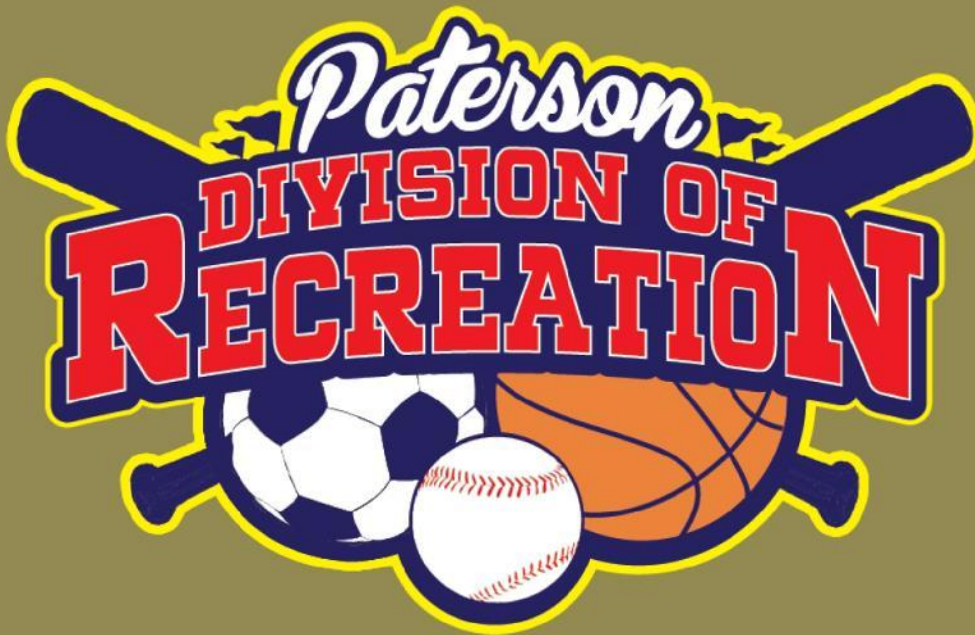




Summer Report



2023

HONORABLE ANDRE SAYEGH

MAYOR, PATERSON, NJ

DR. LAURIE W. NEWELL

SUPERINTENDENT, PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BENIE E. WIMBERLY

DIRECTOR, PATERSON DIVISION OF RECREATION

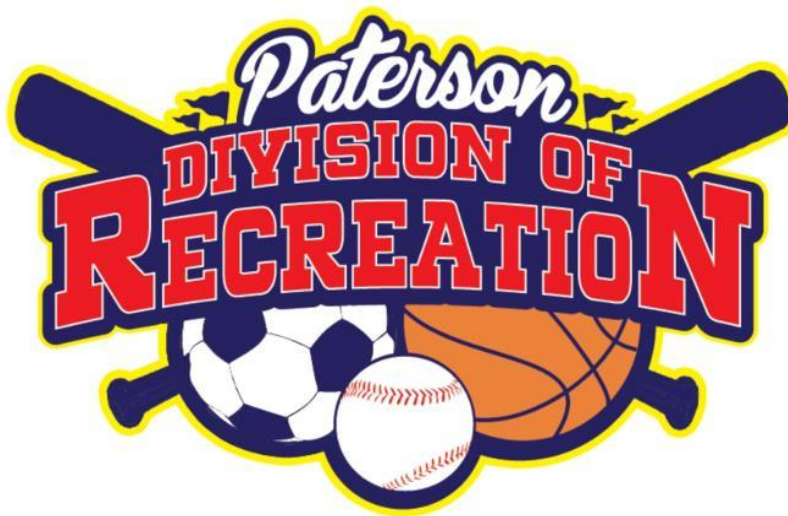
City of Paterson



Andre Sayegh, Mayor

Dr. Laurie W. Newell

SUPERINTENDENT, PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



2023 SUMMER REPORT

Benjie E. Wimberly

Director of Recreation



MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Recreation is committed to providing quality service to the residents of Paterson, New Jersey. We believe that the citizens of Paterson should develop an appreciation for the history, culture and contributions of the groups that contribute to the diversity of our city. Our mission is to promote excellence in the lives of each resident in the city academically, athletically and socially by providing programs that offer services for enrichment and social awareness. By adopting imaginative ideas, we will begin the regeneration of our community.





It has been an honor to serve as the Director of Recreation for the past 25 years. It's been amazing to watch the growth of campers and staff during this period of time. It's great to see campers become staff and many of our former employees become very successful in their professional careers and come back to give back. It shows mentoring and leadership opportunities work.

As I reflect on the summer of 2023, words of the Division of Recreation's mission statement profoundly resonate in my mind: "We believe the citizens of Paterson should develop an appreciation for the history, culture and contributions of the groups that contribute to the diversity of our city. I give heartfelt thanks and great appreciation to our campers and staff for making the camp year a remarkable experience. The energy of the campers and staff was amazing, and we were definitely "Moving and Grooving" this Summer.

