



# **PROVISO AREA FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**

**"QUALITY EDUCATION WITH CARE FOR THE HUMAN SPIRIT".**

PAEC CENTER BOARDROOM - 9:00 AM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

## **AGENDA**

1. **ROLL CALL**
2. **GEOHERMAL PRESENTATION BY TAMMY SCHALLMO AND NIKKI BRIDGES**
3. **CLOSED SESSION**
4. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**
5. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES**
6. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**
  - B. **APPROVAL OF PAYROLL**
  - C. **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT**
7. **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT REPORT**
  - B. **CONTROL ENGINEERING CORPORATION**
  - C. **PAEC POLICIES: PRESS PLUS 117**
    - 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
    - 4:30 Revenue and Investments
    - 4:60 Purchases and Contracts
    - 4:170 Safety
    - 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
    - 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
    - 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
    - 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
    - 5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct
    - 5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline
    - 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
    - 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
    - 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
    - 7:200 Suspension Procedures
    - 8:10 Connection with the Community
9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S INFORMATIONAL REPORT**
  - A. **CURRENT DISTRICT CHILD COUNT 2024-2025**

The information is attached.
  - B. **CURRENT ENROLLMENT AND CLASSROOM STAFFING PATTERNS 2024-2025**

The information is attached.

**C. PROJECTED DISTRICT CHILD COUNT 2025-2026**

**D. PROJECTED STAFFING PATTERN 2025-2026**

**E. TRANSITION REPORTS**

The information is attached.

**F. INITIAL REFERRALS**

The information is attached.

**G. POLICE REPORTS**

There were two police calls made in January from PAEC Elementary.

**H. PAEC ACTIVITY FUND**

The information is attached.

**I. DUPAGE/WEST COOK REPORT**

**J. PAEC EVENTS**

The information is attached.

**K. ICE Updates**

**L. PAEC ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

The information is attached.

**M. PAEC PROGRAM UPDATES**

The information is attached.

**10. OTHER/ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD**

2025-2026 Proposed Calendar for Review Pending Union Feedback.

**11. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Thank you card from the family of Paula Parat.

**12. NEXT MEETING**

**The next PAEC Executive Board meeting will be on March 13, 2025. District #88 will be facilitating the meeting. Dr. Nicole Spatafore will be the Executive Board Representative for the Governing Board's February 19, 2025 meeting.**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**PAYROLL AGENDA  
JANUARY 2025**

	<b>GROSS</b> <u>1/15/2025</u>	<b>FICA</b> <u>1/15/2025</u>	<b>RETIREMENT</b> <u>1/15/2025</u>	<b>BENEFITS</b> <u>1/15/2025</u>	<b>TOTAL</b> <u>1/15/2025</u>
Education Fund	\$ 486,722.28	\$ 20,651.57	\$ 14,679.09	\$114,317.42	\$ 636,370.36
Building Fund	\$ 17,426.55	\$ 1,326.19	\$ 805.13	\$3,276.97	\$ 22,834.84
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 504,148.83</b>	<b>\$ 21,977.76</b>	<b>\$ 15,484.22</b>	<b>\$ 117,594.39</b>	<b>\$ 659,205.20</b>

	<b>GROSS</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>FICA</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>RETIREMENT</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>BENEFITS</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>TOTAL</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>
Education Fund	\$ 509,302.64	\$ 21,913.24	\$ 15,472.85	\$120,449.55	\$ 667,138.28
Building Fund	\$ 17,140.57	\$ 1,304.31	\$ 791.91	\$3,512.64	\$ 22,749.43
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 526,443.21</b>	<b>\$ 23,217.55</b>	<b>\$ 16,264.76</b>	<b>\$ 123,962.19</b>	<b>\$ 689,887.71</b>

	<b>GROSS</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>FICA</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>RETIREMENT</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>BENEFITS</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>	<b>TOTAL</b> <u>1/31/2025</u>
Education Fund	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 880.85	\$ 603.90	\$0.00	\$ 19,984.75
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 18,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 880.85</b>	<b>\$ 603.90</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19,984.75</b>

**ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES**

**ACTION ITEM – PERSONNEL REPORT  
February 2025**

**A. Employment**

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Barbara Grayer | Teacher (PAEC HS) |
| Effective Date:   | February 10, 2025 |
| Compensation:     | \$56,244          |

**B. Resignations**

- |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Lorraine High         | Lunch Assistant                  |
| Resignation Date:        | January 31, 2025                 |
| 2. Mariya Dorosieva      | Permanent Sub-Teacher            |
| Resignation Date:        | January 15, 2025                 |
| 3. Jonnifer Neal         | Program Assistant                |
| Resignation Date:        | January 16, 2025                 |
| 4. Omar Thompson         | 1:1 Program Assistant (Dist. 87) |
| Resignation Date:        | January 28, 2025                 |
| 5. Brittney Overstreet   | 1:1 Program Assistant (PAEC EC)  |
| Resignation Date:        | February 6, 2025                 |
| 6. Christopher Southward | Human Resource Generalist        |
| Resignation Date:        | February 21, 2025                |
| 7. Maria Burns           | 1:1 Program Assistant            |
| Resignation Date:        | January 7, 2025                  |

**C. Transfers** (there are no transfers at this time)

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Patricia Bejarano | Speech Language Pathologist            |
| Effective Date:      | January 17, 2025                       |
| Transfer from:       | 0.6 FTE to 0.8 FTE at PAEC Elementary  |
| 2. Udochi Nwoko      | Permanent Substitute Teacher (Floater) |
| Effective Date:      | February 4, 2025                       |
| Transfer from:       | Permanent Substitute Teacher PAEC HS   |
| 3. Judy Senase       |  |
| Effective Date:      | January 27, 2025                       |
| Transfer from:       | 0.6 FTE to 0.8 FTE at PAEC Elementary  |

**D. Terminations**

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Kaiya Collazo  | 1:1 Program Assistant |
| Termination Date: | January 22, 2025      |

**E. FMLA**

- |                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Stella Ginley | Teacher (PAEC High School)         |
| Effective Date:  | January 6-10, 2025                 |
|                  | Block Leave due to medical reasons |
|                  | Utilizing available sick time      |

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 2. Esther Littman         | Physical Therapist                       |
| Effective Date:           | March 4, 2025-May 27, 2025               |
|                           | Block leave due to medical reasons       |
|                           | Utilizing available sick time            |
| 3. Crystal Green          | Program Assistant (PAEC Elementary)      |
| Effective Date:           | February 17, 2025-May 17, 2025           |
|                           | Block leave due to medical reasons       |
|                           | Will not use available sick time         |
| 4. Christine Christianson | Teacher (PAEC Academy)                   |
| Effective Date:           | January 29, 2025                         |
|                           | Intermittent FMLA due to medical reasons |
|                           | Utilizing available sick time            |

**F. Retirement Solutions**

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Loren McCurtis              | Program Assistant   |
| Effective Date:                | June 30, 2028       |
| Years of service at Retirement | 30 years of service |

**ACTION ITEM – CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS**  
**February 2025**

**A. RCM**

- Maricela Abrego Occupational Therapist  
Effective Date: January 27, 2025  
Bill Rate: \$78 per hour  
Location: TBD

