



Superintendent, Anibal Soler, Jr.

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Message from Superintendent Soler

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Community,

This week has been an incredible mix of innovation, recognition, and collaboration as we continue building opportunities for our students and supporting our community. From groundbreaking initiatives to celebrating student achievements, there is so much to share with you.



Principals Engaged in Thoughtful Discussion During this Week's Principals Meeting, Exchanging Ideas & Strategies to Support School Success

We started the week by launching AI@Iona, a partnership with Iona University that introduces district and building leaders to the transformative power of artificial intelligence in education. The reality is AI is the future and we must embrace it to support the work we do as educators for the betterment of our students. The future is shaped by technology and innovation and partnerships like this exemplify our commitment to creativity and equity in education.

Over the weekend, I attended the Big 5 Fall Conference, where leaders from Yonkers, Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, and New York City came together to discuss key issues affecting nearly half of New York State's Big 5 School District's students. I also participated in the New York State Leaders of Color for Education kickoff, which we celebrated resilience and leadership among educators of color across the state. These experiences reinforced the importance of collaboration and representation in shaping the future of education.

Closer to home, this year's School Choice Expo was a tremendous success, with over a 1,000 families attending to explore the diverse programs offered by Yonkers Public Schools. Events like this help families make informed decisions about their children's education, and I'm grateful to everyone who contributed to its success. A special thank you to Associate Superintendent, Dr. Frank Hernandez, and his team for their incredible work in reimagining the Expo. [Read a great article about the Expo here.](#)

Message from Superintendent Soler (Continued)

This week, our building leaders gathered for a Principals Meeting to reflect on values, leadership, and the legacy we are building in Yonkers. Their vision and feedback drive continuous improvement across our schools, and I'm inspired by their commitment to creating the best possible learning environment for our students.

We also celebrated student achievement, highlighting Olivia Proenca, a Saunders ECC (Electronics and Computer Circuitry) senior, who received the "Young Woman of the Year" award from the New York Portuguese American Leadership Council. Her active volunteering and dedication to her community represent the very best of Yonkers Public Schools.

Another highlight was a visit from Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jonathan Eig, who spoke with Saunders Trades and Technical High School students about his biography, *King: A Life*. The discussion encouraged students to reflect on civil rights, leadership, and perseverance, leaving a lasting impact on everyone in the room. I also stopped by the Robert Halmi Sr. Academy of Film & Television where I met Bryan Lourd, a major talent agent who spoke with students interested in pursuing a future in film and television.

In addition to these exciting moments, this week included critical meetings, including the Board of Education Stated Meeting, where we approved key items to support our schools. I also had the privilege of connecting with staff and students during a visit to Lincoln High School, and I was honored to meet with the Obama Foundation to discuss the great work Yonkers Public Schools is doing in advancing our efforts as a Model Community.

As we move forward, I'm filled with pride for what we've accomplished and excitement for what's to come. Thank you for your continued support in making our theme of Yonkers Magic a reality for every student.



Anibal Soler, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools



*Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway at Las Hermanas
Mirabal Community School*

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!

AI@Iona: Transforming Education with Artificial Intelligence



Yonkers Public Schools Kicks Off Innovative Partnership with Iona University

This week, Yonkers Public Schools launched AI@Iona, an initiative that equips district and building leaders with the tools to integrate artificial intelligence into education. Superintendent Soler remarked, "By empowering educators with AI knowledge, we're preparing students for a future driven by innovation." This partnership reflects the District's commitment to equity, creativity, and excellence in education.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Inspires Students



Jonathan Eig Visits Saunders for MBK and Constitutional Law Discussion

Acclaimed author Jonathan Eig visited Saunders Trades and Technical High School to discuss his biography, King: A Life. Students engaged in a thought-provoking conversation about civil rights, leadership, and perseverance. Superintendent Soler noted, "This visit reinforces our commitment to equipping students with tools to rise above challenges and lead."

Student Spotlight: Congratulations, Olivia Proenca!



Saunders ECC Senior Wins “Young Woman of the Year” Award

A big round of applause for Olivia Proenca, a senior at Saunders Trade and Technical High School ECC (Electronics and Computer Circuitry) student, for receiving the “Young Woman of the Year” award from the New York Portuguese American Leadership Council. Olivia’s active volunteering and community involvement exemplify the best of Yonkers Public Schools. Join us in congratulating her on this incredible achievement!

Celebrating Leadership: Big 5 Fall Conference and Leaders of Color Cohort



Superintendent Soler Represents YPS at Statewide Conferences

Superintendent Soler attended the Big 5 Fall Conference, where leaders from Yonkers, Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, and Utica gathered to discuss key issues affecting nearly half of New York State’s Big 5 school district’s students. He also participated in the New York State Leaders of Color for Education kickoff, celebrating resilience, innovation, and representation in educational leadership.

Over a Thousand People Attend the School Choice Expo!



Empowering Families to Find the Right Fit for Their Children's Education

This past weekend, thousands of families attended the School Choice Expo, exploring Yonkers Public Schools' diverse programs ahead of the December application process. Learn how easy the school choice application process is at www.yonkerspublicschools.org/schoolchoice.