Diverse leadership and productive curriculum within our summer programs offered a wide array of great activities that truly expanded the mind of everyone we reached. Our 29 summer camps and 10 sports camps welcomed more than 2,000 participants through our doors this summer. We also had over 35,000 residents visit our pools throughout the summer.

The culmination of the summer concluded with our annual "Day in The Sun" celebration, highlighting the work each camper and staff put in to making this year a great success. This day included entertainment, rides, games, food and most importantly ... FUN!!!

The community came together for our campers and put together an outstanding "Day in The Sun." We must give a special thanks to PBA Local # 1, FMBA Local # 2, Passaic County Sheriff's Department, PBA #19, PBA #286, Paterson Bronze Heat, Paterson Bronze Shields, ENA Meat Packing in Paterson, Team Hope and Yvette Roland 35th Legislative Office Chief of Staff. These organizations made contributions of hamburgers, hotdogs, water, ice pops and volunteered throughout the day to make this event a success.

I also want to thank our Summer Camp and Pool staff leadership for making this a great summer. We increased our participation this year by almost 100%. I want to thank our Summer Camp Coordinator Charles Hill, Assistant Coordinator Genea Veal, Pool Supervisors Felix Gil and Debbie Tillman for all of the work they did to make this a great summer. A very special thanks goes to our Recreation staff for making this a great year for our campers and staff. Hats

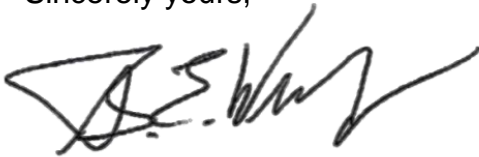


go off to Tamika Wiggins, Crainysha Rutherford and Tennelle Logan for handling our day-to-day operations.

As we prepare for the 2024 summer season, we must take on the responsibility for continually providing a safe environment for each of our campers. We will continue to fight for summer employment opportunities for our youth. We will take active steps to develop the future leadership of our beloved Paterson. Let's all work together to ensure the best for our youth and the residents.

It is truly a responsibility I have cherished for the past twenty-five years. Let's continue to create a mindset that chooses Hope over Despair.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjie E. Wimberly". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "W".

Benjie E. Wimberly
Director of Recreation



From the Desk of

Charles Hill

Summer Camp Coordinator

The Summer of 2023 was great! As I look back at my tenure of Summer Camp Coordinator for the past 27 years, I can honestly say that this was one of best ever. The past three years our staff worked in adverse conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff rose to the occasion and did an amazing job servicing our campers and community. Summer Camp 2023 our participation numbers rose and our staff did an amazing job.

We added new trips such as the NJ Jackals baseball games at the newly renovated Hinchliffe Stadium and trips to the American Dream Super Mall for the amazing water park and Nickelodeon Amusement Park. Another highlight was supporting our own Recreation Counselor Genai Veal at the Apollo Theatre. Genai has advanced to the finals on November 22, 2023 “Paterson Recreation has talent”. I also want to commend our Rosa Parks Performing Arts Camp for their excellent production of Cinderella.

The highlight of the Summer for our campers, staff and community was our annual “Day In The Sun” at Eastside Park. We celebrated the 25th Anniversary of service to Recreation for our Director, Benjie Wimberly and the day was simply amazing. The highlight of my day was zip lining through Eastside Park!

Paterson, the best is yet to come. I’m looking forward to Paterson Recreation Summer Camp 2024 and can guarantee you we will rise to the occasion.

Charles Hill
Summer Camp Coordinator



Books and Balls Summer Day Camp is designed to keep our children academically enriched. Books and Balls are geared to enhance the proficiency of our students in the following subjects: Math, Language Arts and Science. The campers receive a comprehensive curriculum that was previously taught during the school year. It is our job to keep the children refreshed, sharp and alert for the upcoming school year. The curriculum includes phonetic awareness, reading comprehension, writing/spelling, math and science.

Books and Balls focus on primarily academic achievement. We designed that program for the campers who would like to enhance their education all year round. Many life skills are learned as well. Campers learn the importance of being a leader through team building activities. Organized sports, tournaments, dodge ball, kick ball, shuttle runs, exercise/workouts, and board games are just some of the few activities that were played by the campers.

The Books and Balls Summer Camp Program was held at various sites this year and as always a success. These sites include: PS #30, PS #13, PS #28, PS #19, PS #24, PS #16, Summer Skillz (PS #26), Summer Slamm (PS #26), Heritage Community Center and The New Roberto Clemente School. Even though the camps go through some obstacles they conquer them and move forward each year. A daily schedule for these sites begins with the directors meeting with their teachers and counselors to ensure the best possible care and instruction/supervision for the campers. Each curriculum is age appropriate and corresponds to what was taught during the Academic/ School year. The core curriculum consists of Mathematics, Language Arts, Reading, Writing and other creative learning ideas such as Life Skills.

