies a set scope of projects. When voters approve a bond, the money specified in the bond proposal is borrowed and the school district makes payments over a period of years, much like a homeowner pays a mortgage. Bonds are usually issued for 20-30 years. If voters approve the August 4th Bond proposal, the Hamtramck School District's bonds will be issued for 30 years.

Bonds can only be used for long term assets:

- Constructing new school buildings • Constructing additions to existing school buildings
- · Remodeling existing school buildings • Energy conservation improvements
- Land purchases
- Site development and improvements
- Athletic and physical education facility development and improvements
- Playground development and improvements Refunding debt (if new present value savings can be demonstrated)
- Direct bond program costs such as professional fees, election fees, issuance costs, qualification fees, insurance fees, final audit costs
- School bus purchases Loose furnishings and equipment purchasing • Technology purchases limited to hardware and communication devices that transmit, receive or compute information for pupil instructional purposes only. The initial purchase of operating system and customized application software is allowed

Bonds cannot be used for:

- Salaries, supplies, service contracts, lease payments, installment contracts
- Repairs, maintenance, or maintenance agreements
- Purchasing automobiles, trucks, or vans
- Portable classrooms purchased for temporary use

if purchased with the initial hardware.

- Textbooks
- Upgrades to an existing computer operating system or application software
- Computer training, computer consulting, or computer maintenance contracts.

Can any of the bond proposal funds be used for employee salaries or operating expenses?

No. Bond proposal funds cannot be used for staff wages, salaries, or operational costs. They also cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs or other operating expenses. Bond proposal funds must be used only for purposes specified in the ballot language, and, as required by State law, they must be audited.

Who can vote in this bond proposal election?

Residents of the Hamtramck School District who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, and are registered to vote.

Where can I get information about voting (such as how to register, where to vote, and absentee voting?

Go to the Michigan Voter Information website (Michigan.gov/sos) or call the Clerk's Office where you reside.

Do I need to update my voter registration?

You need to update your voter registration if you have changed your name or address since the last time you voted. You can do this at any Secretary of State Office or at the Clerk's Office where you reside.

Get more information about the bond election and answers to your questions...

- · Go to www.hamtramckschools.org.
- Call Superintendent of Schools Jaleelah Ahmed at (313) 872-9270 or by sending an email to her at jahmed@hamtramckschools.org. • Call Board President Evan Major at (313) 454-1138 or by sending an email to
- emajor@hamtramckschools.org.

Meeting the needs of early childhood education through the years









City of Hamtramck Notice of Ordinance Amendments

Public Hearings were held at the Regular City Council Meeting on May 26, 2020 at 7pm in the Second Floor City Council Chambers for the purpose of hearing public comments on changes to the following Ordinances. The changes were all adopted by Council. Summaries are as follows. Full text of each ordinance are available at the Clerk's Office and online at Hamtramck.us under BoardDocs.

Ordinance 2020-02 Smoking Lounges: Title XI Chapter 121

This ordinance requires licensing for hookah or smoking lounges. (Does not affect tobacco retail)

Approval of Amendments to the Hamtramck Parking Ordinance: Section 72

Changes made to the ordinance allow administration to modernize parking needs and prepare for the pending contract with Municipal Parking Services (MPS) for a parking system for the City of Hamtramck.

August R. Gitschlag Hamtramck City Clerk









NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2020-2021 BUDGET

The Board of Education of the School District of the City of Hamtramck will hold a hearing on Monday, June 29, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. to review and consider the school district's 2020-2021 proposed budget. This meeting is being held electronically in accordance with the Governor's directives in response to COVID 19, including Executive Order 2020-75. A link for public participation may be found on the District's website at www.hamtramck.k12.mi.us

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

The 2020-2021 Proposed Budget will be posted for examination on the Hamtramck Public Schools Website, www.hamtramck.k12.us beginning June 26, 2020.

Congratulations Seniors

Obituaries

Hamtramck Review

RISTUJCIN



(Christidis) Ristujcin, 78, died June 3, 2020.

Mr. Ristujcin was the brother of Barbara (Vlado) Pasharikovski and the late Jana, Petre, and Fani; uncle of Michael Pasharikovski.

Visitation was held Tuesday June 9, 2020. The funeral Mass Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Macedonian Ortho-

dox Cathedral in Sterling Heights. Interment was at White Chapel Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck MI.

STARZEC



Alex Starzec. 85, died June 5, 2020. Mr. Starzec was the loving husband of

Irena; father of Anna

(Marek) Milanowski, Andzej (Grazyna), Marlena (Martin) Glab; proud grandfather of Agnieszka Milanowski, Lexie and Samantha Glab. He is also survived by his sisters, and many relatives in Poland.

Mr. Starzec was a tailor with a shop serving Hamtramck for many years. He was a member of St. Florian and Transfiguration Parishes.

Memorial visitation is Friday, June 12, from 4-8 p.m. with Rosary at 5 p.m., at Jurkiewicz and Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck. The Memorial Mass will be Saturday, June 13, at 11 a.m., at Transfiguration Church, 5800 Simon K, Detroit, MI 48212.



