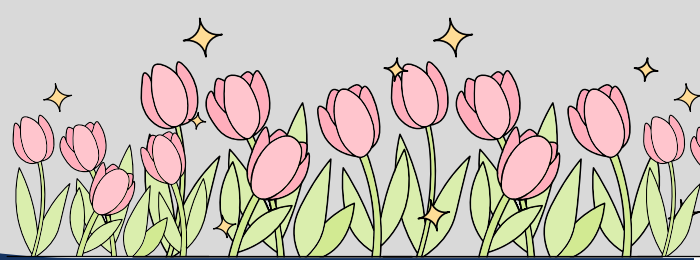


March



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MPTCS STUDENT SUPPORT NEWSLETTER



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



MPTCS
STUDENT SUPPORT
NEWSLETTER

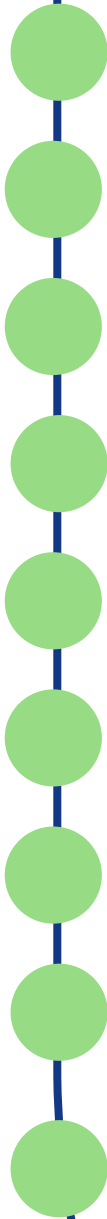


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Welcome

Dear Village Community,

Welcome to our March edition of the Student Support Newsletter. As we move into the spring season, I am reminded of the powerful systems of care and collaboration that support our students each day.

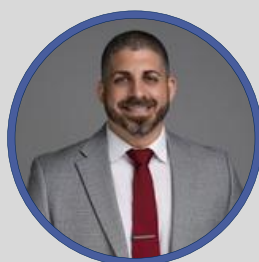
March is Social Worker Appreciation Month, and I want to take a moment to recognize and thank our school social workers; Ms. Douglas, Ms. Montes-Valdez and Mrs. Stackhouse and child study team social workers; Mr. Kelly and Ms. Renko for their unwavering dedication to students and families. Their expertise, compassion, and advocacy are essential to ensuring our students receive the academic, social, and emotional support they need to thrive.

I would also like to celebrate the tremendous turnout at our recent All Schools Fair. The strong family engagement and community presence were a testament to the collective pride in our schools and the supportive environments we work so hard to create.

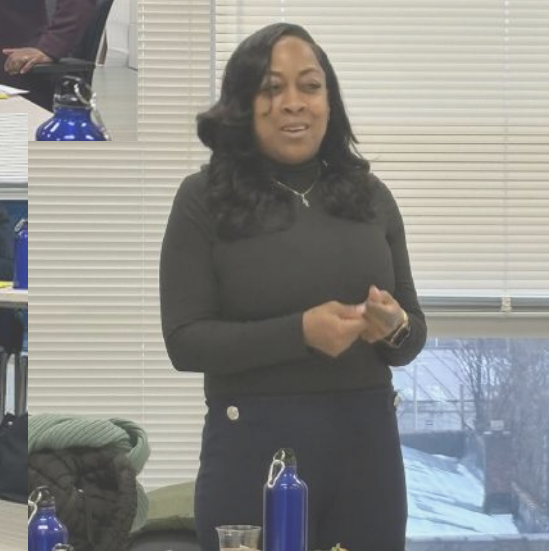
As always, this newsletter is designed to provide resources, updates, and highlights from our student support systems across the district. Thank you for your continued commitment to meeting the diverse needs of every learner and for the care you bring to this work each day.

Together, we will continue building environments where all students feel supported, valued, and empowered to succeed.

With appreciation,



Dr. Abbaleo
Assistant Superintendent



Happy School Social Worker Appreciation Month to our Village Social Workers



Ms. Douglas



Mrs. Stackhouse



Ms. Renko



Ms. Valdez



Mr. Kelly

Thank you for all that you do for your scholars and school community, the work that you do is truly invaluable!

I APPRECIATE YOU



Thank You!



**Clear Lungs.
Clear Minds.
Bright Futures!**

Campaign Week 1: March 9 - March 13, 2026

Campaign Week 2: March 16 - March 20, 2026

Join us for two exciting weeks focused on making positive choices and standing strong against drugs and vaping. Together, we can create a safe, healthy, and successful environment for all campuses!

