

Superintendent's Week In Review

Vol. 1 Issue 09: Nov. 1, 2024



Superintendent, Aníbal Soler, Jr.

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Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Community,

This week was filled with rich cultural celebrations, meaningful discussions, and important meetings that highlighted the collaborative spirit of our district. The Yonkers Magic continues to shine brightly as we work to create opportunities and foster connections that support our students, staff, and families.



Superintendent Anibal Soler, Jr. & a Student from William Boyce Thompson School During His School Visit

One of the week's highlights was my visit to Yonkers Montessori Academy for their cultural celebration. It was an incredible experience to see so many cultures and traditions represented, especially fitting as it coincided with Diwali, the festival of lights. To all who celebrated Diwali, I wish you joy and prosperity. This week also included festive fun as we celebrated Halloween across the district. The age-old debate over candy corn was brought to life by some of our staff – stay tuned to find out who's a fan and who isn't!

In addition to school celebrations, I visited School 27 and William Boyce Thompson School, where I had the chance to connect with students, support staff, and school leaders. Supporting our school communities and seeing our educators in action is always inspiring.

This week, I attended a significant meeting with the Big 5 school districts and New York State Education Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa to discuss the Blue Ribbon Commission and regionalization. Our aim is to tackle educational disparities, address fiscal constraints, and develop strategic solutions that benefit all students across New York State. These collaborative efforts are crucial as we navigate challenges like student access to quality education, financial limitations, and upcoming changes in graduation measures.



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Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)

Other notable events included a visit to the Andrus Campus, meetings with Purchase College President Dr. Milagros Peña and College of Westchester President Karen Smith, and a Board of Education Special Meeting to review items related to school leadership and engagement. I also participated in the Westchester Putnam School Board Association Roundtable, which focused on navigating key educational issues, and a meeting with Commissioner Leonard Townes from the Westchester County Department of Social Services.

Rounding out the week, I attended the Groundwork Hudson Valley tree planting and greenhouse unveiling, the Yonkers Community Network Providers meeting at the Riverfront Library, and School 32's Trunk or Treat event, where families came together for some Halloween fun.



Superintendent Soler Joining Principal Andrew Cohen & Students at Family School 32 for their Halloween Celebration

It's been a week full of learning, collaboration, and celebration. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward with our mission of providing the best possible education for all students in Yonkers. Also, a reminder for families and staff that Tuesday, November 5th is a Superintendent's Conference Day – schools will be closed for students and a professional development day for staff.

Aníbal Soler, Jr.

Superintendent of Schools



Get a front-row seat to what Superintendent Soler has been up to and what Yonkers Public Schools is celebrating this week. From his key moments to exciting activities across our schools, it's all right here!

Strategic Discussions with Big 5 Schools



Meeting with NYSED Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa

Superintendent Soler participated in a meeting with fellow superintendents from the Big 5 school districts and NYSED Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa. The conversation focused on the Blue Ribbon Commission and strategies for addressing educational disparities, fiscal challenges, and regionalization to benefit all students in New York State.

Strengthening Community Ties



Superintendent Soler at the Yonkers Community Network Providers Meeting

Held at the Riverfront Library, this meeting brought together community leaders and organizations to discuss collaborative efforts for supporting Yonkers families. Superintendent Soler's participation emphasized the district's commitment to fostering strong partnerships.



Meeting with Commissioner Leonard Townes

Enhancing Support for Yonkers Families

Superintendent Soler met with Commissioner Leonard
Townes from the Westchester County Department of Social
Services to discuss ways to enhance support for students and
families within the district. This meeting highlighted the
importance of inter-agency collaboration for our school
community.

Yonkers Montessori Academy Cultural Celebration!



Celebrating Diwali and Embracing Diversity

Superintendent Soler attended the cultural celebration at Yonkers Montessori Academy, where various cultures and traditions were showcased. The event was especially meaningful as it fell on Diwali, the festival of lights. A heartfelt wish to all who celebrated!

Digest

Candy Corn Debate Heats Up on Halloween!



Staff Take on the Sweet Controversy

This Halloween, Superintendent Soler joined the festive spirit across the district. The highlight? The ongoing debate over candy corn!

Click here to see what some of our YPS staff had to say – who loves it and who just can't stand it!

Supporting Our Schools: Visits to School 27 and William Boyce Thompson School



Connecting with Students and Staff

Superintendent Soler visited School 27 and William Boyce Thompson School, meeting with Principal Lourdes Cruz and Principal Ryan James. These visits were an opportunity to connect with students and support staff, ensuring that their needs are met and celebrated.



