

November



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MPTCS

STUDENT SUPPORT NEWSLETTER

Preparing student's for life's challenges and opportunities.



MPTCS

STUDENT SUPPORT
NEWSLETTER

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Welcome

As we enter this season of gratitude, we are excited to share highlights from across our schools, showcasing our scholars' growth, family engagement, and college and career readiness initiatives.

A Season of Thanks

November reminds us to express appreciation and kindness. We are deeply thankful for our students and staff whose dedication creates an excellent learning environment. Together, we continue to make a lasting impact in our village.

Supporting Our Scholars

Over the past two months, students participated in Suicide Awareness, Respect Week, Violence Prevention Week, and Red Ribbon Week, promoting awareness, empathy, and responsible choices.

Family Engagement

This year, we're launching a series of Parent Workshops AKA Parent University to provide families with tools to support academic and personal growth. We're also forming a Family Engagement Council, if you're interested, please connect with your FACE Specialist to get involved.

College & Career Readiness

Our college fairs and career exploration days are in full swing! These experiences help students plan for their futures and make informed decisions about their next steps.

Upcoming Events

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Thanksgiving Break, a wonderful time to come together, celebrate, and reflect on all we're thankful for.

Thank you for being part of our mission to Prepare Students for Life's Challenges and Opportunities!



Ms. Jean-Louis
Supervisor of Student Support

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

MPTCS High School

A heartfelt thank you to all parents who attended Back-to-School Night! Your involvement is vital. Let's stay engaged, connected, and active throughout the school year to support our students' learning, growth, and success every step of the way.

~Principal Snipes



CONGRATS!



We're #1: ThreeHS scholars-Gregory, Hannah, and Jymeer-took 1st place at GameJam @ KHEM FEST2025 with a game design that wowed judges through originality, clarity, and creativity. Shoutout to our science teachers and the 16 MPTCS students who participated.

PAC Academy

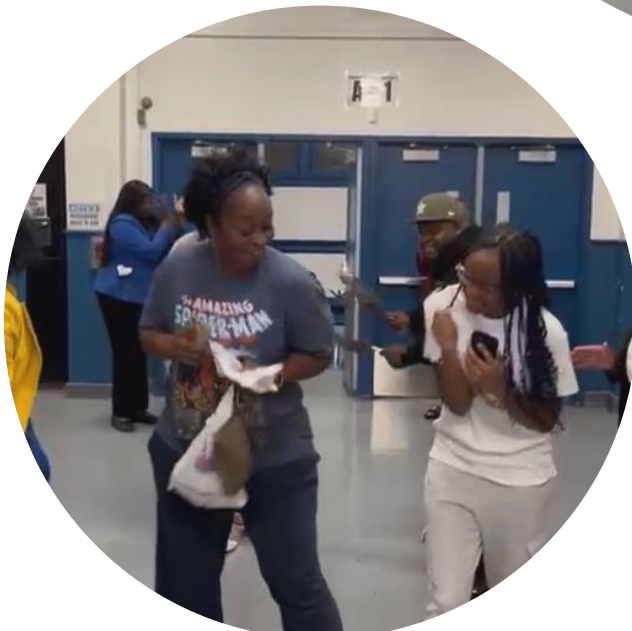
And the ROARs
were heard loud
and clear! 🦁💥
Huge thanks to
our amazing
students and staff
for making Back to
School Night an
unforgettable
experience! 🎉
Can't wait to see
what the year
brings! 🌟



Mandisa Brudey, Principal
Lower Academy PK-4th

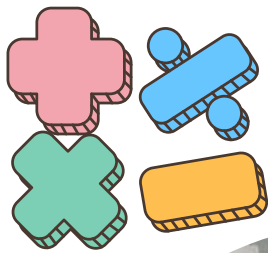


Shimeica Maxwell, Principal
Upper Academy 5th-8th



Sankofa Academy

We had a great Back to School Night!
We're excited to partner with families as we begin a new year of learning, growth, and connection. Thank you for coming and for your continued support in helping our students thrive.
~ Principal Hutchins



STEAM Academy

The STEAM Team shared important information to help our scholars excel during the school year. Thank you so much to all the parents and guardians that made every effort to attend our Back to School Night, it was a great success!

