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**Patrick Henry Preparatory School**  
**PS/IS 171**  
19 East 103 Street / New York, NY 10029  
[www.ps171.org](http://www.ps171.org)

Mr. Pantelidis, *Principal*

Mrs. Zararis, *Assistant Principal*  
Mr. Gaffney, *Assistant Principal*  
Mr. Schultz, *Assistant Principal*

December 2018

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to share that our school was selected again to participate in the New York Cares Holiday 'Winter Wishes Program'. As part of the process, students wrote their holiday wish letters in early October. New York Cares then matched our school to several companies in New York City to receive our letters and fulfill our student gift wishes for the holidays.

We are very fortunate this year to be matched with several large companies who have been shipping gifts to our school. We are also grateful to our PTA for providing gifts for our youngest students in Pre-K and Kindergarten. We will be distributing gifts to our students on **Friday, December 21st** by a surprise visitor from the North Pole.

**We will have a full day of school on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> which will also be our special school spirit day- 'Holiday Sweater' day for both students and staff.** I encourage all parents to have their children in attendance on Friday December 21st to enjoy the festivities. Friday will be a regular full day with dismissal at 2:20 p.m.. **The Winter Vacation will begin on Monday, December 24th and students are expected to return to school on Wednesday, January 2 at 8:00 a.m.**

May the holidays be a time for joy and family gathering and may the New Year bring good health and happiness to everyone!

*Sincerely,*

*Mr. Pantelidis*



P.S./I.S. 171  
Patrick Henry Preparatory School  
**Achievements, Resources, and Impacts: Fall 2018**

Achievement	Resources	Impact
<p><b>Recipient of GOLD - NCUST America's Best Urban Schools Award</b></p>	<p>Recipient of National Center for Urban School Transformation's (NCUST) America's Best Urban Schools Award. Awarded schools across the nation engage in a Symposium in San Diego amongst many educational leaders to celebrate public education. This provides an opportunity to showcase best practices, impressive academic results, rigorous curricula utilizing effective instructional structures and systems.</p>	<p>This prestigious award promotes academic excellence, equity and access for all, and a positive school culture for our school community. It deepens our understanding of our successes while encouraging innovative methodologies to ensure continued improvement each school year.</p>
<p><b>Ellen DeGeneres Live Show Donation for Learning Lab</b></p>	<p>Broadcasted Live on Ellen DeGeneres Show to showcase our academic excellence, rigorous curricula, and transformational school culture. Highlighting the different ways we strive to provide equity and access to all stakeholders of our school community.</p>	<p>This donation provides students with the opportunity of a lifetime to develop their digital technology skills through a new Innovative Learning Lab. With a deeper understanding of the digital environment, our students will become intuitive to new contexts, confident and competitive to succeed in high school, college and in the workforce.</p>
<p><b>Verizon Innovative Grant</b></p>	<p>Three-year partnership providing iPad's with cellular data plan for all students (Grades 6-8) as well as, all teachers at middle school level. In addition, students will receive software applications to enrich their learning and teachers will receive professional development.</p>	<p>Increases student access to internet capabilities at home, enables development of research, writing skills and content knowledge.  Access to computers in the home increases parental involvement with homework, projects and daily learning.</p>
<p><b>Partnership with Child Mind Institute (K-8) Children/Parents</b></p>	<p>Provides mental health support and counseling for 'at risk' children in grades K-8. Offers resources, support and workshops for parents and teachers</p>	<p>Promotes social and emotional mental health for students so that they can become more resilient and independent adults capable of leading healthy lives and maintain strong academic focus in school.</p>
<p><b>Center for Excellence in Youth Education at Mount Sinai Hospital</b></p>	<p>Provides authentic lab experiences with interaction and mentoring by physicians, scientists and medical staff monthly at Mt. Sinai</p>	<p>Builds student knowledge of careers in public health, science and medical professions through hands-on experiments, workshops, seminars and mentoring.</p>
<p><b>East Harlem Tutorial Program and DREAM Afterschool</b></p>	<p>Afterschool Program (Gr. 6-8) that provides afterschool tutoring for writing and science in preparation for specialized high schools.</p>	<p>Provides wide range of high school and college readiness for middle school students including enrichment courses, tutoring for specialized high school, mentoring and counseling.</p>
<p><b>Bridge to Enter Advanced Mathematics (BEAM 6 and BEAM 7</b></p>	<p>Provides three-week college residency at Bard and Vassar Colleges focused on math problem-solving with school year mentoring for high school and college application process. Full scholarship for students selected for program.</p>	<p>Provides college experience for seventh and eighth grade students developing critical thinking about mathematics followed by continued mentoring and support during high school and into college.</p>
<p><b>2017-2018 School Quality Review Report</b></p>	<p>School goals reflect Framework for Great Schools and focus on systems and structures to support school culture, teacher teams, leadership, data analysis, student efficacy and parent partnership. In addition, the report details</p>	<p><i>Rigorous Instruction, Collaborative Teachers, and Student Achievement</i>, P.S.171 has received an 'Excellent' Rating where parents, students, and teachers have indicated our instructional core and assessment structures are challenging.</p>