**B. Select Savvy**

- Noelle Warren Occupational Therapist  
Effective Date: January 27, 2025  
Bill Rate: \$79 per hour  
Location: PAEC Center & Elementary

# PAEC UPCOMING EVENTS

## FEBRUARY 2025



PAEC Academy  
Wear red, green,  
black, yellow



PAEC Center  
100 Days of  
Shool Celebration



PAEC Programs  
No School (students only):  
Teacher Inservice



PAEC Academy  
Superbowl-  
wear football jersey  
or colors of 2 teams in  
super bowl



PAEC Academy  
Bowling Field Trip &  
Pizza party  
wear pink, red, or purple



PAEC Programs  
No School:  
Presidents Day



PAEC Elementary  
Therapy Dogs  
1:00-2:00 PM



PAEC Academy  
School Spirit Day



PAEC Center  
Black History Art Fair  
PEHS Room 35  
10:00-11:00 AM



PAEC Center  
Black History Art Fair



PAEC Elementary  
Black History Fair  
10:00-1:00 PM



PAEC High School  
Black History Celebration  
Gymnasium at 10:00 AM



# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**TOMEKA GRAY**



**PROGRAM ASSISTANT  
JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC FOR 26 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I LOVE TEACHING THE STUDENTS NEW THINGS AND WATCHING THEM AS THEY GROW AND BECOME TEENAGERS.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*ALWAYS GO BEYOND YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION. SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT TO YOUR STUDENTS AND THEY WILL RETURN THE SAME TO YOU.*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*AFTER WORKING AS A PARAPROFESSIONAL FOR 26 YEARS, I AM IN SCHOOL TO COMPLETE MY TEACHING DEGREE. YAY ME!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**DERRICK LOVING**



**VOCATIONAL  
COORD/PROGRAM  
ASSISTANT  
JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC FOR OVER 30 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*HELPING AND PLANNING OUR STUDENTS FUTURE*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*A SET BACK IS A SETUP FOR A COME BACK*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I'M RETIRING THIS YEAR AND I LOVE TO MAKE PEOPLE LAUGH*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**TEMIKA PEACE**



**SOCIAL WORKER  
JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED AT PROVISO EAST SINCE AUGUST 2025.*

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*AS A SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER, I JUST LIKE BEING THAT POSITIVE SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS. I ENJOY PUSHING THEM AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO STRIVE FOR THEIR GOALS AND DOING THEIR BEST IN ALL THINGS.*

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*THE ADVICE I WOULD GIVE TO OTHERS WORKING IN MY POSITION, WOULD BE TO DO YOUR BEST AND ALSO THINK FIRST OF THE STUDENT AND WHAT THEIR NEEDS ARE.*

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*INTERESTING FACT, I'M THE OLDEST OF FOUR AND DIDNT LIKE IT. I WAS UPSET WITH MY PARENTS AFTER MY SIBLINGS WERE BORN BECAUSE I WANTED TO BE AN ONLY CHILD.*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**ZENIA ANAYA**



**1:1 PROGRAM  
ASSISTANT  
JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC LESS THAN A YEAR.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*LEARNING EVERYDAY FROM MY STUDENTS*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*MY ADVICE IS BE PATIENT.*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*IM A VERY ENERGETIC PERSON*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**ANGELA PALAFOX**



**SCHOOL NURSE**

**JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC FOR ALMOST A YEAR, WORKING AS EITHER A 1:1 RN OR SCHOOL RN.*

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I LOVE THAT EACH DAY IS DIFFERENT AND UNEXPECTED. BUT MY FAVORITE PART OF MY JOB IS MY KIDS; I LOVE EVERYTHING ABOUT WORKING WITH ALL OF THE KIDS AT PAEC. IT'S CHALLENGING, ENGAGING, REWARDING, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN, AND I AM LUCKY TO HAVE THEM IN MY LIFE.*

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*THE BEST ADVICE FOR ANYONE WHO WILL WORK IN THIS POSITION IN THE FUTURE IS TO BE OPEN MINDED, EMPATHETIC, AND TREAT THESE KIDS AS YOU WOULD WANT YOUR KIDS TO BE TREATED WHILE THEY'RE AT SCHOOL. ALSO, BE PREPARED TO LISTEN...A LOT, AND GIVE A LOT OF ADVICE, OF ALL KINDS.*

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I RAN MY OWN CATERING BUSINESS FOR OVER 10 YEARS WHILE WORKING AS A DOMESTIC ENGINEER; IT WAS SO REWARDING, FUN, AND SUCH HARD WORK!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**ELLEN BRAUNSHAUSEN**



**TEACHER**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

THIS IS MY 9TH YEAR.

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

LOVE THE CHALLENGE OF USING DIFFERENT METHODS TO REACH EACH STUDENT. THE STAFF IS AMAZING. THE HARDEST GROUP OF PEOPLE I HAVE WORKED WITH IN SOMETIMES DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. I ENJOY HAVING THE STUDENTS THINKING WE'RE PLAYING AND IT'S A LEARNING EXPERIENCE. WHERE ELSE CAN I WEAR AN OLAF SNOW HAT AND GET COMPLIMENTS?

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

PATIENCE, PATIENCE DID I SAY PATIENCE? COUNTING TO AT LEAST 5, ONE THOUSANDS AFTER ASKING A QUESTION. AMAZING WHAT ANSWERS WILL COME IF YOU GIVE THE KIDS TIME. USE YOUR SUPPORT TEAM. WE HAVE SUCH TALENTED OT, PT AND SPEECH THERAPISTS. NOT MANY SCHOOLS ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE ALL 3 AVAILABLE TO THEM. REMEMBER OUR STUDENTS ARE SOMEONE'S CHILD. HOW WOULD YOU WANT SOMEONE TO INTERACT WITH YOUR CHILD.?

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

I AM AN ADVOCATE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED AND SERVE AS A VOLUNTEER INTERPRETER FOR THE DEAF MEMBERS OF MY CONGREGATION.

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**ANISSA GRAY**



**DISTRICT OFFICE  
RECEPTIONIST  
JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I'VE BEEN AT PAEC 17YEARS*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*BEING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE STICK. WHEN I WAS AN PA I ENJOY THE STUDENT AND WATCHING THEM GROW AND EXCEL. NOW THAT I'M ON THE ADMINISTRATION SIDE. I ENJOY HELPING OTHERS FROM STAFF TO PARENTS. YOU STILL MAY CATCH ME ASSISTING STUDENTS.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*THE ADVICE I WILL GIVE IS BE OPENED AND LISTEN. SOME TIMES YOUR WAY IS NOT ALWAYS THE CORRECT WAY OR IT DOESN'T WORK. NEVER THINK YOU ARE MORE SUPERIOR THAN THE NEXT PERSON. IT'S CALLED TEAMWORK*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*MOST OF EVERYONE KNOWS BACK IN THE DAY I WAS A DANCERS. LET ME BE CLEAR. A BALLET DANCER. I STILL LOVE TO DANCE AND I LOVE TO HAVE FUN. I SMILE ALOT. ALSO HOW FUNNY IS THIS. IT'S MY BIRTHDAY MONTH ( FEBRUARY 9) AND THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON ME. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME!!! LOL*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**JOANN UMEKI**



**SPEECH LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*THIS IS MY 11TH YEAR WITH PAEC.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*AS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, THE THINGS I ENJOY MOST ARE WORKING WITH STUDENTS 1:1 OR IN SMALL GROUPS, AND HAVING NO TWO DAYS THAT ARE EXACTLY THE SAME.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*BEING FLEXIBLE AND WILLING TO HELP OTHERS ARE TRAITS THAT HAVE HELPED ME THRIVE*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*FOR FUN, I GO BIRDWATCHING! SLPS LOVE CATEGORIZING, CLASSIFYING, AND MAKING LISTS, AND MY BIRD "LIFE LIST" NOW CONTAINS MORE THAN 250 SPECIES OF BIRDS!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**CIARA MCGLYNN**



**SPEECH LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

I'VE WORKED AT PAEC FOR JUST OVER 3 YEARS IN DISTRICT 88'S EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM.