~Principal Silvestre



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING @ THE HIGH SCHOOL



Ms. Douglas



Welcome back, Tigers! I am your new School Social Worker, and I am excited to spend my first year in education with each of you! Have a great 2025-2026 school year!

FUN FACT

I am in the United States Army.
I love coaching basketball.
I love sneakers.

CONTACT ME

BOOK AN APPT



adouglas1@mptcs.org



973-621-0060 ext 5101

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING @ PAC



Mrs. Stackhouse
School Social Worker
Email:
astackhouse@mptcs.org



5th-8th Grade engaging in Suicide Prevention Awareness SEL Lesson



1st Grade engaging in "Feelings of Hope" SEL Lesson



Staff wearing purple and teal shirts to raise awareness for suicide prevention



Kindergarten Grade engaging in "Feelings of Hope" SEL Lesson



3rd Grade engaging in Feelings of Hope SEL Lesson

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING @ SANKOFA



Mrs. Stamps-Moore
Manager of Operations and Culture
973.621.0060,
ext. 6313
Email: zstamps@mptcs.org



This month, our students have deeply engaged in meaningful lessons on Rethink, exploring topics that nurture emotional growth and self-awareness. One highlight has been our lessons on hope, which beautifully aligned with our commitment to honoring Suicide Awareness Week—reminding us all of the power of compassion, connection, and resilience. We've also been discovering the many ways we can express our emotions, and one of our favorite outlets has been art. Through painting, students have found a space to reflect, release, and recharge—proving that creativity can be both healing and empowering. Each brushstroke tells a story of courage, self-expression, and the beauty of hope. This work continues to strengthen our school community as we support the emotional well-being of every student.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING @ STEAM



Ms. Valdez
School Social Worker
973.621.0060,
ext. 2322
Email:
Imontes-valdez@mptcs.org



**Suicide Prevention Week
Presentation**



**Suicide Prevention Week
Presentation**



**Icebreaker for Suicide
Prevention Week
Presentation**



**Kindergarten engaging in "Feelings
of Hope" SEL Lesson**



**Kindergarten engaging in "Feelings
of Hope" SEL Lesson**

MEET THE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNSELORS



Mrs. Fredericks

Caseload: A - Gi

973.621.0060, ext. 5155

Hello Scholars!

I am your School Counselor, serving students with last names A-GI. I want you to know that I truly love my job and am dedicated to supporting each and every one of you. My goal is to help you succeed academically, personally, and professionally.

Please always feel free to stop by my office or reach out if you have any questions, concerns, or just need someone to talk to. I am here to support both students and families, and I want to ensure that you have a clear and achievable plan for after graduation. Whether it's college, career, or other opportunities, I am committed to helping you navigate your path forward. Remember, you are not alone—I'm here to help you succeed every step of the way. I look forward to working with you and supporting your journey!



Ms. Wilson

Caseload: Go-M

973.621.0060, ext. 5104

Hello My Name is Ms. Wilson and I am your school counselor for the 2025-2026 School year. I look forward to meeting you, and always remember Today is always a great day to grow and learn!



Ms. Young

Caseload: N-Z

973.621.0060, ext. 5321

Hi Scholars! I will be the school counselor for students last names N-Z. I am so excited to spend another year engaging & learning with you all.

Please stop by with any questions, comments, or concerns. I will always be here to support you!