	surveyed results regarding our school-wide Instructional Expectations and Best Practices Systems including our Data-Driven Protocols, School Goals, Teacher Team Protocols.	rigorous, and aligned to the NYS Standards. These categories also describe the effectiveness of our school's curricula and teacher practice.
<b>Expansion of Achieve3000 Online Reading Program to Grade 2</b>	Achieve3000 will now provide online non-fiction reading comprehension support representing a broad range of content topics for students spanning grades 2-8.	Strategic use of online leveled information reading and response has shown to result in measurable reading growth on student lexile data from September to June.
<b>Class Sets of Laptops/Carts</b>	Each grade level will have designated class sets of laptops and iPads on moveable carts to enhance their core units of study.	Increased access to technology resources will enhance student ability to produce and publish documents, communicate using web tools, understand informational text and create multimedia presentations
<b>City Year and Wells Fargo Service Projects</b>	As part of our Expansion Phase 1, we have set our goals to raise cultural awareness of our East Harlem Community through beautiful murals, paintings of leaders and icons along with inspirational quotes on the exterior and interiors of our school building.	Increased student pride, motivation and engagement through a vivid learning environment, students will not only feel safe, but eager to take risks in their learning. Students feel a sense of security and raise self-awareness while promoting a sense of belonging to our community.
<b>Refinement of Interim Assessment Systems</b>	School-wide interim assessment calendar with specific protocols linked to teacher team analysis, curriculum refinement, teacher data check-ins, student conferences and student goal-setting.	Interim assessments inform classroom instruction, strategy groups, RTI supports and correlations with patterns and trends from other data sources. Data is used by classroom teachers/administrators for benchmark data conferences.
<b>Technology Upgrade of 27 High Quality SmartBoards and Speaker Systems</b>	Installation of twenty-six 72" screen SmartBoards and high quality speaker systems. The new 75 inch smartboards are interactive flat panels which reduces classroom interruption of troubleshooting an overhead projector or switching bulbs. The board comes with many built-in features to create a more collaborative classroom environment such as students interacting with the smartboards using unique tools to identify their work such as pen ID. TEQ is our school smartboard reseller. They have supported our schools for the last couple of years in providing our school instructional hardware (smartboards) and software (Smart Notebook).	This Technology Upgrade will enhance the teaching and learning experience for students through expanding the boundaries of the classroom to engage students in real-world experiences through online programs. It supports students through meeting a wide variety of learning styles through visual, auditory and tactile approaches. The interactive nature of Smartboards offers students an opportunity to share and participate in the instructional process.
<b>Top 10% Middle Schools in New York State</b>	Middle school students have access to 'state of the art' technology and science labs, extensive leveled libraries and online informational programs. In addition, students participate in high school prep courses, afterschool and summer programs. Partnerships with community and civic organizations.	As a result of top state-wide ranking, middle school students' benefit from challenging curriculum leading to acceptances at top tier high schools. Results of testing also serves to heighten middle school reputation in district and leads to large number of applicants for sixth grade.
<b>High Achievement on NYS Testing</b>	School-wide systems and protocols for implementation of common core aligned ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies curriculums (K-8), leveled libraries and laptops/iPads in all classrooms, Achieve3000, Accelerated Reader and partnerships promoting student achievement.	High level of performance on NYS ELA, Math and Science tests lead to enhanced curriculum opportunities infused with digital technology and partnerships providing college and career readiness (i.e. Mount Sinai, Urban Advantage, American Express, Verizon Innovation)
<b>High School Acceptances</b>	Middle School students have access to dedicated science and computer labs, laptops and iPads for Achieve3000, rigorous curriculum leading to Regents in science and math, partnerships with Mt. Sinai, Urban Advantage and Summer Institute for Gifted.	As a result of our rigorous Middle School program, eighth grade students are accepted to top tier high schools including specialized and screened schools (i.e. Bronx HS Science, Brooklyn Tech, La Guardia, City College Engineering, Manhattan Hunter Science, Eleanor Roosevelt, Pace).

<p><b>Expansion of Early Childhood Program- 3K-For-All Program and additional 4K class</b></p>	<p>Enhancing our early childhood program through an expansion of 3K For All and an additional 4k class to provide high-quality instruction to continue the success of Pre-K for All in collaboration with the DOE.</p>	<p>Investing in young learners by laying a critical foundation for children to thrive in school and in life through exploring the world around them. Students will engage in the development of vocabulary, oral language, morning meeting and problem solving skills while learning through play.</p>
<p><b>New York Cares</b></p>	<p>Partnership connects school with corporate volunteers to bring projects into school, provide gifts for holidays and beautification projects (i.e. Moody's, Citicorp, Barclay's).</p>	<p>Students across the grades benefit from enrichment learning activities sponsored by corporate volunteers throughout the year. Students receive holiday gifts from corporate sponsors in December through Winter Wishes.</p>
<p><b>Summer Institute for Gifted (SIG) &amp; Online Courses</b></p>	<p>Carmel Hill Fund and Accelerated Reader provides scholarship for high achieving students (grades 5-8) to attend three week institutes at Vassar, Yale, Princeton.</p>	<p>Students experience residential life at top colleges and study enrichment topics in classes combined with field trips designed to expand their learning resulting in college and career awareness.</p>