Student Support Services

HIGH SCHOOL

marion p. thomas
★
CHARTER SCHOOL

THE FAMILY ZONE



HIGH SCHOOL FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Principal Snipes and VP MacIntosh engaged families interested in applying to our high school at our All Schools Fair. If you have friends or family looking for a high school for their teen, advise them to visit mptcs.org/enroll.



Black History is Our History: Parent, Ms. Williams, Informs Dean James of her xperience integrating a high school in N.C. [Click Here to See and Listen.](#)



HS DANCERS AND THE CULINARY TEAM DISPLAYED THEIR TALENT AT OUR ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY SHOW.



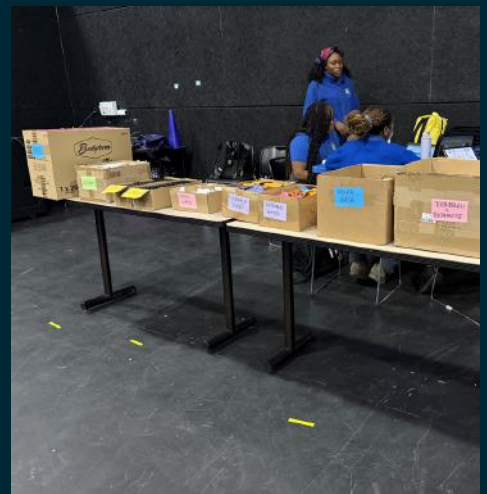
THE PRESIDENT OF THE HS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL, MS. JOHNSON, PROUDLY REPRESENTED THE HS AT THE MEET AND GREET WITH SUPERINTENDENT MINCY.

ALL ABOUT SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING HIGH SCHOOL



WINTER HYGIENE INITIATIVE

This past month, scholars participated in a grade-level, gender-specific convocation regarding hygiene awareness. Not only did scholars leave the presentation with more knowledge, but they also were able to create their own hygiene bags that consisted of deodorant, toothbrush/toothpaste, body lotion, body soap, sanitary wipes and other necessary hygiene items.



MS. DOUGLAS, HIGH SCHOOL, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER



SCAN ME



TOP CONTRIBUTORS

- ★ Briana Sime
\$ 157,500
- ★ Shaniya Thomas
\$ 90,000

4,000,000
3,500,000
3,000,000
2,500,000
2,000,000



COLLEGE & CAREER

COMMUNITY SERVICE & UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS

UPCOMING COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Please ensure to check in with your teachers and staff members for available community service opportunities within the school! If you need community service verification sheets - please see Ms. Young!

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

GOYA Scholarship Program 3/3

New Jersey First Generation Scholarship 4/9

NJ/NY First Generation Scholarship 4/14



SCHOOL COUNSELORS:
MRS. FREDERICKS, MS. WILSON, AND MS. YOUNG





VILLAGE SPORTS



Marion P. Thomas
CHARTER SCHOOL

SPORTS NEWS



FROM THE VILLAGE ATHLETIC
DEPARTMENT



THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS



- Message from the Executive Director of Athletics
- Team Spotlight
- Athletic Requirements
- Sportsmanship Corner
- Get Involved!



MARCH 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

As we close out the winter sports season, I want to congratulate all of the student-athletes and coaches on a job well done throughout the sports season. Our student-athletes continue to excel on and off the sports playing field. We will continue to build up our athletic department with adding more sports teams in the near future. What are some sports programs you would like to see in the village? Please reach out to me to offer suggestions. I can be reached at rmickens@mptcs.org.

Best,


Rashon Mickens, Executive Director of Athletics

TEAM SPOTLIGHTS

Basketball in the Village: Our varsity boys and girls basketball team wrapped up their season with wins. Our boys defeated College Achieve Central, and girls defeated Abraham Clark High School. We have high hopes for next season as the girls will return all their players. On the other, our boys will be losing three seniors to graduation, but look to rebound from their gained experience this season. The PAC Academy girls and boys basketball team had their first win of the season against Middlesex County Charter School. The STEAM Academy boys basketball team lost a close contest to KIPP Justice Academy. All teams will resume play on March 4, 2026. We are hoping all teams qualify to the Charter School Athletic League (CSAL) playoffs.