COLLEGE & CAREER REMINDERS & UPCOMING EVENTS

 **Virtual FAFSA Session 10/9**

Swarthmore College Information Session 10/17

Rowan University Tour 10/20

Princeton University Tour 10/21

MPTCS College & Career Fair 10/24

University of PA Tour 10/28

MARION P THOMAS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE & CAREER EXPOSURE



FALL 2025 COLLEGE TOURS

- OCTOBER 20, 2025 – ROWAN UNIVERSITY
- OCTOBER 21, 2025– PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
- OCTOBER 28, 2025 – UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
- NOVEMBER 5, 2025 – FELICIAN UNIVERSITY
- NOVEMBER 11, 2025– STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
- NOVEMBER 19, 2025– KEAN UNIVERSITY



FALL 2025 INSTANT DECISION DAY

- NOVEMBER 13, 2025– FELICIAN UNIVERSITY
- DECEMBER 3, 2025– BLOOMFIELD COLLEGE OF MSU
- JANUARY 21, 2026 – RAMAPO COLLEGE
- TBD– STOCKTON UNIVERSITY



FALL 2025 INFO SESSIONS

- OCTOBER 17, 2025 – SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 3, 2025 – BERKELEY COLLEGE
- NOVEMBER 17, 2025 – NJCU
- DECEMBER 10, 2025 – NJIT
- DECEMBER 17, 2025 – RAMAPO COLLEGE



FALL 2025 COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

- OCTOBER 24, 2025 – MPTCHS COLLEGE FAIR
- OCTOBER 9, 2025 @4:30 PM – VIRTUAL FAFSA INFO [SESSION](#)
- NOVEMBER 20, 2025– MALCOLM BERNARD HBCU FAIR
- DECEMBER 18, 2025– FAFSA NIGHT (IN PERSON)



SIGN UP LINKS WILL BE POSTED IN THE STUDENT GOOGLE CLASSROOM!



Marion P Thomas
CHARTER SCHOOL

SPORTS NEWS

**FROM THE VILLAGE ATHLETIC
DEPARTMENT**

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Message from the Executive Director of Athletics
- Game Recaps
- Team Spotlights
- Sportsmanship Corner
- Get Involved!



OCTOBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

As the fall sports season comes to a close, we are proud to say that our coaches, student-athletes, and fans have represented the village very well. Remember, whether you're in the stands or on the field, your support continues to make a difference! Let's continue to promote a positive environment for our coaches and scholar-athletes.

Go Tigers!

Best,

Rashon Mickens, Executive Director of Athletics

GAME RECAPS

Varsity Boys Soccer

On Monday, September 27, 2025, our varsity boys soccer team faced off against Malcolm X Shabazz High School. It was a hard fought contest, ending in a 5-0 victory in favor of Malcolm X Shabazz High. Our varsity boys soccer team is led by coaches, Prince Benjamin and Dwight Palmer.

Middle School Flag Football

On Saturday, October 4, 2025, The STEAM Academy Flag Football Team played in a close contest against a talented KIPP Bold Academy team. Our scholar/athletes competed and showed great sportsmanship throughout the contest. Unfortunately, our team came up short in a 4-2 loss. Well done Tigers!!! We continue to show improvement.

TEAM SPOTLIGHTS

Boys Varsity Soccer

Our boys varsity soccer team has entered their second year as an official member of the New Jersey, Group 1 section 2 conference.

Middle School Flag Football

Our Flag Football Team is ready for action and will compete on the Charter School Athletic League for the 2025-2026 season. Let's Go Tigers!!



S P O R T S M A N S H I P C O R N E R

A huge shoutout to our fans for their amazing support at last week's games! Your cheers and encouragement help motivate our athletes.

Remember, it's not just about winning—let's keep the spirit of sportsmanship alive!



G E T I N V O L V E D !



We're always looking for volunteers to help with events, coaching, team parents, and more. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Executive Director Mickens at rmickens@mptcs.org

Thank you for supporting Marion P. Thomas athletics! We're excited for a great month ahead. Let's Go Tigers!