At all times our staff performs accordingly and maintains a high value of professionalism and concern for our children. We also provide a great deal of fun activities. Our children attend field trips and camp excursions. The children have attended Riverside Pool, Costello Pool, Crayola

Crayon Factory, Nickelodeon at American Dream, Splash Plex, Fun Plex, Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Rink, Fabian Movie Theater, Paterson Public Library and Wallington Lanes.

The Summer Camps sponsored by the Division of Recreation was filled with many great recreational activities for our youth. Our activities at the summer camps included: athletics, arts and crafts, dancing, girl scouts, karate, swimming, drama, computers, face painting, acting lessons, scriptwriting, music instruction and many more. Some camp sites invited a host to informational seminars on topics including career choices, self-esteem, leadership, healthy living and nutrition. Each site was monitored by highly qualified staff and campers had opportunity to participate in a variety of exciting trips. The Summer Camps were free of charge. Breakfast and lunch was served to all campers. The day camp's ages ranged from 5 to 13 years old.

The Summer Camps were as followed:

- St. Luke's Baptist Church
- Calvary Baptist Church
- Rosa Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts
- Buckley / Eastside / Totowa Oval / Wrigley & Roberto Clemente Park
- School #26 / School #25
- STEM Camp (JATS)
- Cheer Camp (NRC)
- Christopher Hope Center
- The Heritage
- Jump Start Performing Arts Program
- Soccer Camp where at Buckley Park

Even though these sites were not Books and Balls they participated in some academic stimulation. The two academic areas that were focused on were Reading and Mathematics. This allowed the campers to sharpen their skills even though they knew their day would be full of fun activities. The camps added structure to the lives and enabled each child to foster relationships/ friendships and responsibility. The emphasis from all staff members at the site

taught the campers professionalism, sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership. Programs at the sites were diverse and always promoted positively.

Each camp site structured the camps in many different ways. The general age groups were 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. Each group had their own designated activities that were implemented by the counselors and directors of each site. These activities included:

- Reading
- Morning/Afternoon Work-Outs
- Golfing
- Yoga
- Strategizing (Chess, Brain Teasers, Manipulative)
- Tug-A-War / Relay Races
- Volleyball / Football / Soccer / Basketball
- Talent Show Case
- Arts and Crafts
- Computer Labs
- Library
- Cooking
- Movie Day
- Vision to Learn / FREE Eye Exams
- Much More



Each summer camp site had the opportunity to experience cultural field trips such as, visiting and touring the Center City Mall in Paterson, Day In the Sun at Eastside Park, Jenkinson Aquarium, New York Aquarium, Clifton Commons, Seaside Heights, Wallington Lanes, Riverside Vets and Lou Costello Swimming Pools and etc....



SWIM REPORT

The summer of 2023 has come to a close, and we are grateful for another successful summer season. This year we experienced some hurdles with getting back to sense of normalcy, but with a strong administration and staff, we were able to overcome the obstacles. This summer, we experienced some significant heat waves and us able to service over 20,000 city residents from July to the beginning of September. We at the Division of Recreation employed 40 lifeguards and over 70 pool attendants at two locations. During the height of the heat waves, we were open and fully functioning and operational.

The pool staff's professionalism and detail to service should be commended. The Paterson Aquatics Program has seen significant growth over the last few years. We offer services such as swim lessons, Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR, and AED training. All of our training is done in house by Red Cross Certified trainers that have come through the recreation program. The number of students in swim lessons and lifeguard training has increased, and we are looking forward to continued growth.







“A DAY IN THE SUN”

“A Day in the Sun” is the Paterson Division of Recreation closing summer ceremony program. All of our summer camp sites met on August 17, 2023 to participate and enjoy the festivities at Eastside Park.

This year's theme was “Moving & Grooving into Summer Fun” and the children and parents enjoyed themselves no matter what age. During the festivities, the campers enjoyed themselves with our annual tradition of having cartoon character amuse, greet the young children and have their famous dance off. The following is provided at A Day and the Sun:

- Games
- Inflatable and Motorized Rides
- Paterson Library Books
- Face Painting
- Neighborhood Assistance
- First Aid Station
- Girl Scouts of America
- Paterson Police Department
- DPW / Recycling
- Train Rides
- Hot Dogs and Hamburgers
- Snow Cones, Cotton Candy, Pop Corn
- Clowns

All amusement activities were provided by various vendors. The Paterson Division of Recreation Arts and Crafts staff provided face painting and the posters for the vendor's stations. We also had a number of vendors on site to keep our Paterson residents up to date with jobs and other opportunities that are in our community. We also had a vendor that provided financial training for our young children.

A Day in the Sun serves as our award assembly for our campers and staff. The awards given are Director of the Year, Counselors of the Year, Camper of the Year and Camp Site of the Year. The awards were given in the following categories:

- Director of the Year
- Senior Counselor of the Year
- Jr. Counselor of the Year
- Camper of the Year
- Camp Site of the Year
- Banner Contest Winner



The Paterson Recreation Sports Camp and Specialty program completed another successful year. The Sports Camp program promoted health and wellness, as well as providing a broad spectrum of different activities to the campers. The importance of having Sports Camp within the community is to introduce young athletes to different type of sports. Also, the Sports Camp provides the necessary skills to enhance the camper's performance so they will be able to compete on the high school and college level. The various sports and specialty activities consisted of basketball, flag football, baseball, softball, golf, soccer, cheerleading, drama, wrestling and tennis.

