



# All City High Newsletter

175 Martin Street  
Rochester, New York 14605  
585-458-2110  
Principal: Armando Ramirez

*"All City: Where students finish what they've started."*

*Featuring: Jessica Jamison*

## Student Transportation



### Flex Pass Usage

#### Message from Maria Mello Dupre, Transportation

*Due to the need for flexibility for our students, they are receiving Flex Passes. It is extremely important that our students understand that this is a privilege. If students abuse the pass or are caught being disruptive on RTS buses or at the Transit Center, the Flex Pass will be revoked and a restricted pass issued. If future problems occur, the student may lose transportation privileges all together.*

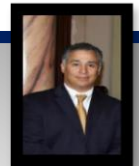
**Flex Pass – Green Passes:** are issued to students in approved partnership programs or students on an altered schedule outside the hours the GRAY PASS is valid. **PASS IS VALID AT ANY RTS BUS STOP FROM 5:30 AM TO 7:00PM. ALL PASSES ARE VALID MON-FRI WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION ONLY.**

**RTS Passes are SMART CARDS. PLEASE DO NOT PUNCH HOLES ANYWHERE ON THIS CARD AS IT WILL DISABLE IT!**

### **REPLACEMENT RTS PASSES:**

Any student who has lost his/her RTS pass is entitled to one replacement at no cost. The replacement must be requested by the school by e-mailing the student's name, id number and school name to [Pedro.Velazquez@rcsdk12.org](mailto:Pedro.Velazquez@rcsdk12.org). **Schools are responsible for reporting the lost pass the same day they are informed of the loss.** Any additional passes lost will require the parent to personally go to 835 Hudson Ave, Transportation Office between 7:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. and pay \$2.00 to obtain a new card.

### Words from our Leader



All City High School and its staff is excited to welcome scholars and their families. This is the place "where students come to finish what they have started." As the Principal of All City I am proud to welcome all the new faces and I look forward to another successful school year. Over the last 4 yrs. All City has graduated almost 900 scholars. This has not been an easy task for teacher or students. Our community has experience many hardships and tragedies along the way. Our community is resilient and determine to achieve the dream of graduation. Just remember you are not in this alone. In order to achieve your goals, it is important to follow these few recommendations:

1. Come to school everyday
2. Arrive on time and participate in your education
3. Respect yourself and the All City staff
4. Embrace each day and welcome the unexpected
5. Remember you can do this!!



During **National Hispanic Heritage Month** we recognize the contributions made and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate their heritage and culture.

**Hispanic Heritage Month**, whose roots go back to 1968, begins each year on September 15, the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico, Chile and Belize also celebrate their independence days during this period and Columbus Day (Día de la Raza) is October 12.

The term Hispanic or Latino, refers to Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. On the 2010 Census form, people of Spanish, Hispanic and/or Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin."

Share in this special annual tribute by learning and celebrating the generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society.

<http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.org/>

## What is All City?

All City High is a non-traditional program school offering students in grades 10-12 between the ages of 17-21 years old an opportunity to learn in a supportive High School environment, earn credits, and in some cases accelerate graduation. Students are able to learn in a supportive educational environment with teachers and staff who are empathetic to students' needs.

## WHY are scholars at All City?



By Mr. Kedley

Nietzsche said, "If we have our own why in life, we shall get along with almost any how."

Students who come to All City High all have a reason why they have come to this school. Sometimes life hasn't worked out the way that they thought it might, but they are resilient and keep striving to graduate.

Students were asked to watch a short video and respond to the question, "What is your Why?" The goal of this was to have students identify their reasons for continuing to work towards graduation.

I am here every day and attending All City because I know I have the potential to graduate, and turn my life around. Not only for me but for my soon to come son. Also I am here because I want to be something great in life, and without a high school diploma, how is that possible?

Mercy Batten

I dropped out about 2 years ago, when I was pregnant with my son, all I did was work. I thought that if I went back to school, I would be working less hours, meaning I would be making less money. I was the only one providing for him. Then this year in June my best friend, Crystal Barnes, with a child of her own, walked across that stage. After that I knew I could do it. Now I'm 4 months pregnant with my 2<sup>nd</sup> child. I must graduate for them.

Amarah Swift

I'm here because I had a rough couple of years, and school became unimportant to me. But I took my life back, and settling for a GED was just not an option.

Jasmine

My mom died January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. She was a victim of murder. That broke my heart. It was hard to focus on school. When I got to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, I wanted to quit. I wanted to come here to get, not a second, but a third chance at graduation. I know struggle all too well. It's now my turn to find success and that starts with graduating in January, thanks to the Principal and staff of All City.

Daz'onna Wilson

I'm here because since my ninth grade year I never really taken school seriously to the point where I had to repeat the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. During my high school years, I've began to get a job and my mother and father spoke to me and said "The Real World is more difficult if you do not have an EDUCATION. When you're on your own after H.S. life will challenge you!" I had a mindset that I can't give up, it's not worth it, and I told myself "you have potential to succeed in life. Catch up and make sure you finish!"

Jquan Owens

I am here to graduate with my class not late. I am here to let my mom know that I can make it without dropping out. I am here to break my family chain of drop outs. I'm here to make me proud of myself to let myself know that just because someone tells me I can't make it on time or ever graduate just because my family are based on dropouts doesn't mean it's true. I am here to make a difference on my life and my family life. I want to be able to show my nieces and nephews my diploma and old progress reports to let them know just because your parent don't make it doesn't mean you can't because if you try your hardest eventually you will be up there on that state prouder than you've ever been.