Track & Field and Cheerleading in the Village: Our varsity In-Door Track-Team competed in three meets this year. The Meet of Armory in Jersey City, NJ and two more meets at Toms River High School North. Our runners used these opportunities to gain valuable experiences to better prepare them for future team meets. The Cheer Squad at all schools are doing great work and continue to keep school spirit alive at all of our events. Kudos to our coaches for their commitment and hard work while working with our scholar-athletes to ensure success.

ATHLETIC REQUIREMENTS



The Marion P. Thomas Charter School Athletic Department has administered a new behavior and academic contract for athletes eligibility. For more information on the newly adopted athletic eligibility requirements you can visit the [Marion P. Thomas Athletic Page](#).

SPORTSMANSHIP CORNER

Thank you for the support of our amazing fans and school community. Your cheers and encouragement help motivate our student-athletes. Remember, it's not just about winning—let's keep the spirit of sportsmanship alive!

GET INVOLVED!

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!



PAC ACADEMY

THE FAMILY ZONE



PAC FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEBRUARY @ PAC

A lot of fun and excitement at PAC this month

- Pre-K Clothing Study Fashion Show/Transition to Kindergarten Meeting
- Meet & Greet w/Superintendent Mincy
- All Schools Fair/Parent University (Stronger Connections)
- Valentine's Day Jammy Jam/D9 Stepshow Presentation



ALL ABOUT SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING PAC ACADEMY



SCHOLARS ENGAGING IN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT HYGIENE WITHIN SEL FRAMEWORK HIGHLIGHTS HOW PERSONAL CARE ROUTINES BUILD SELF-AWARENESS, SELF-MANAGEMENT, AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS.



**RANDOM ACTS O KINDNESS
WEEK SHOWING GRATITUDE**



**RANDOM ACTS O KINDNESS
WEEK LEARNING THE
IMPORTANCE OF SELF-
COMPASSION**



**RANDOM ACTS O
KINDNESS WEEK
SHOWING GRATITUDE**



MRS. STACKHOUSE, PAC ACADEMY, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

SANKOFA ACADEMY



OUR S.O.S. B.U.S.
HELP US SOARR...

OUR S.O.S. B.U.S.
HELP US SOARR...



THE FAMILY ZONE



SANKOFA FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS: **FAMILY, LEARNING & COMMUNITY**

This month, our K-2 scholars and families came together for a series of academic parent workshops open to the entire community every Tuesday. Each grade brought something special:

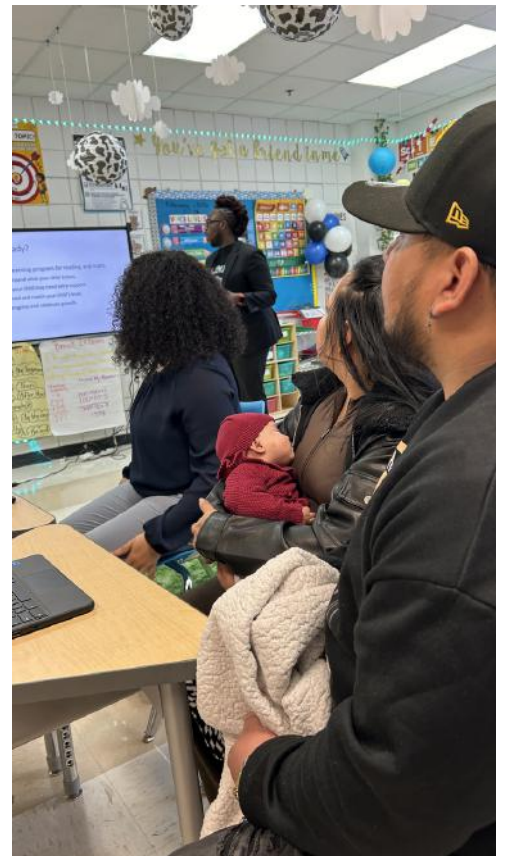
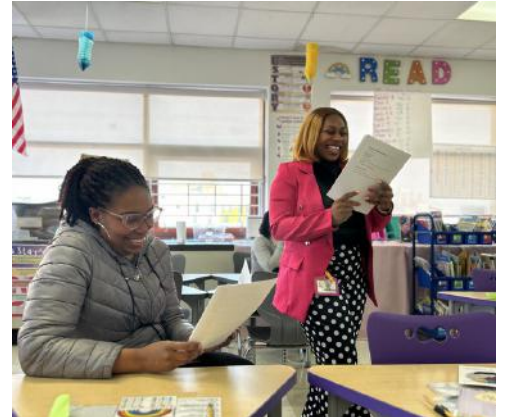
- Kindergarten: Creative Writers' Workshop
 - 1st Grade: Reading with Purpose
 - 2nd Grade: Deep Dive: Understanding i-Ready
- These interactive sessions equipped families with real tools and strategies to support learning at home—because when families and schools partner, scholars soar!

