

Port Chester Ram-Gram

A Message from the Superintendent

Dr. Aurelia Henriquez

Port Chester Schools



Since I joined the Ramily, I've been so impressed and genuinely touched by the strength of Port Chester Ram Nation. We've been through a lot together already, including Hurricane Ida, which tore through our community and left destruction and devastation behind.

Unfortunately, John F. Kennedy School experienced the worst of the destruction amongst our schools. The kindness, love and compassion demonstrated by all staff and students has been nothing less than heroic. I applaud our students, staff and community for the many acts of kindness that have taken place over the past few weeks. Our football team visited homes and volunteered their help to the many storm victims, our High School Principal and Fine Arts Director, Luke Sotherden and Katherine Sinsabaugh, worked with staff, students and

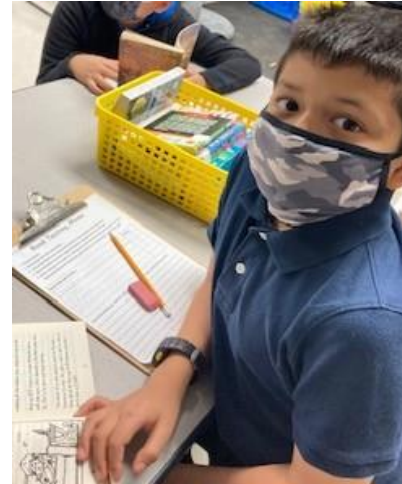


members of the community to collect essential items for community members in need, our buildings and grounds crews worked many late nights to assist with mitigation efforts, teachers and leaders worked tirelessly to ensure that we would support our students and each other, in order to offer our students rich learning experiences in a safe and healthy environment. We've all been asked to be flexible, innovative, supportive, visible, accessible, patient and kind. Congratulations Port

Chester! We have risen to the challenge. I've always believed that through the struggles, our strengths are revealed, and character is developed. We have an incredible team and together, we will continue to rise by lifting one another!

ASPIRE after-school program registration opens Oct. 8, thanks to our community partners

We are pleased to announce that our elementary afterschool program, ASPIRE (After School Programming Initiative for Recovery, Enrichment & Support) will be administered by the Port Chester Council For the Arts, One World United and Virtuous, and Family Services of Westchester. Program online registration will be available starting Friday, October 8, and continuing through Wednesday, October 13; in-person registration will be available Tuesday, October 12, and Wednesday, October 13, from 3 to 5 p.m. at each elementary school building. **The anticipated start date for the elementary afterschool program will be Monday, October 18.**



Stephen Covey's "The Speed of Trust" guides district leadership initiative



You may have heard that the best kept secret ingredient of highly successful organizations, schools, businesses, families, and partnerships is TRUST. The Board of Education, Leaders and Stakeholders are reading Covey's Speed of Trust with me and engaging in the trust actions. We recognize that there are certain behaviors that High Trust Leaders model. Our goal this year is to lead with trust and transparency at the forefront. I am so proud of all that we have committed to, and I look forward to our continued collective success. Join Us! As the saying goes: Dreams weigh More Than Excuses! Let's build trust and a brighter future for our children! And so the work begins!

The Board of Education's 2021-2022 Goals

Based on feedback from the community, research, data and best practices, we are fully committed to improving in the following areas:

Goal 1

Improve Communication and Ensure Systemic Equitable Access to Information

Utilize multiple platforms and outlets to broadcast important information to celebrate and highlight the district's success stories.

Collaborate and be inclusive more often to allow for meaningful discourse with key stakeholders. Include opportunity for student voice.

Celebrate publicly our students' and staff's accomplishments.

Goal 2

Foster A Sense of Community Connectedness and Pride in Ram Nation

Ensure that students, families, and district staff engage in meaningful and authentic interactions.

Forge and sustain community partnerships to expand opportunities for students.

Create districtwide opportunities for students and families to celebrate Port Chester Pride and a sense of "Ramfamily."

Goal 3

Increase Student Outcomes through Multiple Pathways and a Data-Informed Culture

Create a culture of student agency, where ALL students are exposed to multiple college and career opportunities across grade levels from Pre-K through 12.

Utilize data, research, experience, and collaboration to inform instruction and strategic planning.

Openly share data, discussions, and goals for the future.

Goal 4

Engage in Strategic Planning for Fiscal Responsibilities and Facilities

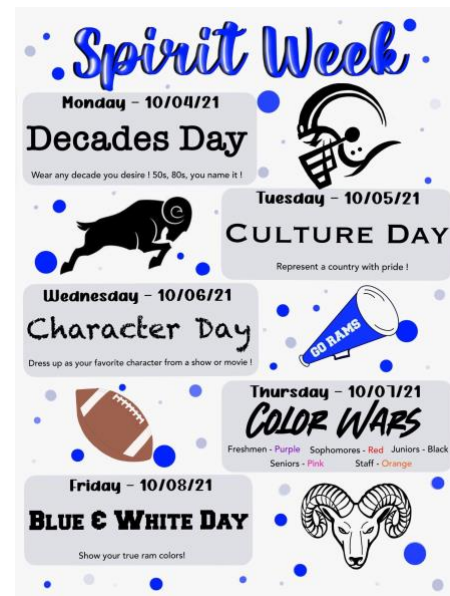
Collaborate for strategic planning to safeguard fiscal stability, while allowing for a proactive approach to improving and maintaining safe schools and well-maintained facilities and grounds for which our community can be proud.

Review facilities, budget, and operations for long-term planning purposes.



So many incredible things are happening in our schools!

If we are not already the “envy” of surrounding communities, we should be! Just a reminder that we are all committed to improving communication, and we strongly encourage all to regularly check the website for the latest updates and communication. Individual schools will also post important information for all to see! Help us get the word out!



Taking Advantage of the Fall Weather

You may have noticed tents and picnic tables being placed on school property throughout the district. We want our students and staff to enjoy the outdoors as much as possible. These are to be used for spaces for students to enjoy lunch, socialize, and learn! Let's go outside!



#LeadLikeAMom

It was my absolute pleasure to meet with the leaders of the PTA/PTO. These powerful ladies are making great things happen not only for their children but for ALL. We continue to look



for ways to increase collaboration and support for our PTO/PTA.

As we continue to collaborate in building a bright, solid future for all students, please be reminded that there are many opportunities

to join the conversation.

Mark your calendars to join a Superintendent's Roundtable discussion Thursday, Oct. 7

Dr. Henriquez will host a virtual roundtable discussion Thursday, Oct 7, from 3:30 to 4 p.m. for parents and members of the community. Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/bvx5oQYA6mPQVnhN9>.

Information on how to join the meeting will be posted on the district website prior to the event.



"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."

-Chief Sitting Bull