MARION P. THOMAS CHARTER SCHOOL
PAC ACADEMY
28 BURNET ST. NEWARK, NJ

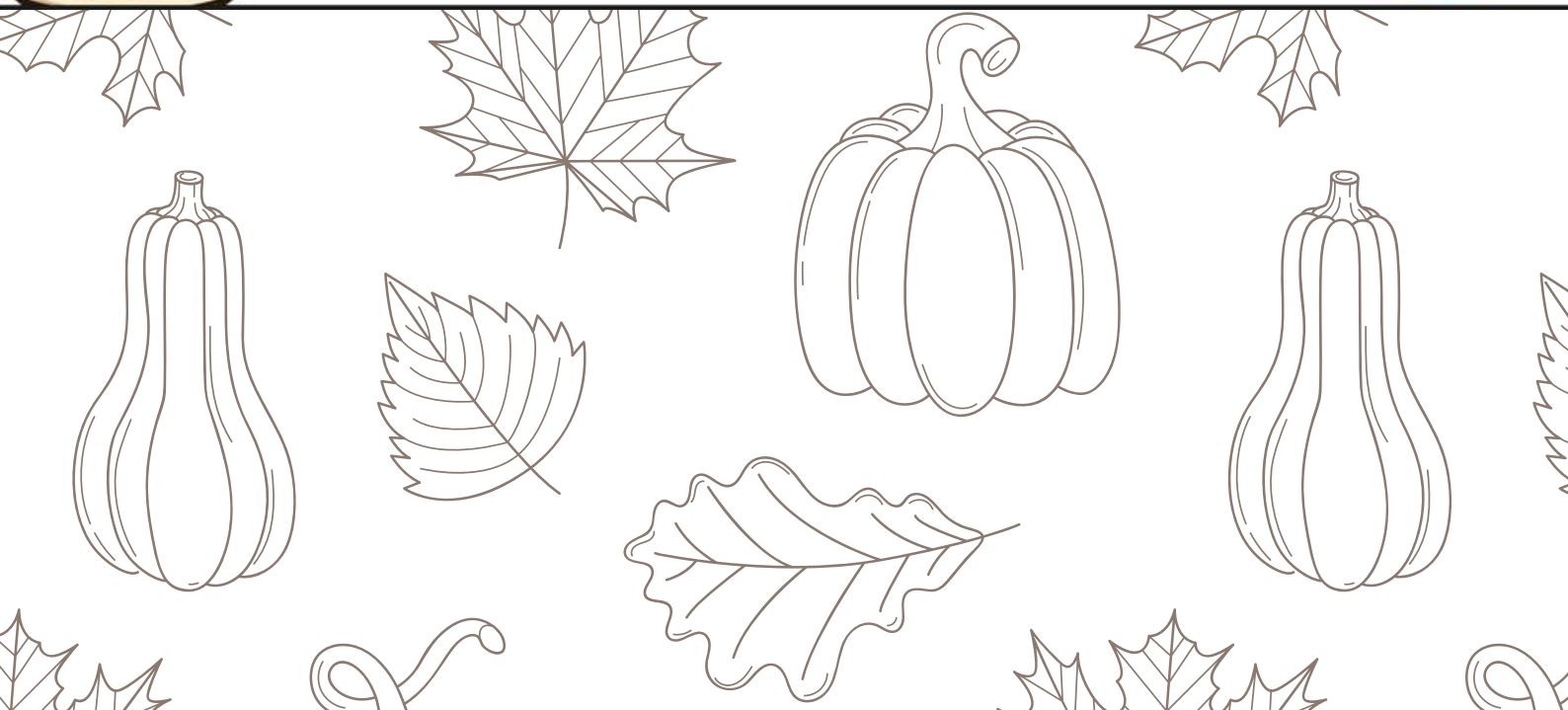
NOVEMBER 2025



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						1
2	3 TEST 4-8th NJSLA Field Testing	4 Parent Engagement Council Meeting	5 TEST 4-8th NJSLA Field Testing Food Drive & Dress Down Day	6 NO SCHOOL	7 NO SCHOOL	8
9	10 Stack of books	11 Scholastic Book Fair	12 Veterans Day	13 Village Celebration	14 Half Day Dismissal 12:30pm	15
16	17	18 Parent University Meeting	19	20 Fall Retreat Cap & Gown Photos	21 Half Day Dismissal 12:30pm	22
23	24	National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week				25
30		26 Multi- cultural Potluck Celebration No After Care	27 Happy THANKS Giving	28 NO SCHOOL	29	30

11/3 National Author's Day Observed
11/3-7 National School Psychology Week
11/17-21 National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week
11/21 Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Day
11/3 NJSLA/NJGPA Adaptive Field Test (Grades 4-10)
11/5 NJSLA/NJGPA Adaptive Field Test (Grades 4-10)
11/26 End of Trimester 1 (PreK-8)
11/4/25 Pre K / 3:30pm / K-8 / 5:30pm
Parent Engagement Council Meeting
11/8/25
Thanksgiving Food Drive & Dress Down Day
11/10-14/25 Scholastic Book Fair
11/11/25 Cap/Gown/Ring Measurement
11/14 Village Celebration
11/19/25 5:30 PM
Parent University Meeting
11/20/25 ECAC Meeting
11/21/25 Fall Retreat/Cap & Gown Photos



STEAM ACADEMY

NOVEMBER 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Weekly Rotation: 6 th to 8 th -Week A 3 rd to 5 th Week B						1
