

# THE MONROE JEWEL

*The latest news and updates from Monroe High School*



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## Welcome Back!

The 2018-2019 school year is now underway! We started the school year off with our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Kick-off events on September 8th at our newly renovated building. Thank you to all members of the Monroe Family who joined in the celebration!

We would like to welcome all of our new and returning families back for another great school year here at James Monroe High School. As a reminder, we have returned home to our Alexander Street location. We look forward to another year of learning, growing, and celebrating as we continue to work towards our vision of being “The jewel of the city”.

As a Community School, our vision of being “the jewel of the city” extends beyond academic growth of our students and applies also to opportunities and supports for our families and community.

## Celebrations

We have had a lot to celebrate here at Monroe over the past month. In October, we held our Pep Rally after a fantastic week of homecoming events. Both students and staff showed their Monroe school spirit.

In addition to the Pep Rally, we also had the Hispanic Heritage Assembly. During the assembly, we had the opportunity to acknowledge our English Language Learners who have achieved biliteracy. We also celebrated the culture, music, and diversity of Hispanic heritage.



## Ways to Get Involved

This year we are proud to begin our Student Council and Parent Ambassadors Partnership, both of which held elections in early October. These groups will provide our students and parents with the opportunity to share their perspectives and engage with the school community. Both groups are dedicated to the school and the community - we look forward to seeing the positive impact these groups will have on our school community.

In October, Monroe also launched its Parent Academy! The parent academy will be providing our families with a wide range of workshops and events. This month workshops are focused on Job Readiness and Computer Basics. If you have not taken advantage of our Parent Academy, please give a call!



## Parent Ambassadors



We are lucky to have two new Parent Ambassadors at Monroe. We have Janet Irizarry acting as our President and Lacreetia Joyner acting as our Vice President. These women are both invested in Monroe and are active members of the Monroe community as they serve on our school based planning team and our community engagement team. They will also be helping to gather parent feedback and organize workshops and events in the future. We are looking forward to working with you!

PRESIDENT - JANET IRIZARRY    VICE PRESIDENT - LACREETIA JOYNER

## Community Partners

We have many fantastic community partners here at Monroe and we are excited to add Next Level and Beyond to that list. NLB will be working with our scholar athletes offering tutoring services, physical training, and mentoring opportunities. Tutoring will take place after school from 3:45-4:45 with physical training following until 6pm. Talk to you coach or counselor to get signed up. Spaces will fill quickly.



## Transitions

Please join us in welcoming our new Community School Site Coordinator, Ms. Lauren McKoy! She will be a wonderful addition to our leadership team and an asset to our students and families. Ms. McKoy has been a member of the Monroe Family since 2012 working as a classroom teacher, instructional coach, and testing coordinator. She has been with the Rochester City School District for 13 years and brings the experience gained over the years to her new role. She is committed to continuing to serve the Monroe Community.

## Upcoming Events

- Parent Academy Computer Classes held every Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm in the Family Center at Monroe
- November 2nd Alumni Volleyball game at Monroe at 4 pm
- November 17th National Family Engagement Day at Monroe



# From the Principal

Dear Monroe Families and Community Partners,

James Monroe High School received the preliminary letter from NYSED (New York State Education Department) indicating that we made “Demonstrable Improvement” for the 2017-2018 school year. As a school in Receivership status, we are responsible for showing evidence of progress in the areas of academics and safety. The school has 18 targets that measure growth in different academic and safety areas. We successfully met 12 targets. We are elated to inform you that we have made Demonstrable Improvement for three years in succession; however, we realize that we still have much work ahead of us. We can't do it alone. We need your support as parents and community partners.

The biggest challenge we face is attendance. Every minute and every day counts! If the students are present, and in class every period every day they will graduate. Please help us!

I am proud of the progress we continue to make, but I am not satisfied. I know we can do more. Please join us for our of Community Engagement meetings to be part of the planning and discussion of how to continue to keep Monroe moving forward.

Community Engagement Team meetings:

November 19, 2018	March 18, 2019
December 17, 2018	April 22, 2019
January 28, 2019	May 20, 2019
February 25, 2019	June 17, 2019

*All meetings take place in the library from 5 pm - 6 pm*

Your Principal,

Respectfully,

Sandra Chevalier- Blackman