Sara McBride

I choose to come to All City High School because I seen that they notice the shine in you. This program moves things faster for you because they want everyone to be successful and graduate. The school that I came from I felt like I wasn't getting any help or I wasn't getting the grades or credit that I deserved. This school is not too big or too crowded and you can just feel the love as soon as you walk in the doors. I believe that coming to All City was the best choice I made because they welcomed me with open arms.

Akkia Jordan

Each newsletter a different school will be featured to showcase student contributions. Stay tuned to see which school will be our first this year.

## In Memory of Jessica Jamison

### In Loving Memory



### Coping with Grief

By Ms. Morelle and Mr. Trzcinski

Losing someone or something you love or care deeply about is very painful. You may experience all kinds of difficult emotions and it may feel like the pain and sadness you're experiencing will never let up. These are normal reactions to a significant loss. But while there is no right or wrong way to grieve, there are healthy ways to cope with the pain that, in time, can renew you and permit you to move on.

### What is grief?

Grief is a natural response to loss. It's the emotional suffering you feel when something or someone you love is taken away. The more significant the loss, the more intense the grief will be. You may associate grief with the death of a loved one—which is often the cause of the most intense type of grief—but any loss can cause grief, including:

- |                                         |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Relationship breakup                    | Death of a pet                               |
| Losing a job                            | Disappointment in not achieving a major goal |
| Loss of financial stability             | A loved one's serious illness                |
| Incarceration of someone you care about | Loss of a friendship                         |
| Eviction or house fire                  | Loss of safety after a trauma                |

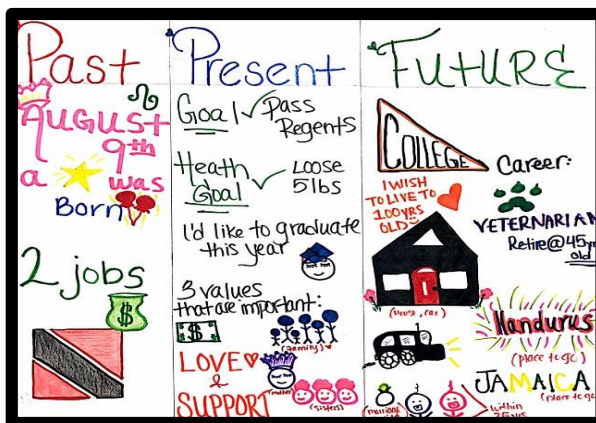
Everyone grieves differently. Grieving is a personal and highly individual experience. It's normal to feel sad, numb, or angry following a loss. If you are experiencing any of these emotions following a loss, it may help to know that your reaction is natural and that you'll heal in time.

If you feel like it would be helpful to talk to someone in school, you can stop in to see Ms. Theresa, social worker, in room 404, Mr. Trzcinski, psychologist in room 514 or any of our counselors, Mrs. Leysath, Ms. Nicholas, or Mrs. Scheirer.

### A Walk to Remember and Honor

by Paige Huewan

On Wednesday, September 21st, members of Youth Motivating Each Other (YME) and several All City staff members, dedicated an afternoon to honor the life of Jessica Jamison, a student who passed the weekend prior to that. The group walked to the Upper Falls Bridge, located a few blocks from the school and each person was given a flower to deposit in the water after a few heartfelt words were said by School Safety Officer, Mr. Vargas. Not only was the memory walk an opportunity to cherish the life of a delightful individual, but it was also a chance to show the students that YME and All City represents a family and unity. In just a short period of time, everyone was free to forget their daily problems and appreciate the life that we all have. Students shed tears and were comforted by their neighbors. Although the walk was for a tragic event, it resulted in an uplifting day for the all who participated.



**Running Club  
Mrs. Samis**



**Mrs. Samis has challenged All City Staff to meet after school to train for the 2017 Corporate Challenge run at the beginning of June. Anyone can join!**



**Senior Class Advisors:  
Ms. Leysath and Ms. Ramirez**

Welcome to a new and exciting school year "CLASS OF 2017". Your Senior Class Advisors are: Ms. Leysath, and Ms. Ramirez. If you are interested in becoming a Senior Class officer, please see Ms. Leysath (room 504), or Ms. Ramirez (room 517) for more information.



**BLOOD DRIVE with Ms. Dimatteo**



There will be four blood drives this year. College scholarships will be obtained for one or more students!! More info to come.

**Join YME Club!**



*Club President and founder, Paige Huewan*

YME is a peer motivational group that was established for peers to work together and help each other academically and socially. The club focus is to help students excel in school while gaining valuable experiences in the community. We're aiming to have field trips, motivational speakers come in during meetings and provide any additional assistance that students may require.

Meetings will be held on Wednesdays during lunch.



**October 19<sup>th</sup>:** The PSAT Exam will be administered to 10th graders

**October 20<sup>th</sup>:** Careers in Construction Field Trip. *Students who are interested in pursuing a career in construction should see Ms. Scheirer in room 407*

**November 14<sup>th</sup>:** *Historic Black College University field trip*

**We welcome  
your feedback**

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