2 6 th to 8 th Week B 3 rd to 5 th Week A	3 National Author's Day Observed NJSLA Field Testing (Grades 4-8)	4 Chit Chat w/ Principal Silvestre 9am LET'S TALK Family Engagement Council Meeting	5 NJSLA Field Testing (Grades 4-8) MPTCS Dress Down Day & Thanksgiving Drive	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8
9 6 th to 8 th Week C 3 rd to 5 th Week B	10 Zolnier Gown & Gown Halloween 8th grade/Kindergarten/PMA	11 Book Fair	12 Book Fair	13 WORLD KINDNESS DAY	14 Book Fair	15
16 6 th to 8 th Week A 3 rd to 5 th Week A	17	18	19 Parent University /Incorporating Learning Through Play and SEL for Paarents in-Person	20	21 Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Day	22
23/ 30 6 th to 8 th Week B 3 rd to 5 th Week B	24	25 2nd annual Thanksgiving Drive	26 End of Trimester 1 (PreK-8)	27 Thanksgiving Break	28	29

NOTE

11/3-National Author's Day Observed
11/3-7 | National School Psychology Week
11/17-21 | National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week
11/21 | Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Day
11/6-11-7 School Closed
11/11-11/15 | Book Fair
11/13-World Kindness Day



November 2025

Marion P. Thomas Charter High School



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 	3 	4 	5 	6 	7 	8
9	10	National School Psychology Week				
		11 	12	13 	14 	15
16	17 	18 	19 	20 	21 	22
23/ 30	24 	National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week				
		25 	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ Day	27 School Closed	28	29

