



NYCDOE

## Highlights of Community School District 5 Harlem Schools

### Special points of Interest:

- PS 36 Career Day
- PS 318 Receives Donation for Playground
- PS 129 Every Cents Counts
- Congrats to Two of CSS Seniors
- District 5 Family Day
- Kappa IV Bazaar
- Spelling Bee Champions
- PS 129 Every Cents Counts
- CSS Students Chosen for 2015 Congress of Future

### Inside this issue:

Superintendent's Message Continued	2
PS 36 Career Day	3
Congrats to Retirees	3
PS 318 Receives Donation for Playground	4
2nd Annual Spelling Bee Champions	4
PS 129 Every Cent Counts	5
Congrats to two of CSS Seniors	5
Family Day Event	6
CC Student Chosen for 2015 Congress of Future Medical Leaders	8
Kappa IV Bazaar	9

### Superintendent's Message

**“Anything worth having is worth working for. Change is worth the effort. When you begin to change, you’ll discover a world of opportunity you never dreamed possible. If you resist change, you’ll find yourself living far below your potential.”– Rob Ketterling**

As our academic year comes to an end, and we prepare for the summer with professional development, curricula planning, studying, learning – and rest and recreation, it’s nice to reflect on the past year, as we plan for the next school year! First, I want to express my appreciation for the commitment of District 5’s students, teachers, administrators, and support staff in helping to change the trajectory in preparing our children for college and beyond. I also want to thank our remarkable parents and the community for their continued support and involvement. Educating our children and preparing them for the future is truly a team effort.



**Community  
Superintendent  
Gale Reeves**

I believe it is imperative to recognize that the district is moving in a positive direction and I would like to highlight some of the noteworthy accomplishments and changes for the year through the lens of the **Framework for Great Schools**:

- ♦ **Effective School Leadership** – With the hiring and formation of a talented **District Instructional Team** to support schools, families and students we will continue to closely support our schools. Additionally, throughout the year, principals and assistant principals participated in **meaningful professional development** learning opportunities.
- ♦ **Rigorous Instruction** – Our teachers engaged in **weekly professional development** to support their pedagogic growth and **improve effective teacher practices** with a focus on the **preparation of rigorous tasks** and activities aligned to the **Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS)**.
- ♦ **Supportive Environment** – Our schools have increased their focus on developing structures and strategies to meet the academic and social emotional needs of students and their families. We will continue to enhance our lens on **attendance** in order to ensure that every student attends school on a daily basis. Additionally, our **Renewal School Director** was hired and there is a laser-like focus on our **Renewal school efforts**, including Extended Learning Time (ELT)

## Highlights of Community School District 5

### *Superintendent's Message*

*Continued*

opportunities to help schools address the academic, social and emotional needs of students and families. The expansion of our **Community School** model will continue to ensure that the health and wellness needs of students and their families are met.

- ♦ **Student Achievement** – Through the adoption and integration of Common Core aligned curricula, there are increased opportunities for students to be **critical and creative thinkers** and **effective communicators** with the incorporation of **higher order thinking questions** and **discussions**. In addition, our schools track and monitor **formative and summative assessment data** to assess students' academic needs and growth.
- ♦ **Collaborative teachers and teams** – Our department and grade level teams meet weekly to address a common goal: **improving the educational outcomes** of our students by **looking at student work, analyzing data, and planning coherent and integrated curricula** units.
- ♦ **Strong Family-Community Ties** – Weekly meetings and learning opportunities with school based staff enabled our families to become more engaged in their school communities. At the district level, there were also a number of well- coordinated activities:
  - \* In collaboration with a number of community stakeholders we have embarked on a **Collective Impact** initiative focused on District 5, entitled the **Harlem Renaissance Education Pipeline**;
  - \* **STEM Expo 2015** had record attendance of over 2,000 participants; student projects were of the highest caliber;
  - \* The District's first ever **Annual Family Day 2015** was so successful that there is a preponderance of volunteers actively seeking to begin planning for 2016;
  - \* Our **District Family Advocate** coordinated bi-monthly workshops for families and parent coordinators;
  - \* **Family Institute for Diverse Learners 2015**, first ever district wide event to assist and support families of students with individual education plans;
  - \* **First Books Drive** – in collaboration with the UFT, AFT, NAACP, DC 37 and a myriad of other organizations, we distributed 40,000 books to families across the district to help **promote literacy** and access to rich, high-quality K-12 literature.

The year presented some challenges for us with the loss of one of our beloved principals Jeanene Breeden and several of our bright scholars. It is essential to honor their memories, while forging ahead with perseverance, hope, and resilience. We must also continue to value the unique strengths and talents of each child and provide a safe, nurturing environment which promotes academic excellence and ensures that our students develop lifelong skills on their journey to becoming productive members of our society. I look forward to our continued work together with administrators, staff, families and members of the community to develop and implement innovative programs that will continue to improve the quality of education our students receive.

We have done so much together to move our students forward to be the most engaged, inspired and empowered learners they can be; I know they will be eager to return – but ... we all do need a break! I hope that all of you will spend some quality time with family and loved ones.