Notice of Public Hearing City of Hamtramck

The City Council of the City of Hamtramck will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held at City Hall, 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. And virtually via Zoom. The public is invited to participate and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Hamtramck City Clerk, 3401 Evaline St., Hamtramck, MI 48212. The subject of the hearing is:

> **Proposed Hamtramck Knife Ordinance Updated Hamtramck Fireworks Ordinance**

Text of each proposed ordinance and changes are available at the City Clerk's Office and online at Hamtramck.us under the BoardDocs link.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to Individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x. 821.

Support Local Businesses



Hamtramck Public Schools Schools of Choice for the Fall 2020-21 Enrollment

This is open to any Wayne County resident who lives outside of the Hamtramck Public School District area.

Application Period: June 1st - 30th, 2020





Space Available: Kindergarten - 5th Grade: 5 seats per grade 6th - 12th Grade: 1 seat per grade

Applications will be available online and not available until June 1st and must be completed and submitted by June 30th, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

Service Directory



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www.hamtramckschools.org/departments/ pupil_services/schools_of_choice

Providing the financial needs | English learning is a key need of HPS families

By Laquitia Jackson & **Amra Poskovic**

School & Community **Facilitators**

ELD Department

Amra Poskovic and LaQuitia Jackson are Hamtramck Public Schools first School & Community Facilitators and they have played a pivotal role in our educational students' goals within the English Learner Department.

They have assisted HPS families by bridging the gap for student families in need to receive financial resources to ensure their basic needs are met such as food, shelter, and educational supplies needed to be successful.

Some of our goals entail getting support to families who have attendance issues due to lack of resources.

Another goal was to complete home visits for each incoming kindergartener into our District to ensure each child starts their scholastic career with the tools needed to be suc-

Some goals were accomplished but some were not due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, for instance, our team could no longer complete home visits at the request of administration.

However, Amra LaQuitia have developed working relationships with organizations within and outside of the City of Hamtramck to benefit student

families in need during this time of crisis. Our new goals for the upcoming school year is to ensure students have a computer and internet access in their home.

We are also creating a food resource list for all families in need within the Hamtramck Public Schools District. Being a S & C Facilitator fulfills Amra and LaQuitia's lifelong dream which is to impact their community with resources that will benefit students' educational careers.

We are fulfilling our team mission which is to Welcome, Educate, Nurture and Empower Hamtramck Public Schools families.

Holbrook Elementary has a long history in education

By Tom Talmadge

Holbrook Elementary, Principal

Holbrook Elementary School has been providing educational services for the amazing children of Hamtramck from Kindergarten to 8th grade since 1896.

Holbrook is known for a welcoming and safe family environment, with a great blend of technology, culture, and history.

To ensure that our students are successful, our highly qualified staff includes members of the

English Language Development Specialists, a Reading Specialist, a Math Specialist, a Restorative Practice Coach, and a Social Worker.

The amazing staff of Holbrook concentrates not only on the academic success of our students but also we work collaboratively to provide for the Soand Emotional success of all students with our PBIS and Restorative Practices programs.

These programs not only focus on positive behavior but promote Emotional

success of all students with our PBIS and Restorative Practices programs.

Also these programs not only focus on positive behavior but promote that learning online at home would continue.

With our wonderful hardworking teachers using Google Classrooms and Class Dojo, whether online or face to face, we look forward to a successful 2020-21 school year.

In Hamtramck Public Schools, learning never stops!

At Kosciuszko, positive behavior builds relationships

By Nuo Ivezaj

Kosciuszko Middle School, Principal

Middle Kosciuszko School, home of close to 400 seventh and eighth graders is a participant of the WRESA PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program, with a goal of "establishing and maintaining positive behavior through common procedures, expectations, and language."

The focus is on building relationships through PBIS and ensuring that all students feel capable of learning by honing the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System

of Support) process.

A matrix was created which outlined student behavior expectations for different locations throughout the building. The expectations were based on the District core belief statements of "Be Respectful," "Be Responsible," "Be Safe" and "Be Scholarly."

The staff and students were offered the opportunity to contribute ideas in establishing expectations through discussions and surveys.

Teachers taught expectations and implemented "universal strategies" for all students. Four positive

statements to every one re-directing in their daily interaction with students. In addition, new reward programs for "good behavior" were instituted.

With the unexpected school year being cut short due to COVID 19, teachers are making every attempt to continue, to the extent possible, utilizing strategies and establishing similar expectations in the Online School.

Our goal is that PBIS and MTSS continue to be an essential component of our instruction in the coming years.

for most of district's students

By Mirjana Maros

ELD Department

It is a rewarding job serving EL learners and Hamtramck's diverse community.

Currently, my job, which I do not even consider a job but a passion, revolves around both EL students, who comprise 79% of our total enrollment, and educators servicing them.

Our department plans and delivers appropriate instruction to EL students, conducts appropriate staff development pertaining to EL groups, ensures that school testing coordinators utilize data to inform instruction, group students, and target skills and strategies for instruction. We help EL testing coordinators plan units and lessons to meet the needs of individual students and groups, etc.

I work with the ELD Director to provide the infrastructure for assessment and alternative assessment of EL students (materials needs, training and scheduling).