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT MY JOB HERE IS BEING ABLE TO SEE THE AMAZING PROGRESS THAT OUR STUDENTS CAN MAKE AND HOW THEIR CONFIDENCE GROWS AS THEY GO THROUGH THEIR PRESCHOOL JOURNEY! I LOVE WORKING WITH OUR 3-5 YEAR OLDS BECAUSE THEY MAKE SUCH INCREDIBLE LEAPS AND BOUNDS IN THESE EARLY YEARS. I APPRECIATE BEING ABLE TO WORK WITH A TEAM OF WONDERFUL THERAPISTS TO COLLABORATE AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

MY BEST ADVICE FOR OTHERS IN MY POSITION WOULD BE TO FOCUS ON MAKING CONNECTIONS WITH THE STUDENTS AND HAVING FUN. THEY ARE SO MUCH MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED WHEN WE, THE ADULTS, REALLY BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN SUCCEED! I WOULD ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ASSUME THAT A STUDENT CAN DO THE TASK BEING ASKED OF THEM WHEN THEY ARE GIVEN THE RIGHT TOOLS AND TEACHING STRATEGIES.

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

A FUN FACT ABOUT ME IS THAT I WENT TO SEE THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPICS LAST YEAR! I'VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH THE OLYMPICS SINCE I WAS LITTLE, AND FINALLY GOT TO EXPERIENCE IT IN REAL LIFE!

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**KRISTIN LOCKWOOD**



**OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

I CANNOT REMEMBER FOR CERTAIN. I WAS CONTRACT INITIALLY AND BECAME A DIRECT HIRE 10 YEARS AGO, SO LET'S SAY BETWEEN 10-20 YEARS. THAT WAY WE CAN KEEP MY AGE IN TACT. :)

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT I ENJOY ABOUT MY POSITION. I ENJOY THE DIVERSITY OF STUDENTS THAT I GET TO WORK WITH. EVERY STUDENT IS DIFFERENT AND HAS DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SUPPORT AND CHALLENGES, SO IT KEEPS ME ON MY TOES. I ALSO ENJOY THAT I CAN WORK WITH A VARIETY OF AGE GROUPS, THOSE THAT ARE JUST GETTING INTO SCHOOL AND THOSE GRADUATING TO BEGIN A NEW CHAPTER. I ALSO LIKE MY JOB BECAUSE FOR THE MOST PART, I HAVE INTERACTION WITH STAFF THAT TRULY CARE AND WANT TO ADVOCATE FOR THE STUDENTS AND THEIR NEEDS.

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

STAY POSITIVE! THIS MAY BE DIFFICULT TIMES BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY CHANGES AND BUMPS IN THE ROAD BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY THAT MAY IMPACT US. IF YOU KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND JUST DO WHAT IS BEST FOR THE STUDENTS, IT WILL ALL WORK OUT, MAYBE NOT IN THE TIMELINE YOU HOPE FOR, BUT IT WILL EVENTUALLY. I WOULD ALSO USE YOUR RESOURCES AND LISTEN TO YOUR PEERS. IT IS MY OPINION THAT NOBODY GOES TO WORK TO DO A BAD JOB, BUT WE DEFINITELY HAVE DIFFERENT SKILL LEVELS. LASTLY, IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM BRING A SOLUTION.

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

I LOVE THE WATER, ENJOY JUST RELAXING BY A POOL OR ON THE BOAT WITH MY FAMILY AND/OR FRIENDS LISTENING TO MUSIC OR TUBING/SKIING WITH MY KIDS. THAT'S WHY HAVING SUMMERS OFF IS THE BEST!

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**AMY FARLEY**



**PHYSICAL  
THERAPIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC FOR 14 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I ENJOY WATCHING STUDENTS GAIN MORE INDEPENDENCE IN THE CLASSROOM, ON THE PLAYGROUND AND IN P.E. CLASS.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*WORK AS A TEAM! COLLABORATE AND MAKE IT FUN!*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I PLAYED RUGBY IN COLLEGE*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**CLAUDIA CARRANZA**



**PROGRAM  
ASSISTANT**

**JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN A PAEC EMPLOYEE FOR OVER 10 YEARS. I STARTED WORKING NOVEMBER 5, 2014.*

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*AS A TEACHER ASSISTANT I MOST ENJOY HELPING MY AMAZING TEACHER (MS. WILLIAMSON) WITH HER DAY TO DAY ACTIVITIES TO HELP THE CHILDREN DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS TO THE HIGHEST OF THEIR ABILITIES.*

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*THE ADVICE I WOULD GIVE ANY FUTURE ASSISTANTS IS TO HAVE LOTS OF PATIENCE WITH THE CHILDREN. HAVE SENSITIVITY AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CHILDREN AND PROVIDE THE SUPPORT NEEDED TO THE TEACHER. ALSO ALWAYS USE YOUR COMMON SENSE!*

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I ALSO HAVE A SISTER THAT WAS A PAEC STUDENT FOR 19 YEARS, SHE JUST GRADUATED LAST MAY. (BERENICE).*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**JUDY SENASE**



**SPEECH LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR PAEC FOR A VERY LONG TIME! I STARTED OUT AS A CONTRACTUAL SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST (EXACT YEAR UNKNOWN) COMPLETING BILINGUAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE EVALUATIONS (I FOUND SOME REPORTS THAT I COMPLETED FOR PAEC DATING BACK TO 2008!) LAST YEAR, I SIGNED UP AS A DIRECT HIRE WITH PAEC.*

## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I LOVE MEETING/EVALUATING STUDENTS OF ALL AGES. A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, I BEGAN TO PROVIDE DIRECT SPEECH THERAPY HERE AT PAEC, FIRST WITH YOUNG ADULTS IN THE TRANSITION PROGRAM, AND THEN PRESCHOOLERS, AND MOST RECENTLY STUDENTS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. I ALSO ENJOY WORKING WITH ALL OF THE AMAZING SLPS/STAFF AT PAEC CENTER AND AT LINCOLN PRIMARY.*

