

# THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CHANCELLOR, KAMAR SAMUELS ~ SUPERINTENDENT, DR. KEISHA MCCOY



## PUBLIC SCHOOL 596X

850 BAYCHESTER AVENUE  
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## JOHN SIRACUSE, PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:  
TIMOTHY CURRIE  
REBECCA MILES  
RAFAEL MONTOYA  
ALYSSA RIGG

June 26, 2026

Dear 596X School Community,

HAPPY LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

As this year comes to a close, we can look back on this unforgettable year, filled with many celebratory moments at 596X. When I reflect on the year, so many highlights come to mind. Here are just a few...

- 596X maintained an 89% attendance rate throughout the year. – great job! Students that were selected as “Student of the Month” and students who had great attendance got to enjoy some time on the mobile game bus.
- 596X was the recipient of \$200,000.00 in RESO-A funds to update the technology in the school.
- 596X received a “Arts for All” grant, in the amount of \$16,800.00 as well as STEM grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 GO 596X!
- Over 40 parents went up to Rhinebeck NY for a parent retreat – the day was filled with low and high ropes, teambuilding and parent empowerment activities.
- We continued our "Book of the Month" program, focusing on the 4 Hallmarks of Advanced Literacy. The culturally diverse texts were enjoyed by the school community. The live evening read alouds were a hit!
- We continued the “Family Learning League” that met monthly to provide families with workshops requested from parent surveys.
- Students were able to participate in a variety of clubs, which consist of the 596X Student Government, Transition Club, Girls Friendship Club, to name a few!
- Students throughout our three sites learned Mandarin and Spanish as part of the MEG Languages pilot program. We hope to expand this work in the fall.
- We honored and celebrated students, parents and staff of the month, during celebrations throughout the year.
- Principal Siracuse hosted, “Parent Principal Partnership” virtual meetings each Thursday to hear from families in an inclusive and collaborative space.
- We continued our Father’s Club, which met monthly in conjunction with P176X
- We continued to host monthly multicultural assemblies, where various artists provided hands-on experiences for our students and staff. Some of those topics included, African drumming and dancing, Hispanic Heritage musical performance and Lunar New Year celebrations.
- Community based organizations such as the Bronx Museum for Children, NY Park Rangers, Safe Touches, Center for Arts Integration, NY Botanical Gardens, FDNY/NYPD, and Special Olympics, supported classes at P596X with teaching artists, programming and workshops for staff.
- Students and families joined on Saturdays for a variety of arts-based activities in conjunction with Marquis Studios.

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- 596X families got to enjoy “MJ on Broadway” thanks to the generosity of the Theater Development Fund.
- 596X hosted a “SIB Shop” event – a day focused on supporting the siblings of 596X students.
- Over 70 students across the three sites performed in “Frozen” on June 3rd and 11<sup>th</sup>
- 596X was able to continue to employ two former students as part time school aides!
- Our commitment to STEM, specifically Computer Science and Lego education, expanded as our school provided students with hands on programming which included Lego Robotics, Circuits, Hydroponics, Drones, Greenhouses and engineering through coding.
- 596X was recognized as a “Respect for All” school and received the “No Place for Hate” award. The award is given to schools who are committed to work that embodies empathy, inclusivity, tolerance, and respect.
- 596X hosted two silent disco events which were a blast!
- Students participated in District 75 citywide events such as the Lego League, STEM Fair, Festival of the Arts, D75 Arts at the MOMA and the D75 Film Festival.
- 596X parents got to attend the parent support group and healthy eating workshops
- “Talullah”, our school therapy dog, took to the virtual paws (I mean halls) of 596X and supported students in social emotional learning through the Multigree’s curriculum.
- We held various celebratory events during the month of June for our students and families – Field Day, Saturday “Spring Fling” and Graduation. It was great to see everyone!
- The 596X PTA and parent leaders partnered with the school providing the graduates a “Senior Trip” to Jungle Adventure, a popcorn fundraiser and food for the silent disco.
- There were gains in all goals of the school (Comprehensive Education Plan). Thank you to YOUR hard work!

I could go on and on....

We have begun planning for an exciting 2026-2027 school year. As always, my door is open to you for suggestions, ideas or thoughts you have on how to deepen our work. For those families that are not attending/working the Chapter 683 summer program, I wish you and your family a safe and restful summer. For those that will be attending, I look forward to seeing you this summer for an exciting summer at 596X as we take a, “*Road Trip Across America*”.

Thank you for a wonderful and collaborative school year.

Fondly,

John Siracuse  
Principal

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