Additionally, our team also supports schools with identification, placement, and annual progress monitoring of ELs.

Collaboratively, we use data collection and analysis to monitor ELD program-

ming and student academic success during and after receiving EL services.

It is my commitment to respond in a timely manner to teacher, school, parent, and community needs including informal requests regarding policies, procedures, and programming for EL students.

My favorite task is to Co-Chair the Youth Voice Committee, a wonderful group of young, empowered, and bright high school student leaders whose ideas constantly change our school environment and practices.

This year goals, geared towards ELs showing academic growth and increase in proficiency are going to be analyzed more in depth when we get results of our WIDA assessment in June. Every year, our ELs show growth and steady progress in ELs proficiency,

Our students are strong and resilient, just like our Hamtramck community. One student I would like to highlight, as a representative of our student population, is Yaseen Abdullah, a senior at Hamtramck High School. He is one of the Youth Voice Committee members and leaders.

I chose Yaseen, not for his academic record, but for his perseverance, strength,

and kind personality.

Yaseen managed to navigate through his numerous responsibilities at school and work, and although he faced many obstacles and difficulties being an immigrant who came to the USA only four years ago, he learned a new language, showed bravery, and moved forward with a smile on his

I perceive Yaseen as a future leader, respected community member, and a productive citizen of our so-

My goals, along with the goals of our ELD Department for the coming years, are to serve students, parents, educators, and community by providing a clear plan and path for success, making sure that the bestresearched practices are in place when it comes to education of English Learners.

One of my professional goals is to promote the whole-child approach to students' achievement and their access to personalized learning with the emphasis on the essence of a student's character and well-being.

Ultimately, our EL students are much more than their grades, there is a unique universe within each one of them.

At Hamtramck High School, learning never stops

By Chris Vraniak Hamtramck High School,

Principal It is great to be a Ham-

tramck High School Cos-Year in and year out we

provide more than 1,000 students with world-class opportunities to prepare them for the best colleges, universities, and trade schools across the state and the country.

Our experienced, dedicated staff work tirelessly to provide opportunities for all learners, regardless of their background or current skill level.

This year we made it a goal to expand our programming for learners of all levels, and we were successful in doing so.

added We college courses, Advanced Placement courses, high-interest career courses, courses for students who

are catching up in reading, writing, and math.

It was also a goal of ours to break past records in scholarship dollars earned by our graduating seniors, which in the past have totaled \$7 million dollars.

We are well on our way to achieving all of these goals. There are so many points

to brag on this year. We had a student receive full-ride scholarships to Harvard and Yale. Countless others who were offered free college by the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, and Eastern Michigan University to name a few.

Three students competed for the DECA business national championships.

Our varsity athletes advanced through district rounds, our robotics teams created an amazing robot to compete all over the state the list truly goes on and on. I couldn't be more proud of our students for all that they have accomplished and of our staff for creating an opportunity for everyone to thrive.

Of course, the state-wide school closure created challenges for both our school and our community, however, I'm proud to say that our students and staff

have risen to the challenge. Our students have all been offered Chromebooks and have taken part in, what I'm confident is, one of the most well-rounded online models of learning in the county.

Our teachers, social workers, counselors, and interventionists all touch base with our students daily.

Learning never stops when you're a Cosmos!

In a close-knit community, the district is like family

By Michelle Imbrunone Director of Human Resources

Serving as Director of Human Resources for a district known to be a proud leader of innovative educational practices in a community rich with tradition and cultural pride, is

my honor to serve Hamtramck Public Schools. The high degree of parental involvement and trust, teacher dedication,

administrator support and

high levels of engagement

from all members of our staff, has created a family-like atmosphere where all members of the school

community can thrive. The Director of Human Resources is a new position to an already very strong, highly collabora-

tive leadership team. Overarching goals center on building and supporting high levels of educator effectiveness, creating pipelines for the

growth and development

of all staff members, and

growing opportunities to enhance the professional development of staff.

These goals were accomplished this year through the formation of partnerships with Central Michigan University and

Wayne State University. The department works in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education to ensure that all standards are met for our teachers, administra-

tors, and paraprofession-

At Horizon, we keep reaching for the stars **By Kristen Hurt** gram and will be working dance and attitude.

Horizon High School, Prin-

cipal Horizon High School is

home to 165 students. Each of our students possess a strong commitment to our community and school.

Several times throughout the year, our students volunteer by cleaning the alleyways, streets and

sidewalks surrounding both high schools. Next year, we will be ex-

panding our volunteer pro-

with area food banks and other non-profit organizations to help our students make a difference in their community. Horizon students have

enormous drive and determination, and this is celebrated several times

during the school year with our "Shining Star" Award Ceremonies. During these ceremonies, students are hon-

ored for their academic

success, awesome atten-

One of our shining stars,

Fahmida Mahima, became "part of an elite group of published writers" this year. Her work, "She is Nature," was published in the Michigan Reading Association's Journal, "Kaleidoscope." We are so proud of her

and, along with all of our students, for their amazing drive and determination!

Keep reaching for the stars, Cosmos!