Board of Education Special Meeting

Reviewing and Approving Key Items

Superintendent Soler and the Board of Education convened for a special meeting focused on reviewing and approving items related to school leadership and engagement.

Digest

Making a Splash: YPS Girls Swimming Team Wins BIG



Undefeated Champions of the League

Congratulations to the Yonkers Public Schools girls swimming team for winning the league championship and maintaining an undefeated record! Their hard work, dedication, and team spirit have paid off. Making them a shining example of Yonkers Magic – displaying a commitment to excellence. Ladies, keep making Yonkers proud!

Andrus Campus Visit and University Meetings



Building Educational Partnerships

This week, Superintendent Soler visited the Andrus Campus and met with Purchase College President Dr. Milagros Peña and College of Westchester President Karen Smith. These meetings aimed to build and strengthen partnerships that support students' educational pathways

Digest

A Greener Future: Groundwork Hudson Valley Tree Planting at Barack Obama School for Social Justice



Celebrating Sustainability and Community Growth

Superintendent Soler joined the Groundwork
Hudson Valley, Deputy Mayor Susan Gerry,
Board President Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio,
Barack Obama School for Social Justice
Principal Jamell Scott and students for the
unveiling of a new greenhouse and a tree
planting event. This initiative underscores our
commitment to sustainability and hands-on
learning experiential learning for students.

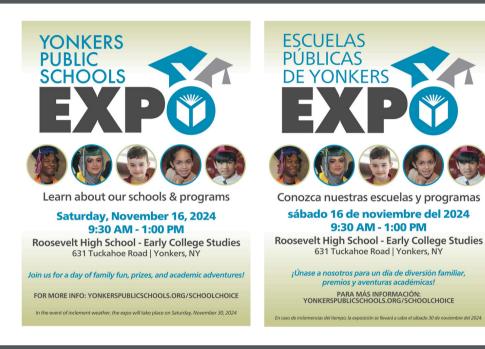


Westchester Putnam School Board Association Roundtable

Discussing Key Issues in Education

Superintendent Soler joined Board President Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio for the Westchester Putnam School Board Association Roundtable, where discussions centered on navigating critical educational challenges and finding strategic solutions to better serve students.

Join Us at the School Choice Expo



Explore Your Options for the 2024-2025 School Year

Mark your calendars! The School Choice Expo is happening on Saturday, November 16, 2024, from 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM at Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies. This is your chance to explore the different schools and programs available for your children and find the best fit for their educational journey.

School 32 Trunk or Treat Brings Families Together



Fun, Community, and Festive Spirit

Superintendent Soler attended School 32's Trunk or Treat event, which featured decorated car trunks, treats, and family fun. It was a perfect way to celebrate Halloween and bring the school community together in a safe and joyful environment.

School Bus Safety Week!





SCHOOL BUS SAFETY DRAWING CONTEST

Show off your creativity and help promote school bus safety by entering the School Bus Safety Drawing Contest!

WHAT TO DO:

Create a drawing that illustrates one or more of these important school bus safety tips:

- · Look both ways before crossing the street
- · Stand on the sidewalk while waiting for the school bus
- Wait for the bus driver's signal to cross the street
 Watch for stop arms to help vehicles stop when students are getting on or off the bus
- Stay outside the "Danger Zone" (10 feet around the bus) until it's safe to approach
- Always wear your seat belt while the bus is moving

Stay seated while the bus is in motion

WHO CAN ENTER: Yonkers Public Schools students in grades Pre-K - 8

DEADLINE:

Friday, November 8, 2024

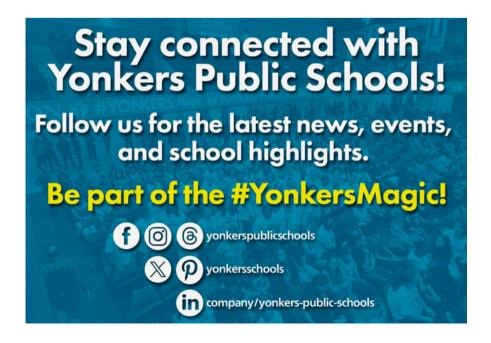
HOW TO SUBMIT:

Give your drawing to your classroom or art teacher, who will submit it for you!

Art Contest for Grades PreK - 8

We're celebrating School Bus Safety Week with a fun School Bus Safety Art Contest for students in grades PreK-8! Encourage your kids to show off their creativity while promoting safety. Students can create drawings that highlight important school bus safety tips, such as looking both ways before crossing the street or wearing their seat belts.

The deadline is Friday, November 8, 2024.



District

Superintendent Soler's Week in Review Photos



District

Photos From Across The District



District

Photos From Across The District



YPS STUDENT ARTWORK