Check Out the Highlights from the School Choice Expo, [here](#).

Principals Reflect at Monthly Meeting



Legacy, Values, and Leadership Take Center Stage

During this week's Principals Meeting, building leaders came together to share successes, discuss challenges, and drive continuous improvement. The District emphasized the collective vision needed to ensure every student thrives in Yonkers Public Schools.

Junior Achievement Brings Students Together!



Yonkers Middle High School Partners with Family School 32

This week, over 50 students from Yonkers High School joined elementary students from Family School 32 for the Junior Achievement program. Through hands-on activities, Pre-K to 6th grade students learned about financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and teamwork.

With support from Family School 32's PTA, who provided breakfast and lunch, the day was a true success. The high school students left a great impression on everyone!



FAFSA is Now Open for 2025-26!

Take the First Step Toward College Success

Families, the 2025-26 FAFSA form is officially open! This is your opportunity to secure financial aid for your student's higher education journey. Visit [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) today to complete your application and ensure your student has access to the resources they need to succeed.

School Visit: Connecting with Lincoln High School



Superintendent Soler Engages with Staff and Students

Superintendent Soler visited Lincoln High School this week, meeting with students and staff to see firsthand the incredible learning happening every day. School visits like these highlight the District's ongoing commitment to building strong relationships across all schools.

Celebrating Yonkers as a Model Community with the Obama Foundation



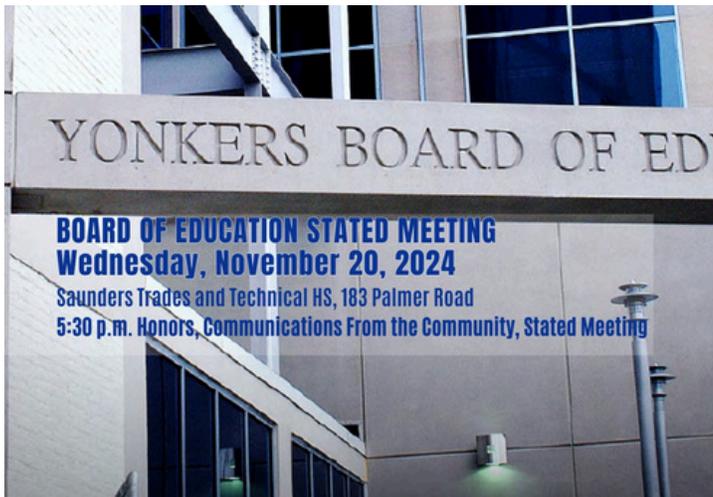
YPS Welcomes the Obama Foundation

Yonkers Public Schools welcomed the Obama Foundation for a meeting as they checked on the District's progress of our My Brother's Keeper Program.

Yonkers Public Schools serves as a My Brother's Keeper Model Community for Milestone Three: Graduating our students over 90%.

Families can join our mission by becoming mentors. Learn more [here](#).

Board of Education Stated Meeting



Stated Meeting Focuses on Approving Resources for Schools

The Board of Education convened for its monthly Stated Meeting, reviewing and approving items that are important to the District's mission of delivering a high quality education. These decisions ensure our schools have the resources they need to support students.

Stay connected with Yonkers Public Schools!

Follow us for the latest news, events, and school highlights.

Be part of the **#YonkersMagic!**



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District Digest

Superintendent Soler's Week in Review Photos



District Digest

Photos From Across The District



Rho Kappa NSSHS Students @ Lincoln High School



School Choice Expo @ RSHS



Las Hermanas Mirabal Community School Turkey Giveaway



Culinary Program @ Lincoln High School



YPS Principals Meeting

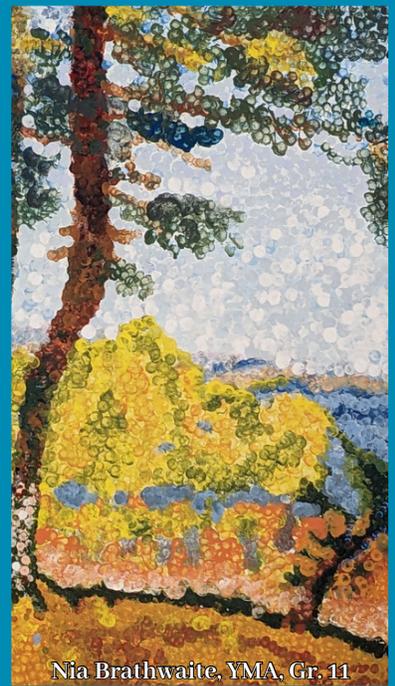
YPS STUDENT ARTWORK



Channely Martinez, School 23, Gr. 3



Yarezi Cruz Garcia, Sonia Sotomayor, Gr. 1



Nia Brathwaite, YMA, Gr. 11



Alex Avila Tolar, Boyce Thompson, Gr. 5



Nicole Spathos, LHS, Gr. 11



Tatiana Montufar, Cesar Chavez, Gr. 1



Kiara Pagan, RSHS, Gr. 12