Thanks for another amazing year as your superintendent; I'm looking forward to next year and beyond. Have a restful, enjoyable, and relaxing summer.

Your Partner in Education,

*Gale*

*"One Village, One Community, One Voice."*



*PS 36 Career Day*



Career Day was held on May 15th and it was a stupendous success. This year's Career Day highlighted a plethora of career fields. There were 32 speakers which included Supreme Court Judge Shillingford, Yankees Personal Chef Felix Gonzalez, Motivational Speaker Sherman Brown, Product Manager Lindsay Toone from Tommy Hilfiger, many law enforcement officials and a host of other professionals. The event was exceptionally planned by Parent Coordinator Lisa Flores and Guidance Counselor Ms. Alison Mathurin. Student escorts were trained and utilized from all grade levels as they presented the speakers within the classrooms. It was a stellar event and continues to grow each year. We look forward to seeing what next year's Career Day will bring.

*PS 36 E's of Excellence: Engage, Enrich, Encourage, Empower*



***Congratulations to all retirees including:***

***George Young, Principal, PS/MS 46***

***Bryant Harris, Assistant Principal,  
Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning  
and Social Change***

***Jacqueline Figueroa, Assistant Principal,  
PS/MS 123***



## Highlights of Community School District 5

### *Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School (PS 318) Receives A Donation For A Playground*



We received a donation of \$22,000 through our Community Based Partner Abyssinian Development Corporation from an organization called Schoola. The money was donated for a playground upgrade to help increase fitness at TMALS.

### *DISTRICT FIVE 2nd ANNUAL SPELLING BEE CHAMPIONS*



#### Grade 1

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Mateus Lima - PS 36  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Guadalupe De La Rosa - PS/MS 161  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Jared Thomas - PS 133

#### Grade 2

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Marjani Farmer - PS /MS 129  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Emily Castillo - PS 30  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Kortney Bennett - PS 194

#### Grade 3

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Mirelle Limatta - PS 517  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Jasmin Quizhpi - PS 92  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Karaylah Green - PS 133

#### Grade 4

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Fatim Kouyateh - PS 175  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Michael Areizaga - PS 200  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Kacey Reynoso - PS 36

#### Grade 5

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Madison Drinkwater - PS 154  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Deziah Gayle - PS 30  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Mariam Kane - PS 175

#### Grade 6

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Owen Harris - MS/HS 362  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Melissa Jimmez - PS/MS 161  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Badillo Ba - PS/MS 123

#### Grade 7

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Leslie Flores - MS 410  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Jimmien Gilmore - PS /MS 46  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Genesis Collado - MS/HS 670

#### Grade 8

- 1<sup>st</sup> place** Aicha Ba - PS/MS 123  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place** Sidney Perrino - IS 286  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place** Maira Khawaja - MS 514

## Highlights of Community School District 5

### *“Every Cent Count\$”*

When it comes to joining forces for a good cause, the John H. Finley Campus School knows how to make every penny count. On May 21st, 2015, the students, faculty, and administration all came together to partner with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s School & Youth Programs, Pennies for Patients campaign.



This was a six- week long community service program, which students collect spare change to help children afflicted with blood cancer. We are very proud to say, we raised \$540.48!

The Pennies for Patients campaign gives students the opportunity to partake in a community service project, while building self-esteem and character. Students also learn how the funds they raise go towards research to help children less fortunate, through a connected service-learning project.



The Pennies for Patients campaign also shows students they have the ability to make a difference in the world, by introducing them to the power of philanthropy and service during their formative years.

We are very proud of our students, teachers, and staff, who came together for such a worth-while cause. Giving is always good when it comes from the heart.

---

### **Congratulations to CSS seniors Ron Gunczler and Nicholas Pape, who will be presenting at the national PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization) in Seattle at the end of June.**

They are the only high school presenters in the three-day conference. A summary of their presentation is below: **The Philosophical Relevance of Rhinocerotidae**

– Ron Gunczler and Nicholas Pape, Columbia Secondary School, New York

Philosophy education is being disrupted by superficial notions of relevance, and compromised by the clamor for philosophy curricula to be “relevant” in the vaguest sense. However admirable the underlying intent, the effort to increase philosophy’s relevance is hindered by a mistaken, flawed, or absent definition of the word. Due to the lack of a concrete idea of relevance, discussions tend to fall back on a default definition that equates relevance with immediacy or practicality. While applauding the desire to make philosophy more relatable to students, we reject the assumption that relevance and immediacy are interchangeable; we propose an alternative concept of relevance: philosophy education is relevant when it provides a student with new angles and new ways of thinking. We illustrate this definition with examples from the media and classroom and explore how our conception of relevance could open up possibilities for philosophy instruction now and in the future.



