



*Superintendent, Anibal Soler, Jr.*

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# Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Community,

This week, we had the privilege of welcoming NYSED Chancellor Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr. to Yonkers. During his visit, Chancellor Young toured Gorton High School and Barack Obama School for Social Justice, engaging with students, teachers, and administrators. We discussed the unique needs and



*Superintendent Anibal Soler, Jr. & Chancellor Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr. at Gorton High School Engaging in a Roundtable Discussion*

successes of our district, and Chancellor Young expressed his admiration for the Yonkers My Brother's Keeper and My Sister's Keeper Program. He also spoke with students about the New York State Blue Ribbon Commission, which focused on the requirements for graduation. Chancellor Young sat with staff about opportunities for improvement in the process of becoming a fully credentialed and licensed teacher in New York State. It was a great opportunity to showcase the hard work we're doing in our larger effort to build a brighter future for Yonkers Schools.

We also focused on empowering our educators this week. During Wednesday's half-day for students, the District hosted professional development for staff, including our English teachers, who participated in workshops aimed at elevating literacy instruction. They explored best practices for setting student goals, selecting targeted interventions, and using tools for progress monitoring. By investing in our teachers, we ensure our students continue to receive high-quality education.

In addition to professional development for our staff, I had the pleasure to attend the New York State School Boards Association's Annual Convention in New York City with Board President Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio. Over two days of professional learning the focus was on the dawn of artificial intelligence in the classroom, the latest data and recommendations regarding school safety, good governance practices and more.

## *Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)*

This week marked the first meeting of our Superintendent's Student Leadership Advisory Council, held at the Hudson River Museum. Students from across the district came together for the inaugural meeting and will work together in the coming months to provide their insights, which will directly inform our 5-year strategic plan.

It's inspiring to see our students actively contributing to the future of Yonkers Public Schools, and I look forward to hearing more from them throughout the year.

Our District is always working to be prepared for anything, and that includes emergency management. Members of my cabinet attended the Yonkers Emergency Storm Management Workshop this week, collaborating with city officials to ensure we are fully synchronized and ready to respond to severe weather events. Safety is always our top priority.

Lastly, Central Office staff joined together in solidarity to recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing pink to show support for survivors and to encourage early detection. Remember, regular screenings are essential for catching breast cancer early, so please make it a priority to speak with your healthcare provider about scheduling a screening.

This week has truly demonstrated the strength of our district through leadership, collaboration, and a touch of Yonkers Magic. As always, thank you for your continued support as we work together to create opportunities for our students and community.



**Anibal Soler, Jr.**  
Superintendent of Schools



*Ms. Llenin's Pre-k Class Wearing Orange in Recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month*

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!

### Students Shaping the Future of Yonkers Public Schools



#### Superintendent's Student Leadership Advisory Council Kicks-Off

The inaugural meeting of the Superintendent's Student Leadership Advisory Council was held at the Hudson River Museum. Students from across the district came together to provide valuable input that will directly shape Yonkers Public Schools' 5-year strategic plan. Superintendent Soler emphasized the importance of student voices in guiding the future of our district, and the group will continue to meet throughout the year to ensure their perspectives are heard.

### Sharpening Skills for Stronger Leadership



#### Superintendent Attends NYS School Boards Association Annual Convention (NYSSBA)

Superintendent Soler joined Board President Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio at NYSSBA's Annual Convention in New York City this week. Over two days of intensive professional learning, the focus was on the dawn of artificial intelligence in the classroom, the latest data and recommendations regarding school safety, student empowerment, and good governance.

## Welcoming NYSED Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr. to Yonkers



### Superintendent Hosts Tour of Gorton High School and Barack Obama School

Superintendent Soler had the honor of welcoming NYSED Chancellor Dr. Lester Young Jr. to Yonkers Public Schools this week. Chancellor Young toured Gorton High School and Barack Obama School for Social Justice, engaging with students, teachers, and administrators. Discussions centered on the unique needs and successes of YPS, and the Chancellor was impressed by the dedication of both staff and students in shaping a bright future for Yonkers.

### Prepared for Anything

#### YPS Cabinet Attends Yonkers Emergency Storm Management Workshop

Members of Superintendent Soler's cabinet participated in the City of Yonkers Emergency Storm Management Workshop. The workshop aimed to strengthen coordination between Yonkers Public Schools and the city in the face of severe weather events. Ensuring we are fully synchronized to enhance our preparedness and response efforts during emergencies.



