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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Positive Happenings throughout Roselle Schools - Feb. 24 to Feb. 28**

### **History Comes Alive at Abraham Clark High School with Third-Annual Living Wax Museum**

History came to life at Abraham Clark High School's third-annual Living Wax Museum this week in honor of Black History Month.

Students from the school's Drama I class spent the entire month researching a historical or modern-day African American person of significance and were challenged to learn all about their life to create a one- to two-minute dialogue. Students also needed to dress like their heroes or have a prop that represents who they are.

The students then turned the school's auditorium into their Living Wax Museum as they stood perfectly still on stage as other students approached them to learn about who they were representing.

Each student had a "push" button on their shoulder for attendees to push and then they started their monologue.

Historical figures that were highlighted include Aretha Franklin, Lorraine Hansberry and, of course, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"I'm just so proud of our students as this project is more than just learning about Black History Month; it teaches students how to be on stage and about public speaking," said Samantha Santangelo, an English and drama teacher who orchestrates the project each year.

The high school students also took a trip to the Roselle Preschool earlier in the week so the borough's youngest scholars could learn about the significance of these historical figures.



### **Grace Wilday Junior High School Celebrates iReady Progress**

Staff and students at Grace Wilday Junior High School celebrated their progress towards reaching their goals for the 2019-20 school year through the use of iReady.

iReady is a comprehensive assessment and instruction program that empowers educators with the resources they need to help all students succeed.

This is the second year that the Grace Wilday administration and instructional coaches hosted an assembly to celebrate the students and staff that have received the most growth from Diagnostic 1 – Diagnostic 2 in ELA and Math on their iReady assessment. The top three students that showed the most growth for each of their ELA and Math classes received recognition and certificates along with acknowledging the top teachers for ELA and Math for grades 7 and 8.

“In celebrating the students and staff, we continue to encourage our student to reach for the instructional progress goals set by iReady along with instilling academic excellence,” said Principal Tomeeko Hunt. “We know and understand that our students are on various academic levels. However, we don’t want our students to be discouraged; we want to keep them encouraged. When we acknowledge our students and staff, we continue to build relationships and foster a growth mindset among our students.”



### **Leonard V. Moore Middle School Hosts Ceremony for Honor-Roll Students**

Leonard V. Moore Middle School hosted its annual honor-roll award ceremony on Feb. 27 for all students.

Students earned recognition for academic and/or attendance accomplishments during the second marking period.

The event was run by the school's new vice principal, Mr. Andrey Green, and several parents and family members of those students receiving awards were in attendance for the proud moment.

### **Harrison Elementary School Students Participate in Digital Learning Day**

Students at Harrison Elementary School had a blast this week as the school participated in Digital Learning Day.

Each classroom focused on something different. For example, first graders worked with the San Diego Zoo to find facts about different animals and view live cams.

“Digital Learning Day promotes the effective use of modern-day tools afforded to every other industry to improve the learning experience in K-12 public schools,” said Principal Melissa Nevarez.

### **Washington Elementary School Students Perform in Honor of Black History Month**

Students at Washington Elementary School performed skits and songs in honor of Black History Month this week.

The school's annual showcase featured students from all grades performing skits about the Civil Rights Movement and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

### **Dr. Charles C. Polk Elementary School Black History Program**

The annual Black History Month celebration at Dr. Charles C. Polk Elementary School was a night filled with delicious food, student performances and awards.

The program kicked-off on Friday night, Feb. 28, with a parade of flags and greetings from Myrtle Counts, the president of the Roselle National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Antoinette Love, president of Roselle's National Council of Negro Women.

Awards were then presented to the family of Tessie O. Massey, the Roselle Active Seniors, Dr. Allen Potts; Director of the district's 21st Century Afterschool Program and Edwin Griffin, Polk Elementary Teacher of the Year.

The night finished with lively performances from each grade. The first-grade students performed a Kwanzaa presentation, the third graders sang "Rise Up" while the fourth graders danced through the decades. Finally, the second graders performed about the Harlem Renaissance.

The big finale consisted of a poem by the school's French teacher, Lociano Benjamin, and a schoolwide performance of "Carnival song."

"I am so proud of these students and all that they have accomplished," said Principal Andreaa Harry. "It also brings me great honor to give recognition to the members of our community who help our school throughout the year."



### **Students at Kindergarten Success Academy End Black History Month with Schoolwide Showcase**

As always, it was a "great day at the KSA" as students at the Kindergarten Success Academy celebrated Black History Month with a schoolwide showcase highlighting influential people such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

Each class at the KSA was tasked with decorating its door with information about individuals who make contributions to African American history and then creating a performance commemorating the historic contributions that those individuals made.

At the showcase, each class took the stage to educate their fellow classmates and family members in attendance.

One class highlighted Rosa Parks and recreated the famous incident when Parks would not give up her seat on a public bus. Another class highlighted the famous poet and civil rights activist Maya Angelou by performing a song entitled “What If.”

“We take this time each year to make sure our students learn about diversity and the important moments that changed our history such as Brown v. Board of Education in the 1950s,” said Principal Dr. Nathan Fisher. “We represent a global community here at the KSA and it’s amazing to see what our diverse group of students can accomplish.”

Other performances highlighted Louis Armstrong, Ruby Bridges, Dr. Mae Jemison, Ella Baker, Jackie Robinson and Maya Angelou.

“It’s so important to allow our students the opportunity to express themselves on stage like this,” Dr. Fisher added. “Especially during a month as significant as Black History Month.”



### **Roselle Preschoolers Collaborate with High School Students for “Living Wax Museum” Performance**

Roselle preschoolers continued to celebrate Black History month this week when the Preschool and high school collaborated to present a Living Wax Museum in honor of Black History Month.

Preschoolers worked with the high school drama club to portray Malcolm X, Martin Luther King and Jackie Robinson.

Preschool parents were also invited to attend the event and enjoy the presentation.