The Sports Camp program was composed of campers ranging in ages from five to eighteen. Some of the campers received training from former professional athletes such as Tim Thomas, Rory Sparrow, Otis Birdsong and Michael Richardson. We had guest speakers from the NBA, Paterson Health Department, and community members. This year we were able to add an additional Boys basketball campsites at Joseph A. Taub School (JATS). Coaches provided the campers at JATS with wonderful motivational speeches. We also were able to open a Girls Basketball campsites for the entire summer at PS #27. Both campsites were very successful and they were full to capacity with children eager to learn the sport. Michael Ray Richardson and Otis Birdsong held their annual one week Boys Basketball camp at Joseph A. Taub School. They stayed for an additional week to conduct a one week Girls Basketball Camp. The Paterson Health Department provided imperative information about health issues among females to the girls attending the Michael Ray Richardson and Otis Birdsong basketball camp.

All of the campers learned fundamental skills for each sport. For example, campers who participated in Tennis Camp learned various skills such as serving, returning serves, ground

strokes, volley's and overhead smashes. The camper participated in fun match-play games such as "King or Queen of the courts" as well. The Sports Camp goal is not only to enhance camper's athletic skills but to help develop camper's physical and emotional skills as well. The Sports Camp program increased the camper's awareness of the importance of eating healthy and staying fit. Also, the Sports Camp program promoted team work and self- esteem.





Another exciting highlight of our summer was attending Amateur Night at the world famous Apollo Theater. The campers were excited and enthusiastic to see our Recreation staff counselor Genai Veal from the Performing Arts camp tap dance to Michael Jackson....The community was in full force to support her as she won and will be competing in the Finals for the grand prize on November 22, 2023.



School 13

Rachel Williams-Director

One of the greatest benefits of summer camp for youth is that they get to socialize and meet new people. During summer break, kids often find it difficult to form or maintain friendships with peers their own age. Besides their siblings or cousins, most kids would say that they mainly interact with adults when they are not in school. Not only do kids develop important life skills through socializing such as sharing, setting boundaries, and problem-solving they also are able to learn how to develop strong, healthy relationships through interacting with their peers. Paterson Recreation Summer Camp program provides a safe environment for children to develop social skills, decision-making skills, and outdoor experiences. In fact, socialization during summer camp may accomplish more for growth and development than reading or eating vegetables!



This year at school 13 site we aimed to provide a summer camp experience that was safe and accommodating for all children. Summer camp can open a whole new world of friendships, interests, skills, and independence that we strived to promote during the summer camp program. I was fortunate to have 60 campers enrolled with 13 staff members.



This year at school 13 we strived to encourage the campers to try new and exciting things. This helped remove the pressuring expectations of school and provide them with a freer atmosphere of summer fun. This year the campers learned about planting and how to take care of plants and were able to grow their own herbs plants. We planted thyme, mint, dill, lavender, oregano, parsley, and so much more. We watched them grow and had

designated campers to water and care for plants daily. Every Friday we were able to go swimming in our local Lou Costello Pool. We also had a camp pizza and ice cream party. The campers also took part in Bible study classes. The campers were able to reflect, unwind, and relax in a calm relaxing environment that was surrounded by their peers. We also went on many trips this summer. We attended Splashplex Water Park in East Hanover, NJ. The campers had so much fun. There were 34 campers in attendance for this field trip. This trip allowed my campers of all ages to enjoy themselves on water slides, splash pools, and a never-ending lazy river. Another exciting part of this trip was that each camper had chicken tenders, fries, and



soda of their choice for lunch that we enjoyed together. Our second major camp trip was Urban Air Indoor Trampoline park. Each camper was given a pair of Urban Air socks upon arrival. During his field trip the campers spent 2 hours jumping, flipping, climbing walls, and trying out their latest acrobatic stunts, while also battling one another for fun. This was also followed by chicken tenders and water and ice-cold water. We also attended the Fabian Theatre where we watched a movie together. We traveled to the new Hinche Cliffe Stadium in Paterson, NJ and watched the New Jersey Jackals Baseball game. We also had the pleasure of watching a beautiful play called Cinderella performed by the Rosa Parks Camp. We also partake in many other activities such as tie dye, ice cream and pizza parties. We had our very first Sip' n Paint Activity at our campsite. The kids sipped juice and used

their artistic abilities to create wonderful works of art. Our campers also walked to McDonalds and were treated to lunch and dessert by the owner herself. It was an amazing experience and one the campers and staff will never forget. one occasion we walked to our local McDonalds and ate lunch. We are surprised by the owner who treated the staff and campers to lunch and dessert. It was a wonderful experience the campers will always appreciate. Another great event was that we had a black owned ice cream company visit the campsite and serve delicious sundaes to each kid. The kids were able to order their food, and have fun with one another. We had relay races for prizes, and a dance contest that resulted in a mega prize. During the days we stayed at the camp site the campers had opportunities to try new and exciting things. The campers were able to paint and draw. The campers used this time to express their inner creativity and create things that were new and meaningful to them. The campers were also given time to complete summer packets from school. The counselors were equipped to work with the students in groups or one on one to help the campers complete their assignments or retain the necessary help needed to move forward with their assignments. The campers were able to play sports. One of the many joys from my teen boys was the basketball games that they were able to play daily on the school's basketball court.

