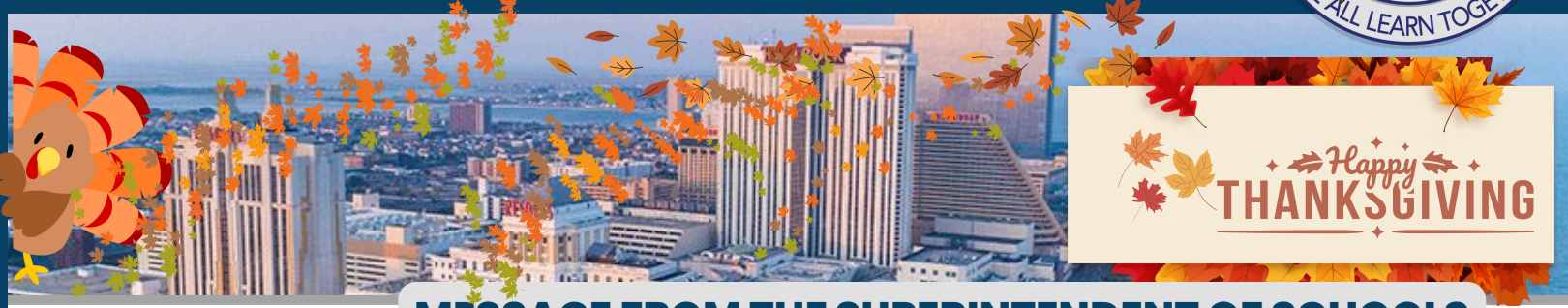




# THE SCOOP



Happy **THANKSGIVING**

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

### IMPORTANT DATES

First Marking Period  
Report Cards  
12/4/24

Thanksgiving Recess Begins  
(1/2 day for Staff and Students)  
11/27/24

Thanksgiving Recess  
(No School)  
11/28/24 - 11/29/24

Conferences  
(1/2 day for students)  
12/3/24, 12/4/24 & 12/5/24

Professional Day  
(1/2 day for students)  
12/12/24

Winter Recess Begins  
(1/2 day for Staff and Students)  
12/20/24

Winter Recess  
(No School)  
12/23/24 - 1/1/25

Return to School  
1/2/25

Professional Day  
(1/2 day for students)  
1/9/25

Presidents' Day  
(No School)  
2/17/25

Professional Day  
(1/2 day for students)  
2/20/25

Second Marking Period  
Report Cards  
2/20/25



*Dr. La'Quetta S. Small*  
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Atlantic City Public Schools Community:

As we approach the holiday season, the second marking period is underway. Our staff has worked diligently and collaboratively to provide a safe, conducive and enriched learning environment. As we strive for excellence in our school district, we will continue to empower our students to become problem solvers and critical thinkers.

We recognize the core of our school district is based on relationships between our parents, students, staff, community and the board of education. Let's continue to utilize our collective strength to provide the best education for all students who attend Atlantic City Public Schools.

You are valued and we appreciate your support and involvement. Please know that our dedicated staff will continue to make a positive difference in the life of each student entrusted to us. Thank you!



AC PRIDE! AC STRONG!

## ADMINISTRATORS CONTINUE TO CHART THE DISTRICT'S PATH FORWARD



## DISTRICT MISSION

Atlantic City Public Schools and members of the community believe in the development of the whole child. Together we are committed to providing a nurturing, safe and stimulating environment for all students to continuously learn and grow.

## DISTRICT VISION

All students will be actively engaged and supported as they learn and grow on the journey to become independent, lifelong learners equipped for the 21st Century.



## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. La'Quetta S. Small, Superintendent of Schools  
 Dr. LaKecia Hyman, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
 Celeste Ricketts, School Business Administrator  
 Michael Bird, Director of Special Projects & Assessments  
 Christopher Ford, Director of Athletics  
 Donald Harris, Director of Secondary Education  
 Tracy-Marie Moody, Director of Student Services & Special Education  
 Atiba Rose, Sr., Director of Operations  
 Diane Saunders, Director of Human Resources  
 Shelley Williams, Director of Elementary Education

## ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS



**Shay Steele**  
President



**Walter Johnson**  
Vice President



**Hollisha Bridgers**



**Ruth Byard**



**Subrata Chowdhury**



**Geoffrey Dorsey**



**Torres Mayfield**



**Kashawn McKinley**



**MD (Muhammad) A. Siddik**



**Tracy Riley**  
Board Solicitor

### Uniform Policy

Acceptable Uniforms  
PreK - 8th Grades

Navy Blue Short or Long Sleeve Polo  
Tan Pants or Skirt



White Short or Long Sleeve Polo  
Navy Pants or Skirt



Solid-colored blue or white sweaters only.  
No hoodies are allowed.  
Girls must wear blue or white tights only.