## **WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP. WHEN I STARTED PROVIDING DIRECT THERAPY TWO YEARS AGO AFTER 25 YEARS, I HAD A LOT OF LEARNING TO DO WHEN IT CAME TO USING EMBRACE. THANKFULLY, THERE WERE ALWAYS OTHER SLPS WILLING TO ANSWER ALL OF MY QUESTIONS. ALSO, HAVE FUN WITH THE KIDS!*

## **TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*WHEN I STARTED KINDERGARTEN (MANY MOONS AGO!) I DIDN'T SPEAK ANY ENGLISH, AND BILINGUAL PROGRAMS WERE JUST STARTING TO BE IMPLEMENTED. BECAUSE I WAS A QUIET GIRL WHO FOLLOWED THE RULES AND FOLLOWED WHAT HER CLASSMATES DID, MY KINDERGARTEN TEACHER HAD NO IDEA I DIDN'T SPEAK ENGLISH UNTIL PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES A COUPLE OF MONTHS INTO THE SCHOOL YEAR!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**ESTEFANIA ROSAS**



**SCHOOL  
PSYCHOLOGIST**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE WORKED AT PAEC ON AND OFF FOR ABOUT 5 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*AS A BILINGUAL PSYCHOLOGIST, I ENJOY SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND ENSURING THAT THEY RECEIVE THE SERVICES NEEDED FOR SUCCESS IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*I WOULD TELL THEM TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR COWORKERS. THIS POSITION REQUIRES A LOT OF COLLABORATION SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP FROM OTHERS!*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I AM VERY PROUD TO BE COLOMBIAN AND I HAD MY DREAM WEDDING IN CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA IN 2022!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**CATRINA CLARK**



**PROGRAM  
ASSISTANT**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*THIS IS MY 26TH YEAR WORKING FOR PAEC*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I ENJOY WORKING WITH MY CLASSROOM AND SEEING THE STUDENTS SMILE AND SHOW EXCITEMENT TO SEE ME*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*MY ADVICE IS TO BE PATIENT, FLEXIBLE AND POSITIVE. THEY WATCH OUR EVERY MOVE.*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I HAVE TWO PET HOUSE RABBITS THAT ARE MY WORLD. I AM A BLUEY FANATIC, I LOVE ALL THINGS BLUEY (YES, I'M A BIG KID) LOL*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**CHANCE MANZO**



**TEACHER**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*2024-2025 IS MY THIRD YEAR AT PAEC*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*LEARNING DIFFERENT TECHNIQUES, STRATEGIES AND APPROACHES FOR EFFECTIVE INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS FROM MY COLLEAGUES.*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*IN ANY POSITION, ALWAYS MAKE TIME TO LOOK UP AND REEVALUATE YOUR SITUATION. SEEK NEW PASSIONS- ALWAYS REMEMBERING THAT YOU ARE ALLOWED TO FALL OUT-OF-PASSION WITH ANYTHING OR ANYONE AT ANY TIME BUT, IF YOU TRY TO STAY PUT YOU WILL BE UNHAPPY AND UNFULFILLED-YOU DESERVE BETTER.*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*SEVERAL YEARS AGO I LEGALLY ADOPTED MY NIECES; WE GET A LOT OF LAUGHS FROM THE REACTIONS PEOPLE GIVE WHEN WE INFORM THEM THAT THEIR PARENTS ARE BROTHER AND SISTER.*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**MARIELA VAZQUEZ**



**PROGRAM  
ASSISTANT  
JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC 6 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*GETTING TO KNOW THE STUDENTS ON A PERSONAL LEVEL AND BECOMING A TRUSTED SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR THEM. AND OF COURSE THE STAFF!*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*DON'T BE TOO SERIOUS, HAVE FUN AT WORK! :)*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I LOVE MY DOG, MR. WHISKERS!*

# PAEC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**MICHAEL HUGHES**



**CUSTODIAN**

**JANUARY 2025**

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT PAEC?**

*I HAVE BEEN AT PAEC 23 YEARS.*

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR JOB/POSITION?**

*I ENJOY WORKING WITH MY HANDS*

**WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS IN YOUR POSITION TO HELP THEM EXCEL?**

*TAKE PRIDE IN THE WORK THAT YOU DO.*

**TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING OR FUNNY ABOUT YOURSELF.**

*I LOVE SINGING OUTLOUD AND GOING FISHING.*

# P.A.E.C. ACADEMY STAFF BREAKFAST



# P.A.E.C. ACADEMY TIGERS ADVANCE TO STATE FINALS!

## Regionals 2nd Place in Division 5



# P.A.E.C. ACADEMY

## MUSIC CLASS WITH MR. CRAIG CHRISTIANSEN



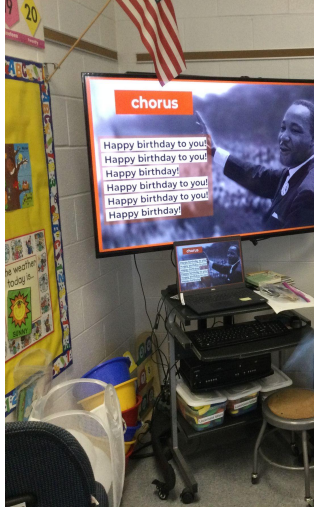
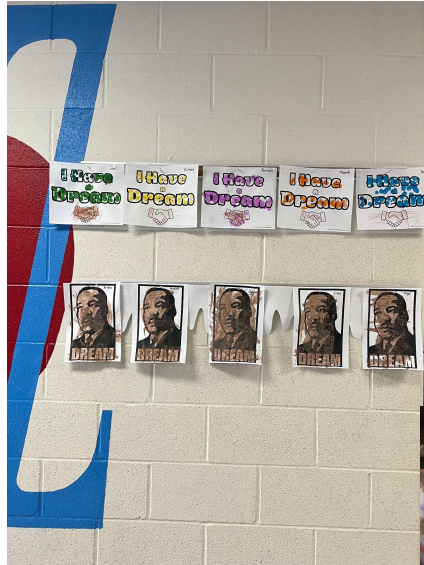
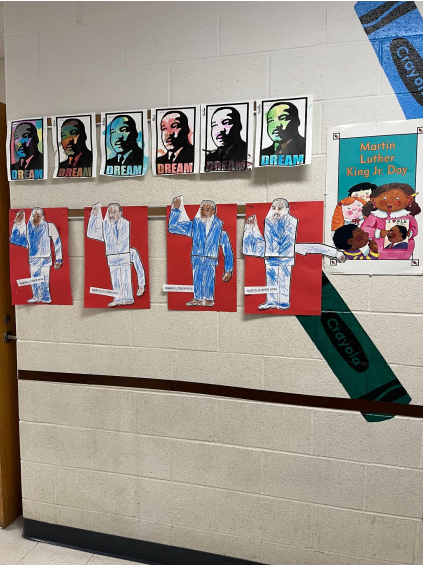
# P.A.E.C. ACADEMY PEP RALLY



# P.A.E.C. ACADEMY

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE IN JANUARY







## Early Childhood- Therapy Dog Visit 1-24-25





## **PAEC ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT UPDATES FROM JANUARY 2025**

### **Business Department: Dr. Paul Starck-King**

- Presentation/Updates regarding the Geo-Thermal project
  - Funding
  - Bidding
- Food Service Update
- Transportation Update
- Treasurer's Report
- Staffing

### **IT Department**

#### **New Access point at Academy**

A few access points and PoE switches stopped working at the Academy, causing them to lose internet access for half of the school. We have replaced the dead APs (access points) and restored the academy's internet access. We are waiting on feedback from the staff/students to see if we have any dead spots or issues.