## Highlights of Community School District 5

### *District 5 Family Day*

On Saturday, June 13th in Riverbank State Park we enjoyed a day for families of Community School District 5 as we came together and celebrated the end of another successful school year. Parents and students enjoyed the following activities: yoga, zumba, soccer, basketball drills, step, hula hoop, hip hop aerobics, African dance, face painting with many other activities. Students also received books to take home. Elected officials also came out to meet the community. It was truly an unforgettable day of fun in the sun.





## Highlights of Community School District 5





## ***Angelyz Rohena Chosen for 2015 Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Boston, MA***

**NEW YORK** — Angelyz Rohena, a 10th Grader at Columbia Secondary School of New York has been nominated to attend the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Boston, MA on June 24-26, 2015. The Congress is an honors-only program for high school students who want to become physicians or go into medical research fields. The purpose of this event is to honor, inspire, motivate and direct the top students in the country who aspire to be physicians or medical scientists, to stay true to their dream and, after the event, to provide a path, plan and resources to help them reach their goal.

Angelyz Rohena was nominated by Dr. Connie Mariano, the Medical Director of the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists to represent New York based on her academic achievement, leadership potential and determination to serve humanity in the field of medicine.

During the three-day Congress, Angelyz Rohena will join students from across the country and hear Nobel Laureates and National Medal of Science Winners talk about leading medical research; be given advice from Ivy League and top medical school deans on what is to expect in medical school; witness stories told by patients who are living medical miracles; be inspired by fellow teen medical science prodigies; and learn about cutting-edge advances and the future in medicine and medical technology.

“This is a crucial time in America when we need more doctors and medical scientists who are even better prepared for a future that is changing exponentially,” said Richard Rossi, Executive Director, National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists. “Focused, bright and determined students like Angelyz Rohena are our future and she deserves all the mentoring and guidance we can give her.”

The Academy offers free services and programs to students who want to be physicians or go into medical science. Some of the services and programs the Academy offers are online social networks through which future doctors and medical scientists can communicate; opportunities for students to be guided and mentored by physicians and medical students; and communications for parents and students on college acceptance and finances, skills acquisition, internships, career guidance and much more.

The National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists was founded on the belief that we must identify prospective medical talent at the earliest possible age and help these students acquire the necessary experience and skills to take them to the doorstep of this vital career. Based in Washington, D.C. and with offices in Boston, MA, the Academy was chartered as a nonpartisan, taxpaying institution to help address this crisis by working to identify, encourage and mentor students who wish to devote their lives to the service of humanity as physicians, medical scientists.

---

## ***KAPPA IV Debate Team Competes at Columbia University***

Scholars from KAPPA IV competed in a day-long debate tournament at Columbia University. KAPPA IV's Debate Team advisor, Douglas Almanzar, took five teams of two students to the competition, which hosted thirty-two teams in total from nine different schools across the city. This is KAPPA IV's fourth year in a partnership with Columbia University's Youth for Debate, which sends college students of all majors to train public school students in the art of the argument.

Prior to this partnership, KAPPA IV teachers and administrators noticed gaps in the school's curriculum, specifically, a lack of opportunity for students to discover and develop their own voices in real-world settings. Partnering with Youth for Debate helped to close that gap. The Columbia University students meet with participating students and teachers at KAPPA IV for two hours every Friday, spanning three months, to practice research and public speaking skills.



### *Kappa IV Bazaar*

On Saturday, May 9, 2015, the KAPPA IV school community along with our PTA held a Bazaar outside of the school filled with community resources and games for students and their families. The street in front of the school was closed off from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM to allow parents, students, teachers, and community members to explore fun activities and learn about services available in the Harlem community.



The Bazaar was set up like a fair, complete with a bouncy castle, face painting, and student dance performances. The Mott Hall Band, KAPPA IV student dancers and a former KAPPA IV parent DJ also provided entertainment. Representatives from Hot 97 provided giveaways along with help from our after school program Sheltering Arms Children and Family Services. Informational booths of all kind were set up for visitors,

including booths with strategies for parents to help their children succeed in school. Representatives from The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); Metro Plus and Harlem Hospital Senior Community also attended and health professionals were on call to offer free blood pressure screenings and glucose / cholesterol tests.

---

### *CSS Boys and Girls Rugby Teams win PSAL Trophies*

In this year's Rugby 7's tournament held on Randall's Island, the Columbia Secondary School boys team took the city's championship trophy, and the girls team brought home the bronze. It is the second championship in CSS' three-year rugby history, and the amount of pride shown by friends, family and alumni, many of whom came especially to cheer on our teams, was infectious, with the crowd storming the field at the victory. Junior Nikolin Baco scored the winning conversion kick which led the boys team to their championship, and senior Faith Flowers scored the winning try for the girls team that won them a well-deserved third-place trophy. Congratulations to the hard-working team members and their coaches, Harold Delucia and Phil Hubbard.

Room 205  
425 West 123rd Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Phone: (212) 769 -7500 X236  
Fax: (212) 769 -7619

**Publisher:** Gale Reeves  
**Editor:** Nadine Edwards



***“Leadership We Can Count On”***

**We're on the Web!**  
<http://csd5.nycdoe.org>