It was also important that this camp offers a whole new pool of people to choose from. The campers were unrestricted by worries about old friends, jealousies or the expectations of the school group. Each camper had the freedom to make and become new friends with anyone he or she pleases. Some of these friendships last years to come. her or his usual buddies. I taught the campers about stereotypes, acceptance, and understanding one another's feelings and concerns.

This year our camp did not have a strict schedule. We were filled with so many different activities that each day was an adventure. Moreover, our camp did allow downtime that we built into our adventurous schedule. This was a time for rest, for reflection, for quiet activities, for talks and a daily review. For many kids, the school year is chock full of structured activities that leave them with hardly any time to think. I strived to provide the campers time to evaluate situations, to think, and to reminisce the year past and to make promises to themselves to have a better year than the last.





Books and Balls: School 30 Summer 2023

Director: Ms. Aria Medley

Counselors: Ms. Beverly King, Shawn DeLane, Cristina Concepcion, Kaiden Patterson, Keanna Clarke, Courtney Fuller, Ms. Tonya Busch, Jayden Brackett, Mr. Tyron Davis, Braelyn Fuller, Melody Vargas

Paterson Recreation's Summer Camp Theme was "Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future" which celebrated 25 years of serving the youth through recreational activities for all ages. At the start of the summer camp season, the counselors reconnected after not seeing each other for a year, but the campers ages 5-7 new and old were ready to embrace the new summer camp season. Both counselors and campers were looking forward to hot weather, sweet treats, and many fun-filled trips to attend.

Prior to the start of summer camp, the staff old and new had to attend an informative orientation explaining the rules and regulations and what to expect for this year's summer camp season. With pandemic numbers at an all time low, masks were not required and normality has somewhat made its way back into our lives. Of course child safety and health was a priority, however Books and Balls campsite was ready to embrace the fun that was coming their way! As always, at the start of the camp season, attendance for counselors remained the same. We welcomed four new camp counselors to our camp crew this year. At the beginning of the camp season, the campers came in strong, high in number. As the summer continued, the numbers of our campers were consistent with new ones added weekly despite the closeoff. The counselor to camper ratio per day would be 1 to 5 which was enough for everyone to interact and engage with each other. Since the increase of camper registrations, everyday 12 staff members including myself, came prepared to work with an average of 30-40 campers per day. We all worked together as a team to ensure that we are all safe, yet in a clean, enjoyable, exciting, and lastly fun environment outside and inside of the building.

As the weeks of summer camp began and swiftly went by, the counselors and I collaborated on numerous ideas to keep the campers entertained. Having access to the extension of the Martin Luther King's School preschool classrooms was a plus! The staff utilized those rooms to teach and review school course work, along with the use

of technology to use educational websites to help campers learn as well. Games were played, projects were created, playtime was had, as well as many trips were planned and given to keep the campers' summer camp experience memorable, amusing, enjoyable and lastly fun! Activities that were done within the classroom were art projects such as jellyfish made with beads, bracelets, as well as flowers made with spoons created by the 5 year olds, hot air balloons made by the six year olds, glitter names and bracelets designed by the 7 year olds as well as pineapple art made with paint created by both 6 and 7 year olds.

Not only were the campers filled with excitement while creating these projects, they also had several games to play as well. Musical Chairs, morning warm-ups, sing-along songs, Building Blocks, SpeedMath, and Basketball were just a few of the games played throughout the campers' day. Even though the campers enjoyed all the fun that was provided from our counselors, school work review as well as new lessons to prepare the children for the next grade was given. A combination of mathematics, writing, and phonics worksheets all within their age range as well as work levels were completed to keep the campers' minds engaged. Along with those activities, one program was sent to our site for the campers to participate in. This program was the Bible Youth Group. This group, which was composed of youth between the ages of 15-18, did various activities and



small lessons with the campers relating to the work of the Lord. Programs planned by the camp staff included "Kid Yoga" with Ms. Qyera Parks. Two classes were given, campers brought

their yoga mats, and they were taught new and different techniques as well as yoga positions for the campers to remember. "An Afternoon with the Firefighters" was a collaboration with the Paterson Fire Department. During this time, the firefighters let the campers walk through their fire truck, try on their firemen gear (hat, coat, and boots), touch instruments used to fight



a fire, and gave them firefighter hats to take home as souvenirs. Lastly, A “Kids Paint and Juice” with Paint with Kam! by Kammie Phillips, where the campers were given their own canvases and completed their own ice cream masterpieces to keep the fun filled camp experience progressing.