### **Buildings and Grounds Department**

KCW replaced the coupler on the package unit in Elementary Room 171. MidCity plumbing replaced the p trap on the hand sink in the boys' restroom at PAEC Academy. MidCity plumbing serviced a wall-hung toilet in room D4 at PAEC Center. MidCity plumbing hydrojetted and rodded the boys' urinal at PAEC Academy. American Backflow repaired devices at PAEC Elementary. Brothers Landscaping salted our parking lot since ours needs repair. ITR Systems service was requested to repair a clock circuit at the High School. Warehouse Direct repaired the auto scrubber at the 1636 building

### **Human Resources**

1. EBC Update: On January 29, 2025, Mr. Southward, HR Generalist, and Mr. James, Executive Director, attended meetings scheduled by Arthur Gallagher & Co. and the Educational Benefit Cooperative held at Maggiano's in Schaumburg, Illinois. The meeting discussed the primary renewal of the insurance package, as well as providing updates on current programs, new initiatives, and the current state of the market.
2. Job Fairs: PAEC will be participating in the West 40 2nd Annual Job Fair on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Approximately thirty school districts will be in attendance. In addition, PAEC will be participating in job fairs at North Central College and the virtual IASPA Education Fair.

## **PAEC PROGRAM UPDATES FROM JANUARY 2025**

### **PAEC Academy at Divine Infant**

PAEC Academy has been busy finishing FastBridge Testing and gathering materials to start the ACCESS Test. We are busy with IEP meetings, as we have a high number of reevaluations this year.

Our spirit days this month were; Mismatch Day, Winter White Day, and PAEC Spirit Day. Students learned about Martin Luther King Junior and that will now lead into our Black History Month Celebration. We also have our Bowling/Pizza Party Coming up on Valentine's Day.

Our Special Olympics team played the PAEC High school Team for a few practice games. Each team won one of the games. The players had a great time.

We are currently transitioning one student back to the district with another starting to transition back in February. We also have three new students coming to us in the next few weeks.

In March we will be having our talent show, in which all board members are encouraged to join us. Many of the students that signed up to perform are students who were painfully shy when they started at PAEC Academy. Students really put themselves out there, and it is very enjoyable to watch.

Ms. Pena, our Social Worker, is working on improving student attendance. Starting today Ms. Pena and Ms. Mayer will be handing out perfect attendance certificates along with a homework pass that they can use in the month of February for one night of homework.

### **PAEC Early Childhood**

- January went by pretty quickly despite being a long month. We had three students join the program this month.
- One student transitioned back to the district preschool.
- The EC Principal did three observations this month for prospective new students in the coming months.
- We also had the Therapy dogs visit and our wonderful music therapy continues on a weekly basis.
- This month the students completed the studied Winter clothing and learned about Dr. Martin Luther King
- The weekly academic targets for January were the following:
  - COLORS: Brown and White
  - SHAPES: Star, Heart
  - LETTERS: W, C, Q
  - NUMBERS: 7 and 8

## PAEC Therapeutic Day Elementary School

- Staff/Student
  - Current enrollment- 49 students (1 diagnostic placements)
  - Staffing- 3 vacancies (three permanent sub teachers)
- Transition Report
  - District 87- 5
  - District 88- 2
  - District 91- 0
  - District 92- 0
  - District 93- 0
- Monthly Update: Students and staff returned from winter break refreshed and renewed! The NEDSRA basketball season kicked off to a great start with a win! Students in Ms. Robinson's class celebrated the 100th Day of School with old age and fun activities.



- Behavior Management:
  - RTOs- 3
  - Police/First Responder Calls- 2

## PAEC Therapeutic Day High School Academics

Students have adjusted to their new schedules for the third quarter and all the transcripts have been updated to send to the special ed coordinators, counselors, and registrars at Proviso East and West. We have completed our MAP Winter Assessment and will gather data to review with

the teachers. Thank you to Mr. Aschoff and Ms. Fleming for their assistance in ensuring that PAEC can be set up as a testing site. The ACT and Pre-Act Data have been entered so all the students are prepared to take the state-wide test in April.

### **Happenings**

Staff and students will celebrate Valentine’s Day by filling up a big heart design in the hallway with little paper hearts that include a message with a random act of kindness written on them throughout the month.

On **February 28, 2025**, at 10 a.m., we will have our annual Black History Celebration. This year's theme celebrates African American contributions to labor history and highlights their lasting impact on workers’ rights and economic justice.

The students will have an assigned table in the gym to view the presentations with their First Period Class and learn about these historical figures. Each classroom will showcase its labor leader through a PowerPoint presentation, optional decorations, and a creative video.

This project celebrates African American contributions to labor history and highlights their lasting impact on workers’ rights and economic justice.

### **Transitioning Students**

We are actively monitoring the student's behavior levels, attendance, and grades to set up transitioning meetings part-time back to Proviso East and West. In January a student earned a half day back to Proviso East starting March 17, the start of the fourth quarter.

Physical Management	0
Police Calls	0
Ambulance	3
Restorative Meeting	7

### **24-25 Current Enrollment**

76 Students

### **PAEC Therapeutic Day High School Vocational Program**

We are in a new semester at PAEC High School and as a result, we have rotated the students involved in the work program. Mr. Loving is in the process of interviewing new students. The new students will have a formal job interview with our job coaches to help prepare them for interviews outside the school.

Ms. Holsten worked with Ms. Lorek to ensure all the students' schedules were correct and that all the seniors were on track for graduation. Ms. Holsten monitors the APEX students and assists them when needed.

Ms. Holsten has contacted senior parents to discuss postsecondary planning. Depending on the postsecondary plans, Ms. Holsten has been connecting families directly to various postsecondary settings such as DRS, Seguin, Triton, Job Center in Maywood, etc. Ms. Holsten has also been meeting with those service providers to verify eligibility and share information for referrals.

Ms. Holsten connected with various postsecondary placements to invite them to our Postsecondary Options and Career Fair which will be held on Friday, March 21st from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

We started our job shadowing program this month. We have one student who job shadowed a paraprofessional in early childhood two days a week for one hour. So far, it is going very well.

Mr. Loving coordinated a new group for a 10-week financial literacy course that started this week. Seven new students will attend the program to learn about banking, savings accounts, owning a home, and paying bills.

We began our second semester with RR Trade School. Seven new students are attending. We would like to coordinate an advanced group for the following school year, where our students would attend up to two semesters of training. We received very positive feedback from our students and several asked if they could continue the program, which made us consider a second advanced semester of training.

### **PAEC Center School**

The students came back from break ready to start the new year!

IEP and Re-evaluation meetings started immediately.

ACCESS Testing materials have been received and teachers are setting up for testing.

Quarterly reports were sent out! The school year is half over!

