

# THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CHANCELLOR, DAVID BANKS ~ SUPERINTENDENT, KETLER LOUISSAINT



## PUBLIC SCHOOL 596X

850 BAYCHESTER AVENUE  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10475  
TELEPHONE: (718) 904-5750  
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## JOHN SIRACUSE, PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS  
TIMOTHY CURRIE  
ELENI PARISI  
EVAUNA NEVILLE  
REBECCA MILES

June 27, 2022

Dear P596X Families:

As this year comes to a close, we can look back on this unforgettable year, filled with many emotions.

When I reflect on the year, so many accomplishments come to mind. Here are just a few...

- All of our classrooms have been fitted with new 65 inch promethium interactive panels, as part of a grant we received. We are awaiting an additional 200, 000 worth of technology for our classrooms.
- We continued to add well over 100 pictures to our school Instagram account and on our website's photo of the week, capturing the many highlights and celebrations of the year. If you do not follow P596x on Instagram, you may do so by searching, PS596X.
- Over 50 students and their families enjoyed an autism friendly performance of, "Aladdin" on Broadway made possible by theater development fund.
- We continued our "Book of the Month" program, focusing on the 4 Hallmarks of Advanced Literacy. This work was incredible and will be deepened in the fall.
- We continued our family support group (PAUSE for a Break) as well as our Father's Club, based on parent feedback from our first remote learning survey.
- The school held regular town hall meetings, in addition to weekly Principal office hours where our school community was kept up to date on our health and safety protocols, as well as guidance from the CDC, State and City Governments and the DOE. Our families and staff had the opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns.
- 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 puppetry.
- Community based organizations such as the Bronx Museum for Children, Center for Arts Integration and Shubert Theater supported classes at P596X with teaching artists, programming and workshops for staff.
- P596x was generously gifted with over 10,000 dollars' worth of sensory toys for our classrooms.
- P596X was able to continue to employ two former students as part time school aides!
- Our commitment to STEM, specifically Computer Science, expanded as our school provided students with hands on programming which included Lego Robotics, Circuits, Hydroponics, Drones, Greenhouses and engineering through coding.
- With the support of our School Leadership Team, the school has updated classrooms with new furniture. We will continue to update additional classrooms in the fall.
- Classroom libraries have been updated with culturally responsive books given to us by the Chancellor's office.

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- P596x 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.
- Under the creative direction of our school wellness committee, P596X continued the “Wellness Workshop Series” where families and staff participated in a variety of workshops, such as healthy eating, yoga, family bingo night, mindfulness and other wellness related topics.
- P596X student attendance rate averaged at approximately 88% throughout the school year. This high number speaks to our families and staff working together to ensure our students received instruction and related services.
- Our Parent Association thoughtfully prepared goodie bags for our over 70 graduates. Thank you to our PA!
- Izzy, our school therapy dog, took to the virtual paws (I mean halls) of P596x and supported students in social emotional learning through the Muttigree’s curriculum. In addition, student Jaden Casto was named a National Student Ambassador and received a check in the amount of 500 dollars to further the mission.
- We held (in person!) various celebratory events during the month of June to celebrate our students and families – Field Day, Saturday “Spring Fling”, Family Breakfast and Graduation. It was great to see everyone!
- There were gains in all goals of the school (Comprehensive Education Plan). We are so proud!

I could go on and on....

We have begun planning for an exciting 2022-2023 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 that are not participating in Chapter 683 or Summer Rising, I wish you and your family a safe and restful summer. For those that will be attending, the first day of summer school for students is July 5th. I look forward to a fun and engaging summer at P596X as we spend a, “Summer in Space”.

Finally, I congratulate our over 70 graduates and their families. We wish the graduating class of 2022 the best of luck in their future endeavors – we will miss them greatly.

Stay well and healthy,

John Siracuse  
Principal

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June 24, 2022

Dear Parents/Families,

The Department of Education created the New York City School Account (NYCSA) for guardians to have quick and unlimited access to information about their child's educational records; by accessing NYCSA, families will be able to view their child's:

- IEP recommended services
- Transportation
- Student grades
- Guardian Information
- Emergency Contact Information
- Attendance Record
- and much more

We strongly encourage you to create their accounts, if you have not done so already. District 75 is launching a "Sign-Up for NYCSA Campaign" over the next 7 weeks, from June 27<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>, to encourage all families to create and access your child's account.

P596x will be hosting a series of events to help families in creating their accounts. Events include are:

- Virtual meetings – guardians can schedule a 15 minute individualized help session via *zoom* to create the account
- Add at least 2 more events to the list to encourage families to sign up

Our goal is to have families sign-up and create their accounts for easy and quick access to student information, including IEP's and transportation.

If you have any questions about NYCSA, or need your creation code or support, please reach out to the following people:

Parent Coordinator: Dawn Harney, [dharney3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:dharney3@schools.nyc.gov)

Family Worker: Maritza Febres, [mfebres@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:mfebres@schools.nyc.gov)

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Assistant Principal Eleni Parisi, [eparisi3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:eparisi3@schools.nyc.gov)

As always, we thank you for supporting us during the school year, and we hope that you will join us at future school events.

Sincerely,

John Siracuse  
Principal