Similar to last year's camp season, countless field trips were planned and executed, however this year transportation was very limited. The staff and I have planned trips for every Friday of the summer, however we also had trips throughout the week as well. At the start of the camp season, I have expressed to all parents that our site is considered “A Trippin Camp” and School 30 did just that. The campers enjoyed walking trips to McDonalds for a happy meal of their choice and



Guernsey Crest to pick their favorite flavor of ice cream either in a cup or a cone and some with extra sprinkles. Even though the campers had their experience of walking trips, they also experienced traveling by way of

the school bus.

Every Thursday, the campers took a dive, swim or splash at Lou Costello pool. The campers also experienced traveling to Hinchliffe Stadium to watch a baseball game from the Jackals, Branch Brook Skating Park, the



Fabian Movie Theater to see “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem”, Kids Empire, International High School to see “Cinderella” presented by our own Paterson Recreation older camps, and lastly Eastside Park. Every trip and program that was planned was successful except for one. Although that trip was





unsuccessful, the counselors and I gave the campers a pizza party. Big slices, cold drinks, and loud music, the campers enjoyed themselves and were taught how to turn lemons into lemonade in any tough situation. Nevertheless, any camp day, especially trip



days, the campers always leave with smiles on their faces while exhausted when their parents receive them at the end of the camp day.

As the summer camp season comes to a close, the parents of the campers were appreciative of the numerous activities that the counselors and I have planned for their children. They valued how we as counselors have put their children first by taking care of their well being by creating a fun filled camp experience for them to enjoy. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces, and the relief of the parents trusting us with their children, let the counselors as well as myself know that we have accomplished our job at the end of each summer day. The counselors and I have



worked extremely hard to make this summer camp season enjoyable and memorable for the campers to remember! Even though we did not win anything this year, the kids have won because they had an amazing summer with Paterson Recreation!





Rosa Parks Performing Arts Camp Summer Report.

This summer we put on the production “Cinderella” **Cinderella, cruelly mistreated by her evil stepmother and stepsisters, is helped by her magical fairy godmother, who sends her off to win the heart of a handsome prince and live happily ever after.** As soon as camp began we started the campers off by watching the movie “Cinderella”. We wanted to show the kids the movie to give them a feel of what the production would look like and what we expected from them. Then the next few days we held auditions. Once the auditions concluded we began to practice and start to lay out what we needed for the set. I had some counselors working with costumes , Props, crew, ensemble, and main characters. Each counselor had a part in making the show a success. The counselors at RPH Camp are very knowledgeable in the arts field. They’re talent definitely helped when it came to show time.

We definitely had a few hiccups but 1 was due to Rosa Parks High School Theatre undergoing construction. We had to learn International High School stage and lighting. The sound system was down at International we had to change our plans around for that. Thank God it all worked out. International High School was very accommodating to us. The campers are fast learners so they were able to pick up where we left off at.

We had to charter unknown territory this summer by switching up our location and using new equipment but myself along with my staff and campers adapted fairly quickly. We concluded our Camp Year with our Production of “Cinderella”. The show was amazing and most importantly the campers had fun and learned what it was like to put on a production in just six weeks. We charged the campers from other camps \$1 and family and friends \$5. All of the money we made went towards our end of the year party. Overall , This was a really successful summer for Rosa Parks Camp. I look forward to returning next year



ROBERTO CLEMENTE PARK CAMP 2023



Roberto Clemente camp is a place where campers can have new experience and a testing ground for new activities and skills. It is amazing to watch a camper making new friends with people they just meet and hoping that such friendship will last beyond the campground. This summer the staff focused on interacting more with the campers.

They talked about growth including others and making the camp a welcoming place to all as much as possible.

Summer 2023 brought many challenges and the staff found new and innovative ways to keep the campers connected, by introducing walks round the park for those that were interested. As for those that can draw free style art was suggested and we saw some good creative art works. The natural setting of the park was enjoyable, but came with a lot of insects, so the campers were encouraged to be active.

CAMPERS EXPERIENCE

This summer, Roberto Clemente Park camp centered its theme on proper interaction between camper mainly because a lot of the campers come from different background. Daily the staffs led age group discussions and full camp activities such as caring for each other, speaking to each other with care and being respectful of each other's family.

This year Roberto Clemente Park campers experienced a different outdoor activity opposite from the traditional one and the fantastic staff help make it possible. They had slides and water balloon fight, in which a lot of the campers we very much into.



SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMPS

This summer, Paterson Recreation summer basketball Camps were a slam dunk of fun and training! The campers love learning the fundamentals of basketball and improving every aspect of their game – from dribbling, passing, ball-handling, shooting, running, rebounding, footwork, defense - and so much more.

