



SUPERINTENDENT'S *Brief*



SUPERINTENDENT ANIBAL SOLER, JR.

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 05 2021 | VOLUME 1 ISSUE NO. 16

As I continue in the work to improve our district, one thing has become very clear. We cannot do this work alone and partnerships play a key role. I am happy to share that this week we started a pilot program with the Schenectady Police Department that is designed to support and strengthen our school community. As part of the pilot, two officers, Sargent Adriel Linyear and Patrolman Albert Rivera (a 2006 Schenectady High School graduate) will be a part of the high school community as Community Engagement Officers (CEOs) to collaborate, partner and support us. They will meet students, get to know them, and make it known that they are close by and an ally. The officers will be trained in the areas of harm reduction, community health training, homelessness, community mediation, diversion, de-escalation, and anti-racism. They will also have access to district trainings and initiatives that take place at school.

Sargent Linyear and Officer Rivera will be on hand in the school each day. They are committed to engaging with us and building relationships with our staff, students, and families. They are valuable resources and community partners.

The CEOs, who will not be dressed in typical police uniform, are not in our schools to enforce the code of conduct but will be close by if they are needed. For example, if someone unauthorized enters school or there is a situation that requires police attention. They will also be on hand to help if there are concerns involving students in the immediate neighborhood.

The CEOs started at SHS on Thursday. Mr. Chank, Mr. Green and the CEOs met with students to talk about their roles and to let students know that they would like to hear all their thoughts and ideas. They plan to meet with the Student Advisory Group (TAG) and other groups of students in the coming weeks.

The CEO role was developed as part of the Schenectady Police Reform Plan. We are pleased to have the opportunity to partner and welcome the collaboration. I am grateful to Chief Clifford and his team for their support and partnership.

The pilot program will run through December. We will share more about how it is going as we move along. If you are at the high school, please say hello to Sargent Linyear and Officer Rivera and welcome them.

Student input and student voice is always important. I wish to publicly thank Marina Tchako-Tiako, a member of the Schenectady High School Class of 2023, who is an amazing student advocate. She brought many great ideas to our meeting which we will be discussing and considering as we move forward. I spoke briefly about it at the board meeting on Wednesday and look forward to sharing more soon. Our students are incredible, and I promise that their voices will always be heard.

Lastly, I want to give a shout out to the high school team for their hard work. This week they introduced an attendance engagement program. Mr. Chank and Mr. Green spoke to students about the program and the supports that will be offered to help them be successful. I am proud of our students and staff.

Have a great weekend,
Anibal Soler, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools



Adriel Linyear, Sargent



Albert Rivera, Patrolman



CIRCLE UP!
LET'S HEAR STUDENT
VOICES/COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS



ATTENDANCE ENGAGEMENT
PROGRAM



Superintendent Soler with
Marina Tchako-Tiako



www.schenectady.k12.ny.us
518-370-8100

Upcoming Vaccine POD Schedule

Sign up on the Schenectady County Website

Paige Elementary

Date: 11/8

POD Appointment Times: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Van Corlaer Elementary

Date: 11/10

POD Appointment Times: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

W.C. Keane Elementary

Date: 11/12

POD Appointment Times: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Dr. MLK Jr. Elementary

Date: 11/15

POD Appointment Times: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Yates Elementary

Date: 11/16

POD Appointment Times: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm



We will be offering COVID-19 surveillance (pool) testing of students. Parent consent is required. Click [here](#) for more information, the consent form, and video resources.

TEXT TO LET'S TALK

We have a new Let's Talk feature. You can text your questions, comments, and concerns to us through Let's Talk.

TEXT

518-900-7318

Appointments are now available at five of our elementary schools. You can make appointment at any of our district sites. Click [here](#) to sign up now.

Resource: [All you need to know about COVID-19 Vaccine and Children](#)

WELCOME TO SCSD

New to our team! Welcome!

Administrative

Terrence Gillooley, Chief Financial Officer

Jeffrey Russo, District Director of School Climate and Safety

Instructional Appointments

Michael Goldstein, Pleasant Valley Elementary School

Management Confidential

Justin Cortese, Public information Specialist

Secretarial

Gemyra Gregg, Information Processing Specialist II, WIEC

School Safety Officer

Michael Judge, Schenectady High School

Paraprofessionals

Danielle Ames, Oneida Middle School

Sharon Casperson, Schenectady High School

Jessica Fiano, Van Corlaer Elementary School

Deja Glenn, Schenectady High School

Tashima Irizarry, Central Park Middle School

Akeirah Melanson-Shepard, WIEC

Darcy Neff-Hall, Hamilton Elementary School

David Pagan, Paige Elementary School

Fatima Poinsette, Zoller Elementary School

Cyriz Ponce, Keane Elementary School

Sarai Williams, Schenectady High School

Rosalie Walker, Schenectady High School

Lunch Monitors

Carleah Herbert, King Elementary School

Caceres Rossiluz, Yates Elementary School

Congratulations on Retirement

Maria Klein, School Counselor, WIEC



Terrence Gillooley was appointed as Chief Financial Officer.

[Announcement here](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE

Here is the report on COVID-19 positive cases for the period October 29 (9 a.m.) through November 5 (2 p.m.)

