



# PANTHER PRIDE

## March 2020

### McClure Elementary

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the teachers and staff, we wanted to say thank you to our families and our community partners for their support during the month of January. While no one anticipated the degree of challenges that we faced, we are fortunate for the advocacy of our staff and families. We also wanted to inform you that the paint and plaster project will be officially starting the week of March 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition, you'll notice a portable trailer in the schoolyard; this is to provide adequate space for our Pre-K classroom (Room 11). If you have any questions please contact the Main Office at the number above.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration together and look forward to the warmer days ahead!

Respectfully,  
Sharon Marino  
Principal

### Panther Spotlight: Rm. 209 and Taller Puertorriqueño

This month's spotlight is on our partnership with Taller. Mr. Tony from Taller, is present every Tuesday providing music and dance opportunities for our students. During this class, Mr. Tony was working with students on their percussion work and every student was a master! To learn more about Taller and the amazing work they do, check out their website: [www.tallerpr.org](http://www.tallerpr.org) Thank you to Ms. Zimmer for facilitating this partnership!

### Spotlight:

Catherine Collazos  
Community School Coordinator



Our Community School Coordinator, Catherine Collazos, is our Staff Spotlight for this month. Ms. Catherine is a former Community School Navigator at "Say Yes" Buffalo and has several years of experience cultivating relationships and programs to ensure the continuum of services for students and families. Ms. Catherine's specific experience comes from a K-8 Bilingual School.

In terms of education, Ms. Catherine joins the team with a Masters of Public Health from the University at Albany, with a concentration on Social Behavioral and Community Health and a B.S in Health Care Studies, with a concentration in Community Health.

Out of all the Community Schools that were looking for a Community School Coordinator, Ms. Catherine said she chose to apply to McClure because of the rich history it has in the neighborhood. Also, being that she is Latina, and recognizing the population of Hispanics in our community, it gave her the comfort to be able to relate and work to become an asset to the school.

Ms. Catherine is originally a New Yorker...born and raised in Long Island! Ms. Catherine spent nine years in Buffalo and made the move to Philadelphia. She is Colombian and Panamanian and already found all the hot spots for Colombian food in Philadelphia (thank you Philly!). She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Ms. Catherine is also a super dog mom and cat mom and takes pride in calling them her children. Ms. Catherine says that she "tends to live a hectic life but I do take my mindfulness and meditation seriously. I strive to at least take one moment of silence throughout my work day. So, if you ever see me still with my eyes closed...I promise I am not sleeping (ha!)"

We are excited and proud to welcome Ms. Catherine to our community and school and we look forward to learning with her and from her as she supports moving the great community of Hunting Park forward through her coordination and work!



### SAVE THE DATE!

3/11- Spring Title I Parent Meeting @ 9:15 a.m. in the Lunchroom

Please join us to provide insight and feedback into the 2020-2021 school budget and school level plan

3/23- SAC (School Advisory Council) Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. in the Lunchroom  
Hope to see you there!