Winter Wonderfest occurred. Students prepared winter themes in the gyms. There were also winter games for the students to play. A good time was had by all!

We had our annual Chili Cook Off Fundraiser for staff. There were five different chilis presented. Congratulations to Mike Hughes for winning the contest for the second year in a row.

Martin Luther King was celebrated. There was student work adorning the halls representing his legacy.

Teacher observations started up again.

We look forward to celebrating February which is always busy with Black History Month, Valentine's Day, etc.

**PAEC Center School Vocational/Transition Program**

We currently have 3 students employed competitively. Unemployed students are directed to apply for competitive employment via online, in person, or direct contact with employers. These students are monitored by Vocational Coordinator or Transition Staff via in person, one-on-one meets, emails, and/or text messaging. When students apply for competitive employment on their own, they are instructed to send me screenshots of completed applications. We also keep records of applications, students complete with me and/or staff.

**Students that are currently employed are on the chart below:**

	<b>Employment</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Job</b>
1	Jewel	20 hours	Bagger/Stocker
2	Goodwill	15-20 hours per week	Store Clerk
3	Jewel	Part Time	Bagger

I am pleased to announce one of our students was hired this week by Jewel.

Students volunteer for 6 volunteer job sites this 2024-25 school year, where students are being trained on job skills that will increase their job readiness skills. We are still looking to increase the number of sites we have, with a hopeful increase in staff.

We are training our Transition students to complete job tasks, answer mock interview questions, complete mock job applications and more. I set up individual meetings with these students. We are practicing mock interviews and completing mock applications. Ensuring ID's have not expired, or get renewed in a timely manner. Students are completing live applications, which we are currently waiting to hear from employers as well as contacting employers to follow up on our applications.

We are working hard to obtain competitive employment for our students. We have had some interviews and have been unsuccessful in obtaining employment. We are continuing interviewing, and following up with employers to get our students hired.

### **PAEC Behavior Intervention Team**

The PAEC Behavior Intervention Team continues to provide behavioral support and interventions to reduce undesired behaviors within the Proviso Township school districts.

The Elementary Behavior Coaches are required to implement the 8-Week Step Interventions & Support Curriculum developed based on evidenced-based data and documenting.

**Total number of PAEC Behavior Intervention Team: 14**

**Active: 13**

Interventionist has begun working at Proviso West; start date was 1/6/24 Interventionist for Proviso East has a start date of February 18, 2025.

Two potential candidates for East and West are currently being processed through HR.

**Projected total number: 16**

Proviso East: 2

Proviso West: 3

District 87: 2

Floating Coaches (PAEC Academy, District 88, District 93, District 92, District 87): 7

**There were a total of 5 individual student referrals in January. There were a total of 2 classroom referrals submitted in January.**

**District 803** - PAEC Academy

**PAEC Academy:**

Two Coaches continue to provide additional support to teachers and personnel regarding undesired behaviors.

**District 87** - Jefferson Primary | Sunnyside Intermediate | Whittier Primary | Riley Intermediate | Northlake Middle School | MacArthur Middle School

**Jefferson:**

*Kindergarten Referral 3:* The Coach has worked with this student and teacher for 7 weeks, and continues implementing small rewards for appropriate behavior, collaborating with the school Counselor regarding SEL services, prompting and a token economy system.

There are currently 4 Coaches who continue to provide on-going support for teachers, students and personnel for previous assignments that have been completed.

**Whittier:**

*Kindergarten Referral:* The assigned Coach continues to provide data collection while implementing interventions such as scheduled sensory breaks, prompting, positive reinforcement and a token economy system.

**Sunnyside Intermediate:**

*Third Grade Classroom Referrals:* The Principal has reported a significant reduction of undesired behaviors exhibited among the entire third grade population. Coaches have provided necessary interventions and documentation to the proper stakeholders due to the potential of transitioning out in February.

**Riley Intermediate:**

*Third Grade Student:* The Coordinator and assigned Coach are awaiting a return date for the student; he is currently enrolled in the PAEC Elementary program.

**District 92 - Lindop School**

*Pre-K Referral:* The Coach continues to work with the Special Ed Coordinator and classroom teachers to implement interventions such as a token economy, mild consequences (stop and think chair) and positive reinforcement. This assignment is ongoing due to the Special Ed Director's preference of continued support.

*Kindergarten Referral 2:* Due to a significant reduction in undesired behaviors exhibited by the student, the referral is no longer necessary. However, the Special Ed Director has requested that the assigned Coach remain in the classroom to assist in managing classwide behaviors.

**District 88** - Lincoln Primary | Grant Primary | Grant Elementary | Lincoln Elementary | McKinley Elementary | Thurgood Marshall Elementary | Roosevelt Middle School

**Lincoln Elementary:**

*Kindergarten Referral:* The student has transitioned out of the classroom as of January 25 due to the need for a more appropriate academic setting.

*First Grade Referral:* The Coach continues implementing interventions such as mild consequences (stop and think chair), verbal praise, token economy (Lincoln bucks/prizes) and antecedent modifications (rearranging desks). It is reported that the student's behavior has improved. Due to the teacher's request for on-going support, the Coach remains in the class to assist with minimal behavioral disruptions.

*First Grade Referral:* The Coordinator has completed initial observations. A Coach is already assigned to another student within this classroom, therefore she will begin working directly with the student to improve behaviors and work performance.

**McKinley Elementary:**

*2 Fifth Grade Classroom Referrals:* Two Behavior Coaches continue working together within the classrooms and are working closely with the teachers to improve classroom management skills utilizing antecedent modifications, mild consequences, a token economy system. The Coaches have provided all Stakeholders with proper intervention documentation and will successfully transition out of the classrooms during the first week of February.

*2 Fourth Grade Classroom Referrals:* Two Behavior Coaches continue working together in both classrooms and are working closely with the teachers to improve classroom management skills utilizing antecedent modifications, mild consequences, a token economy system. The Coaches have provided all Stakeholders with proper intervention documentation and will successfully transition out of the classrooms during the first week of February.

*1 Third Grade Classroom Referral:* Two Behavior Coaches continue working together in the classrooms and are working closely with the teachers to improve classroom management skills utilizing antecedent modifications, mild consequences, a token economy system. The Coaches have provided all Stakeholders with proper intervention documentation and will successfully transition out of the classrooms during the first week of February.

*1 Second Grade Referral:* The Coordinator will complete observations during the first week of February. A Coach is already assigned to another student within this classroom, therefore she will begin working directly with the student to improve behaviors.

**Thurgood Marshall Elementary:**

*Kindergarten Referral:* This referral was previously submitted and removed in September, however due to an increase of undesired behaviors from the student it has been resubmitted. A Coach has been assigned and is in the process of collecting first weeks data to understand the function of her behavior.

**District 93 - Hillside Elementary**

*3 Third Grade Classroom Referrals:* The Coordinator has begun conducting initial observations as of 1/27. One Coach will be assigned to provide classwide management techniques.

*Kindergarten Referral:* The Coordinator has conducted an initial observation and will be assigning a Coach to assist with the student and teacher.

*Kindergarten Classroom Referral:* The Coordinator has conducted an initial observation and will be assigning a Coach to provide classwide management techniques.