Total of 23 cases

18 students, 4 staff members and 1 bus staff as follows:

- Central Park: 1
- Keane: 2
- Oneida: 2
- Paige: 3
- SCLA: 1
- Schenectady High School: 2
- Van Corlaer: 2
- Zoller: 9
- Bus Oneida/King: 1

Approximate Percentage of School Population COVID-19 Positive this week:

- Students: .02%
- Staff: .33%
- Percentage of Students and Staff: .22%

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you are experiencing any symptoms of illness or are waiting for COVID-19 test results, do not come to school or work. You should instead do the following immediately:

STAFF MEMBERS

Stay home, contact your supervisor and email Lindsay Baroody at Lindsay.Baroody@neric.org or call 518-312-8848

STUDENTS

Parents please keep your child home and contact your school nurse.

If your child is exposed to a person who tested positive, you will receive a phone call immediately.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Schenectady County continues to offer free COVID-19 vaccinations at a variety of locations throughout the month. All PODS are open to walk-ins. The October schedule is available [here](#).

[New York State School COVID Report Card](#)



Zyire Peart, a 5th grader at Hamilton Elementary School with Sargent Linyear, Officer Rivera and Chief Clifford. Zyire, who wants to one day be a policeman, couldn't wait to meet the officers.



Sargent Linyear
at SHS Thursday



Save the Date for the 2022

Education Celebration

EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

Thursday, January 20, 2022

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Proctor's GE Theater

Crystal Apple Award Winners:

Outstanding Graduate:

Anessa Waheed

Community Partner Award:

Hannaford Supermarkets

The Robert Ludwig Teacher of the Year:

Patty Wood – 2020 – Hamilton Elementary

Rick DeCarr – 2021 -Oneida Middle School

Catering by: SHS Culinary Arts Program

Music Provided by: SHS Students

Cost per Person: \$50 Teacher Rate: \$25

MC - Greg Floyd – CBS 6 News Anchor

THANK YOU TO OUR PRINCIPALS

HOWE ELEMENTARY

Meet the Principal

Susan Gorman

What did you love about your 31 years here?



"It has been a pleasure to meet so many wonderful Schenectady families throughout the years and incredible to have the opportunity to watch students grow and families flourish, for generations."

PROFILE

- 31 years in district
- 5th year as Howe principal
- Former SCSD PreK Supervisor
- Retiring at the end of this year
- Began as a teacher at MLK in 1990



CENTRAL PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Meet the Principal

Jason Rogers

Central Park Eagles

What do you love most about your job?



"Being able to connect with families and creating avenues to increase student advocacy."

PROFILE

- 3rd year in the district
- 3rd year as CPMS principal
- Former CEO of a music label



CDTA ROUTE #810

CDTA Route #810 for Schenectady High School was recently updated. Click [here](#) for schedule and real time arrival

PARENTS: PLEASE COMPLETE THE DIGITAL EQUITY SURVEY

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is asking all parents to participate in a [Digital Equity Survey](#). Digital equity is about making sure students have equal access to technology and technology tools

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

November is Native American Heritage Month. We celebrate Indigenous knowledge, traditions, language, and culture. For teaching and learning resources go [here](#).



SHS Student Ambassadors, in conjunction with Duck Donuts, held a fundraiser and raised \$330 to donate to the Ronald McDonald House in Albany. The students purchasing the donuts were very supportive and we sold out in less than ten minutes. Their goal is to do this monthly and donate to a different organization each time.



SCHENECTADY PATRIOTS PODCAST
COMING 11/11/2021

The Schenectady Patriots Podcast will start next Thursday, November 11. Subscribe on Apple, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts. It will also be linked from the Friday brief. Each week it will feature player interviews, coach interviews, upcoming team schedules and an athlete of the week.



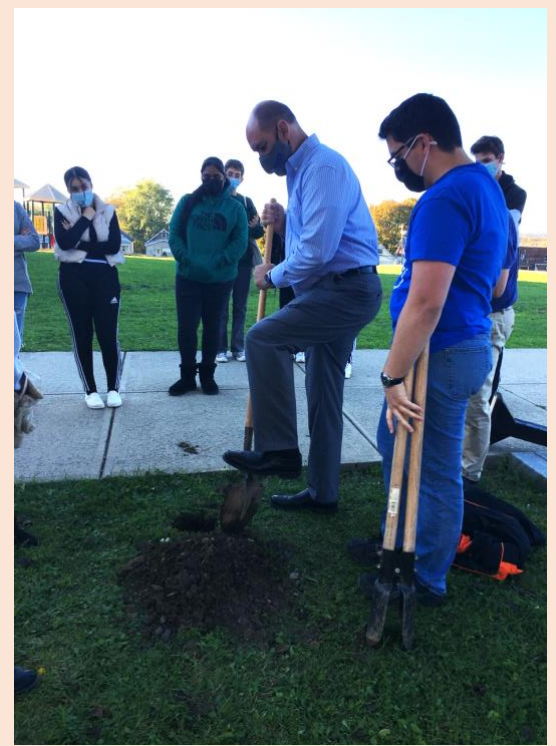
SHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY BLAZE FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 4:30 – 7:30 P.M.

MOHAWK COMMONS

All proceeds will be used to fund the Little Free Libraries in our elementary schools.

Click here to download [flyer](#)



The SHS National Honor Society has been raising funds to purchase little libraries, and the books, for each elementary school in the district. The installation at Yates (pictured) is the first. The next one will be installed at Keane next Wednesday. Each library costs about \$850.

Howe Elementary School's Random Acts of Kindness committee kicked off "Socktober" with a collection of new socks to donate to Things of My Very Own, Inc. The Howe School community collected 912 pairs of socks to donate.

Howe is one of the leading organizations for this campaign. The organization has a goal of collecting 5,000 pairs of socks. Thank you to all who donated socks for this great local organization.



Mrs. Mantei's first grade class is adding double digit numbers for the week.