## ***Empowering Educators: Elevating Literacy Instruction***



### ***English Teachers Focus on Best Practices During Professional Development***

*During Wednesday's half-day for students, Yonkers Public Schools staff participated in a series of professional development workshops. A key highlight was the session for our English teachers, who focused on advancing literacy instruction. Teachers engaged with strategies for setting student goals, selecting targeted interventions, and using tools for progress monitoring to enhance student outcomes. Investing in our educators means our students receive the best possible learning experience!*

## ***YPS Wears Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness***



### ***Raising Awareness About Breast Cancer Screening***

*Yonkers Public Schools went pink to raise awareness about breast cancer. Staff wore pink today to show support for breast cancer survivors and encourage early detection. Remember, regular screenings are essential for catching breast cancer early – talk to your healthcare provider about scheduling your screening.*

## 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.

## National Bullying Prevention Month



## No Room for Bullies - Just Kindness!

October is National Bullying Prevention Month, and we're all about spreading kindness and respect. School 17 students put together an incredible video that highlights the importance of standing up against bullying. Watch their powerful video [here](#), and remember—together, we can create a safe space for everyone.

## Join Us at the School Choice Expo

**YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPO**

Learn about our schools & programs

**Saturday, November 16, 2024**  
**9:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies  
 631 Tuckahoe Road | Yonkers, NY

*Join us for a day of family fun, prizes, and academic adventures!*

FOR MORE INFO: [YONKERSPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG/SCHOOLCHOICE](https://YONKERSPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG/SCHOOLCHOICE)

In the event of inclement weather, the expo will take place on Saturday, November 30, 2024

**ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE YONKERS EXPO**

Conozca nuestras escuelas y programas

**sábado 16 de noviembre del 2024**  
**9:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies  
 631 Tuckahoe Road | Yonkers, NY

*¡Únase a nosotros para un día de diversión familiar, premios y aventuras académicas!*

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN:  
[YONKERSPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG/SCHOOLCHOICE](https://YONKERSPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG/SCHOOLCHOICE)

En caso de inclemencias del tiempo, la exposición se llevará a cabo el sábado 30 de noviembre del 2024

### 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.

## Yonkers Tackles Chronic Absenteeism at NYSSBA!



### Presenting Our Approach to Attendance at the State Level

Over the weekend, Yonkers Public Schools presented their successful approach to addressing chronic absenteeism at the New York State School Board Association (NYSSBA). Associate Superintendents Dr. Hernandez and Dr. Yazurlo, along with Principal Ryan James of William Boyce Thompson School and Board President Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio, highlighted the district's strategies for improving student attendance. Their presentation showcased the collaborative efforts between school leadership, educators, and the community to ensure that students are present, engaged, and thriving.

# District Digest

## Superintendent Soler's Week in Review Photos



# District Digest

## Photos From Across The District



Barack Obama School for Social Justice



Yonkers Early Childhood Academy



Barack Obama School for Social Justice

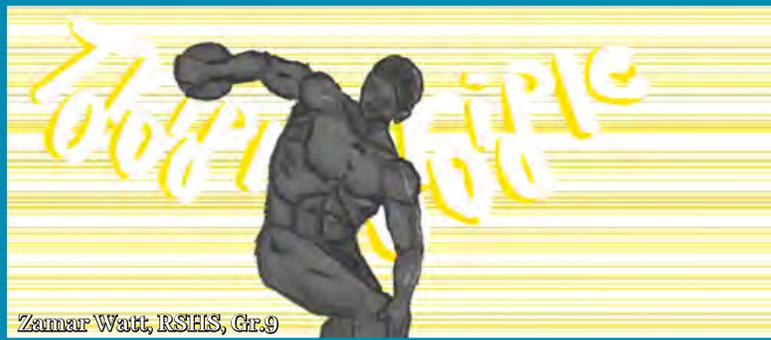


Yonkers Early Childhood Academy

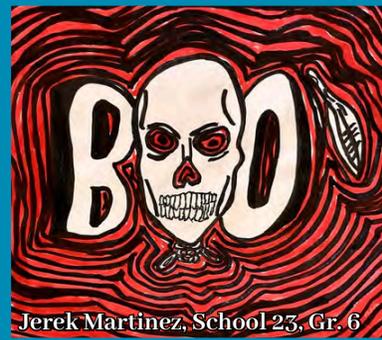


Roosevelt High School

# YPS STUDENT ARTWORK



Zamar Watt, RSHS, Gr. 9



Jerek Martinez, School 23, Gr. 6



Naomy Gordero, Boyce Thompson, Gr. 5



Jackie Ramirez, LSHS, Gr. 11



Ayden Nunez, Cesar Chavez School, Gr. 4



Naomi Livulo, RSHS, Gr. 9



Amml Alsayedi, YMHS, Gr. 9