We also had an amazing showing at the All Schools Fair, where every MPTCS school represented our network with pride and invited the community to see what makes our village so special. We're growing the village—one scholar at a time!

To close out Black History Month, our PreK scholars stole the spotlight with a joyful fashion show, strutting the runway in style and confidence.

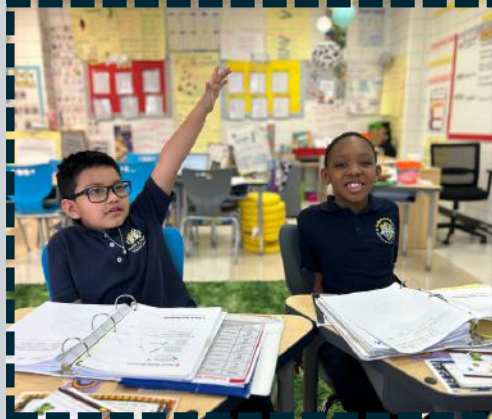
♦ **Friendly reminder: The Newark Common App is open through March 16th!**

We can't wait to see what March brings—stay tuned for more moments of joy, learning, and connection!



ALL ABOUT SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SANKOFA ACADEMY



BLACK HISTORY MONTH : BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

This February, our K-2 scholars celebrated Black History Month by strengthening their hearts and minds through our SEL curriculum, ReThink! Scholars engaged in meaningful, age-appropriate conversations about what healthy relationships look like — identifying traits like kindness, respect, trust, honesty, empathy, and good communication.

They also explored the importance of boundaries, learning how to express their comfort with personal space and conversation preferences, and how to honor the boundaries of others. Through interactive lessons, role-play, and thoughtful discussion, our scholars practiced using their voices to say what they need and listening with care to others.

We're proud to see our youngest leaders growing into respectful, confident community members — *building strong relationships one conversation at a time!* 🌱



MINI TIP 1: NAME THE FEELINGS

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS DAILY. ASK, "HOW DID THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?" HELPING SCHOLARS NAME FEELINGS BUILDS EMPATHY AND STRENGTHENS COMMUNICATION.



MINI TIP 2: MODEL RESPECT & KINDNESS

SHOW HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AT HOME BY LISTENING, USING KIND WORDS, AND TAKING TURNS SPEAKING. KIDS LEARN WHAT THEY SEE!



MINI TIP 3: BOUNDARIES ARE OKAY

ENCOURAGE SCHOLARS TO SAY WHAT THEY'RE COMFORTABLE WITH AND TO RESPECT OTHERS' BOUNDARIES. CLEAR, KIND COMMUNICATION BUILDS CONFIDENCE AND SAFETY.



MRS. STAMPS-MOORE, SANKOFA ACADEMY
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS & CULTURE



STEAM ACADEMY

THE FAMILY ZONE



STEAM FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PARENT & CHILD DANCE

In a parent-child dance, the parent's presence serves as a powerful living blueprint for a child's social and emotional development. By stepping onto the floor together, you shift from being a "spectator" to an "active participant" in their world