At Public School #26, New Roberto Clemente, & Steam Academy (Old Paterson Catholic) basketball Camps, our goal is for all campers to improve and reach their maximum potential. We provide individual coaching and group instruction as well as 5-on-5 games and supervised competition. Campers were taught techniques and philosophies utilized by high school coaches and players. Campers are grouped according to age, skill level and experience.

Campers learn to understanding of teamwork and competitive spirit, while upping their athletic ability and good sportsmanship

SUMMER BASEBALL CAMP

Paterson Introduces campers to America's favorite pastime - Baseball! At eastside park Baseball, offered through Paterson Recreation, kids, ages 6 through 18, learn the fundamentals of baseball, including coordination and motor development, as well as physical fitness, hand-eye coordination, teamwork and developing positive self-esteem. Coaches cover the basics of catching, fielding, batting and throwing. The camp was open to campers of all skill levels. Each camper received a Paterson Recreation t-shirt, baseball and certificate of participation. Campers bring their own baseball glove and are encouraged to bring a bat and helmet. Parents were welcome to stay and observe.

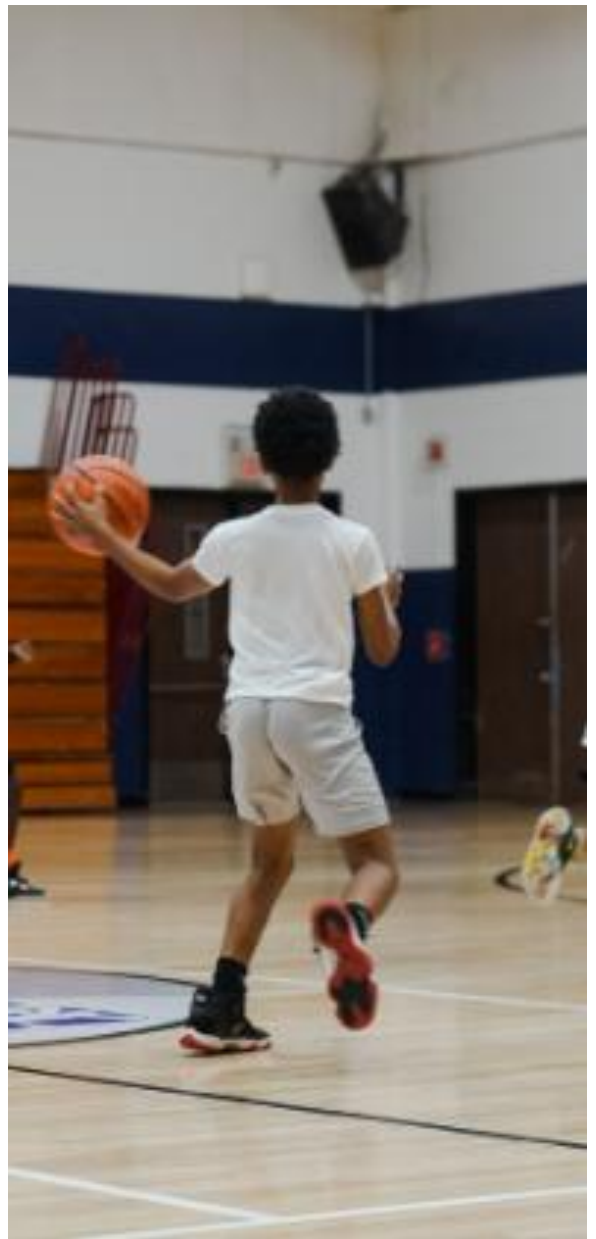
SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

Campers experience the excitement of the city's most popular sport at Pennington park. Players thrived in the exciting atmosphere generated by our high school coaches, soccer development and soccer challenges.

The Paterson Recreation summer soccer camp was perfect for campers of all levels. To ensure that we develop future soccer stars, we group campers together based on age and ability. This allowed campers to experience the excitement of soccer through the concepts of free play, self-expression and creative imagination by competing with players of equal ability.





