



Volume II, Issue I – Holidays 2022



***Students at our Annual Career Fair had the opportunity to apply for jobs with more than 30 of the area's largest employers.***

## ***From The Principal's Desk: Enhancing the Instruction of Literacy***

***By Sanah Susan Naber, Principal,  
CTE / Adult Education***

Welcome to this year's first issue of "Pathways Press," newsletter of the Yonkers Public Schools Adult Education Program, Pathways to Success. So far this school year our program has seen strong attendance, and enthusiasm from both students and staff.

At Pathways to Success, literacy instruction is provided for students seeking to earn their high school equivalency diploma, and those seeking to

learn English as a second language. And our teachers continually develop new strategies to provide contextualized instruction, connecting literacy with real-world topics, such as workplace vocabulary, financial literacy, health care issues and more. Our Book Club further enhances literacy instruction by providing our students the opportunity to analyze and discuss works of literature. And all of our vocational programs incorporate literacy into their curriculum.

So as the first half of the school year draws near, all of the Pathways to Success staff would like to congratulate our students on all of the hard work you do to pursue your educational and employment goals. And we look forward to another year of academic excellence in 2023.

## ***Pathways to Success Annual Career Fair***

Students looking to secure full-time, part-time or holiday employment had the opportunity to explore numerous career options at the Pathways to Success Annual Career Fair, held on Thursday, October 13. This year's fair was the largest we ever held, with more than 30 local and national employers in attendance. Students from all adult education classes were brought to the cafeteria to meet with employers, fill out applications and even schedule interviews. Students from our satellite locations attended the event as well.



***Case Manager Stefanchik, Board of Education Trustee Greenwald, Principal Naber and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Quezada attended our Career Fair.***

In addition to employers, the fair was visited by Trustee Sheila Greenwald of the Yonkers Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Frank Hernandez. Breakfast was prepared and served by students from our Culinary Program, under the supervision of Chef Edi Dedi.

Thank you to all the employers who participated:

- UPS, Federal Express, Starbucks, Yonkers YMCA, ShopRite of Elmsford & Scarsdale, Burlington, New York Army National Guard, Stew Leonard's, St. John's Riverside Hospital, DeCicco & Sons, Macy's, Westchester Family Care, Children's Village, Andrus-on-Hudson, Yonkers Community Health Center, Rising Ground, Allegiant Home Care, Liberty

Lines, Westchester County Office of Economic Development, City of Yonkers Career Center, 5 Star Premiere Residences of Yonkers, True Care, Family Service Society of Yonkers, Fidelis Care, Famous Footwear, New York State Dept. of Corrections, Andrus, New York State Dept. of Labor, Hyatt, Angels on Call Homecare, DC Ranieri Insurance, 511NY Rideshare and Empress Ambulance.

If any students have been contacted by employers from the Career Fair, either for an interview or to be hired, it is extremely important that you report this information. Please notify your teacher, or Tom, Priscilla, Kris or Angela in the Employment Department in Room #104.

## ***Professional Learning Community Visits Vive***

On Thursday, November 3, the Vive School was honored to host a visit from The Yonkers Public Schools Professional Learning Community.



***Students in our Culinary Program served breakfast to (l-r) Principal Rivera-Shapiro, Assistant Superintendent Duany-Blanco, Principal Ricuitti and Director Wong.***

The PLC is a group of educators who visit our schools to share best practices and enhance the learning experience. The event began with a sit-down breakfast, once again prepared and served by students from our Culinary Program, under supervision of Chef Edi Dedi. As guests ate, Ms. Naber presented an overview of Pathways to Success, as well as the IDT Program and



Secondary Career & Technical Education, which she also oversees.

Following the presentation, tours of the building were conducted by ABE/GED Case Manager Irene Haynes-Martin, ESOL Case Manager Shirley Lee-Hom and Employment Case Manager Tom Stefanchik. The event concluded with a group discussion amongst the PLC.

We would like to thank all members of the PLC for visiting the Vive School:

- Assistant Superintendent of Professional Development Luis Duany-Blanco
- Executive Director of Continuous Improvement Susan Natale
- Director of Library Services Tracey Wong
- Principals Andrew Cohen, Stefanie Felidi, Christine Montero, Robert Riciutti, Eileen Rivera-Shapiro and Michael Shapiro

## *Two Classes, One Book Club*

Literacy is a vital component of instruction at Pathways to Success. Students in Ms. De la Pena's ESOL class and Ms. Barrett's Pre-GED class are enhancing their literacy by participating in an informative and entertaining joint activity: The Pathways to Success Book Club.



***Miss Barrett (far right) leads students in discussion during Book Club.***

Students meet twice a week, after class, to discuss a book they have been assigned to read. For their first book, the classes read "Sadakko and the Thousand Paper Cranes," by Eleanor Coerr, which deals with the after-effects of the atom bomb on a young Japanese girl. As such, students researched topics like President Truman,

World War II and post-war Japan. Participating in Book Club helps students to further develop reading, writing and comprehension skills. Literacy is complemented by various hands-on activities and project-based learning.

The first session of Book Club concluded on Monday, November 7, with a group discussion and pizza party in the cafeteria. Currently the classes are reading "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen, the story of a young boy stranded in the Canadian wilderness following a plane crash.

## *Vocational Programs Target In-Demand Industries*

As a school-to-work program, Pathways to Success places a strong emphasis on Career and Technical Education (CTE). We recognize the important role CTE plays in preparing our students for successful employment. Therefore, we develop our vocational programs (Retail, Computers, Culinary, Barbering, Home Health Aide, Carpentry) based on the current trends and employment needs of the local job market.



***Carpentry students building a "house."***

In addition, all vocational programs offer industry recognized credentials. So far this year our Culinary, Retail, Computers and Carpentry Programs have been offered, with strong enrollment. Our Barbering and Home Health Aide Programs will be forthcoming. If you are interested in our vocational programs, please see an Employment Counselor in Room #104.

## Happy Holidays!

This Thanksgiving our students had more to be grateful for, thanks to our good friends at Stew Leonard's and PCNY, who donated turkeys for the holiday, and Shop-Rite of Greenway Plaza, who donated gift cards. On Monday, November 21<sup>ST</sup> the turkeys were raffled off to students at the Vive School, while the gift cards were raffled off to students in our evening programs at PEARLS and Fermi. A big "Thank You" to our donors, and congratulations to the lucky students who won!



**Students celebrated the holidays with a turkey raffle and a pizza lunch.**



The same day as the turkey raffle, students and staff celebrated another, unofficial holiday: "Student and Staff Appreciation Day." Ms. Naber, in recognition of all the hard work of our students and staff, treated the entire school to a lunch of delicious pizza. A big "thank you" goes out to Pino, the Owner of A&V Pizza, for supplying a large amount of pizza at a great price, and on very short notice.

Here at Pathways top Success we have a wonderfully diverse population, affording us the opportunity to celebrate holidays from various cultures. Christmas is observed on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ, the central figure of Christianity. Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem in the second century BC. This year Hanukkah runs from Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> to Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. Kwanzaa is a celebration honoring universal African heritage and culture. It runs from Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

As a reminder, the Yonkers Public Schools will be closed for Holiday Break from Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 through Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Day classes at Vive School, and night classes at PEARLS Hawthorne and Enrico Fermi, resume on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.



**For more information about our Adult Education Classes for Yonkers residents, please contact Sanah Susan Naber, Principal of CTE/Adult Education at 914-376-8600 or [snaber1@yonkerspublicschools.org](mailto:snaber1@yonkerspublicschools.org)**



**That's all for now. See you next year!**

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