Mrs. Joseph and Alexandra Korieocha



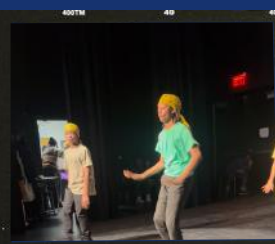
Ms Lora' Ashley's mom



Mr. Imoka and Chimnecherem



Mrs. Joseph and Alexandra Korieocha



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WE WANT TO EXTEND OUR SINCEREST GRATITUDE TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED AND SUPPORTED OUR BLACK HISTORY SHOW. YOUR PRESENCE AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION MADE THE EVENT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS. SEEING OUR COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE SUCH A RICH AND POWERFUL HERITAGE WAS TRULY MOVING. YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS MEAN THE WORLD TO US. THIS CELEBRATION OF HISTORY DOESN'T END HERE; IT IS A JOURNEY WE CONTINUE EVERY DAY.

STUDENT COUNCIL
AND
PARENT VOLUNTEER
SUPPORT THE CANDY GRAM
ON FEBREUARY 13TH

PARENT UNIVERSITY
PARENT WORKSHOP
WAS A SUCCESS 57
FAMILIES
ATTENDEND

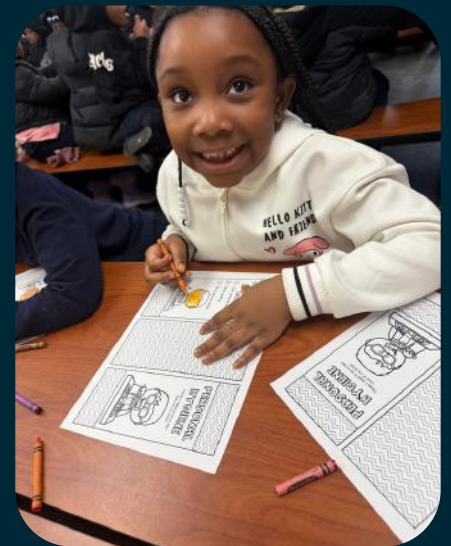


ALL ABOUT SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING STEAM ACADEMY



HYGIENE INITIATIVE

During the month of February, scholars engaged in age-appropriate conversations about personal hygiene, emphasizing how consistent self-care routines promote self-awareness, responsible decision-making, and mutual respect.



MS. VALDEZ, STEAM ACADEMY, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

RESOURCES

2NDFLOOR

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. ANYTIME. ANYWHERE.

App Launch Social Media Toolkit

The new 2NDFLOOR app is here! 2NDFLOOR is a free, confidential, and anonymous mental health support app available 24/7/365 to New Jersey youth and young adults.

2NDFLOOR provides a forum in which adolescents are empowered to take control of, and improve, their emotional, mental, physical, psychological, and social well-being. Now in its 20th year of existence, 2NDFLOOR remains New Jersey's only multi-service program geared toward 10-to-24-year-olds. The new 2NDFLOOR app consists of **one-on-one chat and call functions** that allow youth to connect to counselors any time, day or night, to discuss any issue that they are facing. Also included is an **online community message board**, in which youth can anonymously post and respond to messages on a wide array of mental health topics.

Please join us in spreading the word!



**GIVE YOURSELF A
SECOND
WHEN YOU NEED
SOMEONE TO
TALK TO**

2NDFLOOR
SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. ANYTIME. ANYWHERE.

DOWNLOAD THE APP FOR 24/7 SUPPORT:
Chat anonymously with professional counselors about whatever is on your mind with the all new 2NDFLOOR™ app or by texting or calling us at 888.222.2228. It only takes a second to get help.



If you or someone you know is struggling or having thoughts of suicide, call 988 or chat at <http://988lifeline.org>. In life-threatening situations or emergencies, call 911.
Funded by the NJ Department of Children and Families.



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.



ESS & MPTCS's Parent University presents...



STRONGER CONVERSATIONS X STRONGER CONNECTIONS

Stronger conversations start at home. This parent workshop offers practical strategies to improve communication, deepen connection, and support positive parent-child relationships.

Session 2



RSVP

SCAN ME



When: Wednesday,
March 11, 2026

Time: 5:30 P.M. - 6:15 P.M.

Where: Virtual

Zoom Meeting ID#:
869 0011 8578

Passcode: MPTCS



Student Support Services

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR NEWSLETTER TEAM

CENTRAL OFFICE

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**Lawana
Powell**



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**Brianna
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