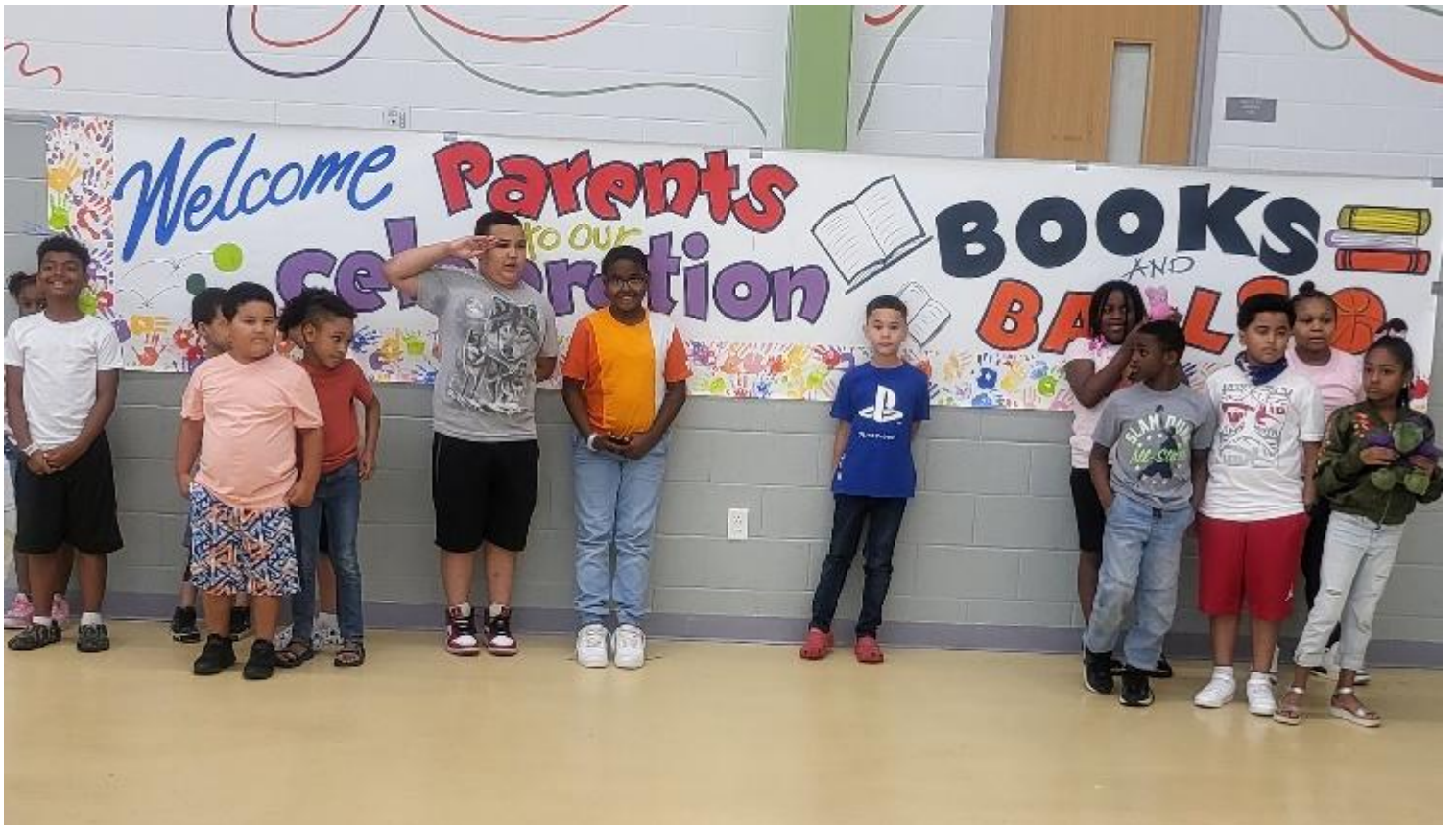


















PATERSON RECREATION STAKEHOLDERS:

Paterson Public Schools
Crown Roll Leaf, Inc.
Girl Scouts of America
Paterson Housing Authority
Victor Cruz
United Presbyterian Church
St. Augustine Presbyterian Church
Jump Start Performing Arts
Positive Impact
P.A.L.
Pioneers Basketball Club
New York Jets
The Record News
Kodiak Landscape & Design
McDonald's – Alisha Harrison, Proprietor
Michael Ray Richardson
Otis Birdsong
Barcia Brothers Fencing
Nicholas Real Estate Agency
Ike & Randy's Gym Boxing Club
S&A Screen Printing
Paterson Old Timers
Paterson Midget Basketball League
ETS Sports Performance
Bronze Heat
Paterson Girls Basketball League
U.S. Tennis Association
NJ Legacy Basketball
Integrity Lodge #51
Passaic County Community College
Rutgers University
National Football League
United Negro College Fund
Paterson Youth Instructional Football League
Vera Ames-Garnes – Fourth Ward Alliance
Rev. Dr. Frank Napier Jr. Scholarship Committee
Y.M.C.A.
Zone6ix Football

Taub Foundation
Boys and Girls Club
Red Bull Soccer
St. Luke Baptist Church
Brooklyn Nets
Creech Temple UHC
Second Baptist Church
Inner-Faith Performing Arts
New Life Community Center
New Jersey Minority Coaches Association
Sparks Basketball Club
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Keith Hamilton
Camel Judo, LLC
Bronze Shield
Great Falls Academy
Mr. John Setteducato
Calvary Baptist Church
LaNeve's Restaurant
R&R Sporting Goods
R&D Promotions
Costello Boxing Gym
L&F Graphics
Pop Warner Football
Twin Valley Football
Passaic County Golf Course
New Jersey Parks & Recreation
Christian Fellowship Center
Bergen PAC
Seton Hall University
The Brownstone
Grace Chapel Baptist Church
Tim Thomas/ Shed Light Foundation
Gilmore Memorial Tabernacle Church
Serenity Baptist Church
Menella's Poultry
New York Giants