**District 209 - Proviso East High School | Proviso West High School | Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy**

There are currently a total of 4 Behavior Interventionists assigned to 209; 1 is assigned to East and 3 are assigned to West. Interventionists are now assigned to Deans, who work directly under Grade Level Principals.

Proviso West duties consist of assisting with lunch room monitoring based on procedures to reduce student physical and verbal altercations among one another. The Interventionist also supports within the halls and Reset Rooms to pass out late passes and intervening with students

to limit tardiness and truancy.

The Coordinator is in on-going communication with Principals regarding staff needs and updates of new BI's HR processing/start date.

### **PAEC OT/PT Department**

#### **Activities of the department:**

1. The AT Team continues to conduct SETT meetings to come up with appropriate assistive technology to address the educational needs of their struggling students.
2. The Lead OT/PT/AT is developing a plan for OT coverage of meetings and treatment for the OTs who have resigned and who have been out of the office for a period of time.
3. The AT Team attended a staff meeting in person and via Google Meet for those not able to attend in person on 1-08-25 from 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM.
4. The OT/PT Department attended a staff meeting on 1-16-25 via Google Meet from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm.
5. The Lead OT/PT/AT attended the Special Events Committee Meeting via Google Meet on 1-24-25 from 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM.
6. The Lead OT/PT/AT provided orientation to one of the new OTs on 1-27-25 from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.
7. The Lead OT/PT/AT, PAEC Social Worker, and PAEC Center principal visited a few sites within the cooperative for a potential Prom location. Checking to see if the facilities were accessible and would meet the needs of our students. A few more sites will be visited before decisions are made.
8. Our OT/PT/AT Lead attended an OT/PT Coordinators meeting via Zoom on 1-29-25 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.
9. The Lead OT/PT/AT and PAEC related services
10. The Lead OT/PT/AT conducted interviews throughout the months of December and January for two OTs. Two OTs have now been hired and are in the process of orientation and beginning their caseload assignments.
11. The Lead OT/PT/AT attended an Administrative Staff meeting on 1-24-25 from 10:00 pm - 3:00 pm. This meeting began with Incident Command System (ICS) Training and Testing.
12. On 1-29-25, several OTs and PTs attended a full-day Starnet workshop titled: The Intersection of Trauma, Play, and Learning.

13. The Lead OT/PT/AT is in the process of attending the ATIA 2025 Conference virtually from 1-30-25 to 2-01-25.

Some equipment that came in during January that was ordered were batteries, tennis balls, a small suitcase to transport the Peabody Developmental Motor Scales-3 test, a keyboard cover, Hitch 2, jelly bean switches, and a compression vest.

See the pictures below for the Hitch 2, jelly bean switch, and compression vest.



### **PAEC Psychology Department**

Ms. Dayle Ashley-Harding attended a STARnet training on nonverbal TPBA assessments on January 29, 2025. She will share information on her session at the next psych department meeting

Dr. Thomas Naratadam, Hillside School Psychologist, continues to provide support in terms of MTSS academic and behavioral intervention, case management, and consultation with staff.

Ms. Annamaria Iarppino, psychologist intern, will be presenting on multicultural issues, diversity, equity and disproportionate representation of POC in certain eligibilities at the NASP Annual Convention on February 21 in Seattle, WA.

Dr. Michael Cermak, lead school psychologist, continues to provide SEL support to several students in District 87 at MacArthur and Sunnyside. Students are working on emotional regulation and coping skills. Dr. Cermak also provides some college guidance to a senior at PMSA and meets with a freshman at PMSA as well. He has recently been nominated to run as president elect for the Illinois School Psychologist Association with elections in the spring. He is also teaching a class on school based consultation at The Chicago School this semester.

### **PAEC Social Work Department**

1. Ms. Donna Kuchera, M.S.W., Ms. Kelsey Thomas-Diaz, M.S.W., Ms. Alexandra Kagan, M.S.W., and Ms. Lisa Pirrello, L.C.S.W. (PAEC School Social Workers & PAEC Lead School Social Worker-PAEC High School Therapeutic Day School) and Ms. Tanaijah Fields (social work intern) continue to provide support to students in crisis to minimize escalations and to provide individual/small group social work sessions covering the following topics: Anger Management; Regulation of Emotions; Developing Self-Advocacy, Implementing Coping Strategies; Substance Abuse; Absenteeism and Fostering Healthy

Friendships/Relationships/Personal Interactions. The PAEC School Social Workers assisted Ms. Holsten, the PAEC Vocational Coordinator with student online registration for their upcoming ACT Standardized Tests.

2. Ms. Monette Carlos, L.C.S.W., R.P.T. (PAEC School Social Worker – PAEC Early Childhood Program), continues to provide social work services to the early childhood students. During her classroom groups, Ms. Carlos has been working on: labeling our emotions, practicing breathing and counting when we are mad, practicing listening skills with different activities and playing group games like musical chairs. In individual sessions, Ms. Carlos has been working on: cooperative play, turn taking, waiting, sharing, and asking for a turn. Additionally, Ms. Carlos attended the STARNET Training on the intersection of trauma, play and learning. Additionally, she will be planning and coordinating Spirit Week in February with the Random Acts of Kindness Theme. Currently, Ms. Carlos, as the Co-Chair of the PAEC Social Work Department In-Service Committee is working alongside this committee's membership and the Lead School Social Worker in securing speakers for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Ms. Vicki Bailey, M.S.W. and Ms. Glenda Liboy, M.S.W., (PAEC School Social Workers – Proviso West High School) continue to provide individual & small group school social work services to the students with special education needs and to students in the TST Program. Topics covered in social work sessions include: Emotional Regulation; Decreasing Absenteeism, Organizational Skill and Coping strategies. Additionally, Ms. Vicki Bailey assisted a homeless student prior to winter break and was able to provide this student and the student's family with holiday gifts, food baskets and other needed items. Ms. Liboy, as a bilingual school social worker, has assisted students with language barriers on an as needed basis. Ms. Liboy will be attending the Elmhurst University Senior Field Trip in February. Both social workers have assisted staff members with DCFS Calls.
4. Ms. Jill Collins, M.S.W., Ms. Anna Landmeier, L.C.S.W., C.A.D.C., and Ms. Alexandra Kagan, M.S.W., (PAEC School Social Workers-PAEC Center School) continues to meet with the students on their caseloads individually and/or in classroom groups. During the month of January, Ms. Collins has been working on Relationship Skills, Coping Skills/Strategies, Mindfulness, Reviewing of School/Classroom Rules and Advocacy. Additionally, Ms. Collins has assisted with the planning and coordinating of Winterfest, the upcoming PAEC Center School Prom and has provided parent/guardian and staff resources on food pantries, domestic violence support and guardianship information. Ms. Anna Landmeier has been working on the following topics during her individual/group social work sessions: Social Stories (Outdoor Winter Clothing, Coping with Transitions in School); Coping Skills Strategies for Behavioral De-Escalation; Social/Mindfulness Skill Building Activities; Kind vs. Unkind Behaviors; Feelings/Thoughts/Perspective Activities; and Dealing with Scared/Worried/Sad Emotions. Ms. Alexandra Kagan has been working on the following topics with students on her caseload: Appropriate Communication/Interaction Skills with peers/staff; Developing Coping Strategies and How to Keep Conversations Going during Social Interactions. Additionally, Ms. Kagan continues to assist with

providing support to the PAEC Center Staff in and out of the classroom settings, providing crisis intervention, participating in PAEC Center Building teams and committee meetings.