National Native American Heritage Month

- 11/3: Fall Photos
- 11/3: Berkeley College Info Session 12:30-2:30 PM (Blackbox)
- 11/3 & 5: NJSLA Field Test (Grades 9-10)
- 11/4: Election Day & Student Council Elections (Grade Level Convocations 9-12)
- 11/3-7: National School Psychology Week
- 11/5: End of Quarter 1
- 11/5: Felician University Tour 9-3 PM
- 11/5: MPTCS Dress Down Day & Thanksgiving Drive
- 11/6-7: School Closed (students & teachers)
- 11/10: Quarter 2 begins
- 11/11-12: NJGPA Field Test (Grades 11-12)
- 11/11: Stockton University Tour 9-3 PM
- 11/11: Veterans Day
- 11/13: Instant Decision Day (Felician University) 9-11 AM
- 11/13: Parent Teacher Conferences: 1:30 - 4:00 PM & 5:00 - 7:00 PM (Half Day students)
- 11/14: Attendance Pizza Party
- 11/17: NJCU Info Session 10 - 11 AM (Blackbox)
- 11/19: Kean University Tour 10 - 3 PM
- 11/19: Parent University 5:30 PM
- 11/20: Malcolm Benard College Fair 10 - 2 PM
- 11/20: Virtual Open House
- 11/21: Substitute Teacher's Day
- 11/24: NJCU Info Session 10 - 11 AM
- 11/25: Thanksgiving Food Drive
- 11/26: Half Day (students & staff)
- 11/27-28: School Closed (Thanksgiving Break)

SANKOFA ACADEMY

NOVEMBER2025

MS. FATIMA HUTCHINS
Principal

MS. SHARON STAMPS MOORE
Manager of Operations and Culture

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

NATIONAL KATIE ABERNETHY MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Fun Fact: The Sankofa Museum is the largest museum in the country and houses an extensive collection of art and artifacts from around the world. It is known for its impressive Sankofa collection and its interactive science exhibits.					1
2	3	4 Family Engagement Council 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM National School Psychology Week	5 MPCG Green Group Day & Thanksgiving Drive National School Psychology Week	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8
9	10	11	12	13 Community Conversations: Family Meeting 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM	14 Village Carnival on Reading Celebration 7 PM & 8:30 PM EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30 PM	15
16	17 Sankofa Academy Open House 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week	18 National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week	19 Parent Workshop "Learn, Play, Grow Together!" 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week	20 CCAC Virtual Meeting 6:00 - 8:30 PM National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week	21 Reading Celebration 2nd & 3rd Grade EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30 PM	22
23	24	25	26 SA Thanksgiving 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM End of Semester 1 (Final Day) EARLY DISMISSAL 12:30 PM	27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED	29





MPTCS
PARENT UNIVERSITY

WHY ATTEND PARENT WORKSHOPS?

Research reveals that when parents are engaged in their child's education, it fosters a thriving learning environment that leads to improved academic outcomes and well-rounded personal growth.

By attending our diverse range of workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions, you'll gain valuable insights into:

- ◆ Effective communication strategies with educators and your child.
- ◆ Building a supportive and nurturing home learning environment.
- ◆ Understanding modern teaching methods and curriculum trends.
- ◆ Navigating challenges such as social media and mental health awareness.
- ◆ Strengthening parent-child relationships through shared learning experiences.
- ◆ How to successfully advocate for your child.



PARENT UNIVERSITY

LEARN. PLAY. GROW. TOGETHER!

Join us for an engaging parent workshop that combines fun and purpose! Learn hands-on strategies to transform everyday moments into learning opportunities for your child, enhancing academic and social-emotional skills **for grades PreK - 12.**

What You'll Learn:

- Creative learning through play at home
 - Ways to boost self-awareness, empathy, and resilience
 - Tools for fostering positive behavior and emotional growth
- Together, families can play, learn, and grow! ❤️

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

TIME: 5:30PM - 6:30PM

LOCATION: RESPECTIVE CAMPUS

SAVE YOUR SPOT! ~~RSVP~~ TODAY!



Student Support Services

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR NEWSLETTER TEAM

CENTRAL OFFICE

**Vanessa
Jean-Louis**



Supervisor of Student Support
vjeanlouis@mptcs.org@mptcs.org

**Michele
Griffin**



Managing Director Community Relations
mgriffin@mptcs.org

**Rashon
Mickens**



Executive Director
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FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

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Munoz**



Family and Community Engagement (FACE)
Specialist
STEAM Academy
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**Lawana
Powell**



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