5. Ms. Nyiane Serrano, M.S.W., and Mr. Patrick Rossi, L.C.S.W. (PAEC School Social Workers-PAEC Elementary School) continue to provide social work services to students and families they serve, assisting students to emotionally regulate, develop better listening skills, learning to wait their turn during social work group activities, and increase their ability to follow directions. Currently, Mr. Rossi has introduced the Zones of Regulation in his social work groups. Additional topics covered during social work individual/group sessions by Mr. Rossi and Ms. Serrano include: Hallway/Playground/Classroom Expectations; Respecting Personal Space; Learning to lose without having a tantrum; and Practicing Good Hygiene.
6. Ms. Nicole Pena, M.S.W. (PAEC School Social Worker-PAEC Academy) continues to provide individual/small group/classroom group/push-in social work sessions to the students at PAEC Academy, covering topics such as: Sharing; Learning Responsible Behavior; and Learning to be a Good Friend. Ms. Pena has collaborated with other therapists (SLP, OT & PT) during her super groups. Additionally, Ms. Pena provides daily check-ins and check-outs with students and facilitates daily push-in social work services in classrooms throughout the school day. Ms. Pena has provided families with referrals, as needed, and attended Group Supervision.
7. Ms. Diana Stephens, M.S.W., A.C.S.W., P.P.S.C. C.W.A. and Ms. Temika Peace, M.S.W., (PAEC School Social Workers –Proviso East High School) continue to provide individual/small group social work sessions to students on their caseload at Proviso East High School, as well as attending annual review and re-evaluation meetings. This month, Ms. Peace and Ms. Stephens have been involved in the planning and coordinating of the Signs of Suicide Elyssa’s Mission Screenings which will take place at Proviso East in February. Ms. Peace will be coordinating and facilitating a Care Closet which will provide hygiene and other care items to students. Ms. Peace secured donations from the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Donations for the Care Closet will begin to arrive at Proviso East in March 2025. Ms. Stephens continues to meet with the Sophomore team every week to discuss grades, behavioral challenges, attendance issues, etc. Additionally, Ms. Stephens created a power point for the Sophomore Team’s College/Career Options for Sophomore students to assist them in developing an understanding of what different career paths they may choose to consider, post high school graduation. Both social workers meet on a monthly basis with the school based health clinic team to discuss difficult cases and processes of mutual students.
8. Ms. Kenya Dockens, L.C.S.W. PAEC School Social Worker – Hillside School) continues to facilitate 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade groups each week. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade group has been focusing on Emotional Regulation; the 5<sup>th</sup> grade group has been working on Conflict Resolution, 6<sup>th</sup> grade group has been working on Organizational Skills, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade group has been focusing on Stress Response, Social Strategies and Self-Awareness and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade group has been focusing on Self-Awareness and Emotional

Regulation. Additionally, Ms. Dockens participated in the Hillside School Safety Committee, facilitated the New Teacher Mentorship Meeting on 1/10 & 17/2025 and attended a training on MTSS Essential Practices on 1/13/2025.

9. Ms. Lisa Pirrello, L.C.S.W., (PAEC Lead School Social Worker) has been working collaboratively with the PAEC Social Work Department In-Service committee and it's Co-Chair, Ms. Monette Carlos, in choosing topics and securing speakers for next year's (2025-26) PAEC School Social Work Department's professional developments. Ms. Pirrello has arranged for another Comfort Dog visit to occur at PAEC High School Therapeutic Day School, PAEC Elementary and PAEC Early Childhood programs on Monday, February 21, 2025 and continues to provide support, guidance and supervision to the PAEC School Social Workers individually and/or in group as needed. Ms. Pirrello attended the NIMS/FEMA Incident Command Training and Exam hosted by PAEC. Additionally, Ms. Pirrello participated in an after work hours training on Domestic Violence: Recognition & Intervention.

10. The next PAEC School Social Work Department Meeting and In-Service Training is:

Date: Friday, April 25, 2025

Time: 10am-1pm

Topic: "Leveraging Anime Narratives in Play Therapy"

Speaker: Gian Ramos Monserrate, MD

PAEC Social Work Department Meeting

Time: 2pm-3pm

#### **PAEC Speech/Language Department**

- PAEC Elementary School speech/language services will be covered by two current SLP, Judy Senase and Patricia Bejarano, for the remainder of the school year.
- The Lead SLP attended committee meetings for the Policy committee on January 8th and the Calendar committee on January 11th.
- The Lead SLP attended a Northern IL Speech/Language Coordinators meeting on January 24th. Topics discussed include the ASHA affairs, continuing education planning, and more.
- The Leadership team participated in a training, Introduction to the Incident Command System for Schools on January 24th from 10 am - 2 pm. Randy Braverman and Will Gage from West 40 presented and the leadership team participated in a test prior to the training resulting in a certification of completion.
- Representatives from AnthroMed visited the lead SLP at PAEC Center on January 30th.

## **PAEC Special Olympics**

### ***PAEC Center PACERS***

The Special Olympics PACERS gave their best effort when they participated in the Tournament for Region C that was held January 19th at Unity Junior High School in Cicero, Illinois. They won their first game by a large margin: 38-18. Unfortunately, they lost the second game to Downer Grove: 48-23. PACERS did not get the Gold Medal but by winning the first game, they won the Silver Medal. The PACERS will be closing out their season on Tuesday, February 4th. We will be playing a game at West Leyden High School at 4:30 pm. Family and friends are welcome to come and cheer us on!

### ***PACE Academy TIGERS***

Tigers qualified for the State Tournament that will be held in Bloomington, IL on March 4-5. We wish them luck and thank the coaches that have worked really hard with the athletes.

We held two scrimmage games: PACERS vs TIGERS on Tuesday January 28, at PAEC Center. We plan on having another scrimmage game in order to help the Tigers get ready for the Tournament in March.





For next year, we plan to start registration earlier than before in order to plan accordingly. We want to start practice as soon as school starts in August in order to get our athletes ready. We want to be able to start with our training early and to explain the fundamental rules of the game while ensuring safe play.

Special Olympics coaches want to continue to be inspired and motivated and to give back to our students. I've been part of PAEC for the last 13 years, working in and out in the district and the surrounding Proviso community have made me more focused when it comes to working with our special needs students.

I would like to thank PAEC for giving me the opportunity to work this year with the SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAMS. Thank you to all the Coaches and Ms. Cecy Mendoza. Special thanks to Ms. Evelyn Carreto for all the hard work to make sure that PACE Center PACERS and PAEC Academy Tigers get to their games and assisting me behind the scenes.

Fun fact: In 1976, I received a "Certificate of Participation", by the United States Olympic Committee as a Candidate for the Final Trials for The Games of the XXI Olympiad at Montreal, July 17th to August 1, 1976, for the 400 meter race.