For more information please visit the district's homepage.  
[www.acboe.org](http://www.acboe.org)



### Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB)

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. For more information, visit [www.acboe.org](http://www.acboe.org).



## Collective Commitments:

- We will provide a challenging and developmentally appropriate curriculum which addresses individual student needs, focuses on academic growth and is based on current research and best practices.
- We will align our assessments to targeted goals that are monitored through data analysis of student growth, interventions and enrichment.
- We will provide a supportive, collaborative environment that celebrates and nurtures student success.
- We will work collaboratively to ensure that rigorous standards-based instruction, intervention and enrichment is available to all students.
- We will commit to involving and communicating with all stakeholders in fostering a partnership to share resources and provide services.



# Staff Spotlight

## Sovereign Avenue School Teacher Named 2024 Exemplary Educator



*Congratulations*

**NHI LUU**

“After a rigorous selection process, NHI Luu has been chosen as a 2024 New Jersey Exemplary Educator. Only 160 educators in the entire state this year are receiving a 2024 Exemplary Educator awards certificate.” Thank you to Principal Nicole Williams for nominating a distinguished staff member for this prestigious state award.

Nancy Besant  
Educator Recognition Programs Specialist  
Office of Educator Effectiveness  
New Jersey Department of Education

## Administration Building Thanksgiving Brunch



# FALL CONVOCATION



## Elementary Fall Sports

### Cross-Country District Championships Pull Winners from Richmond Avenue School, Sovereign Avenue School, and Uptown School Complex

The Atlantic City Public Schools held Cross Country championship races on the “World Famous” Atlantic City Boardwalk on Wednesday, October 23, 2024! Congratulations to all of the winners!

- **5/6th Grade Girls' Champion**  
Melanie Mendoza of Sovereign Avenue School
- **7/8th Grade Girls' Champion**  
Austin Fauntleroy of Richmond Avenue School
- **5/6th Boys' Champion**  
Grayson Lantz of Richmond Avenue School
- **7/8th Grade Boys' Champion**  
Abir Mitchell of Uptown School Complex



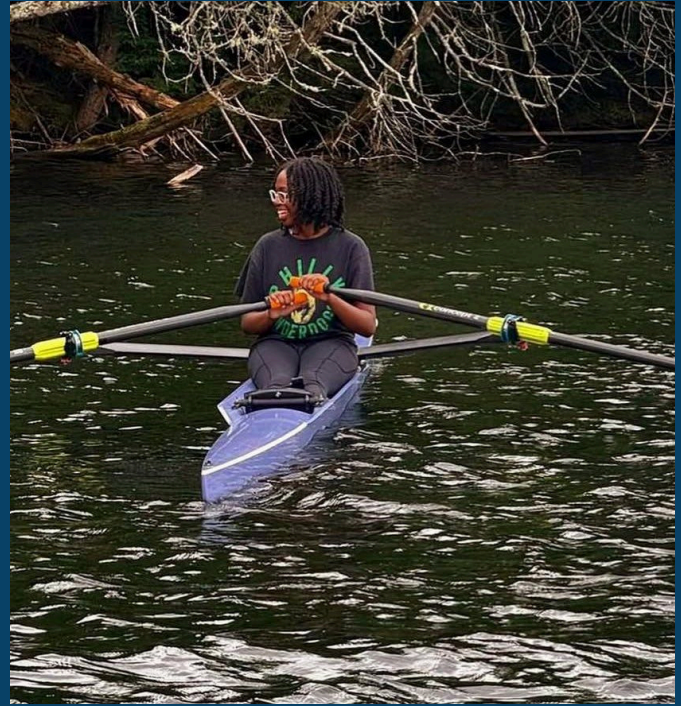
(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Melanie Mendoza, SAS; Austin Fauntleroy, RAS; Abir Mitchell, USC; Grayson Lantz, RAS)

### Sovereign Avenue School Makes a “Clean Sweep” in the District Soccer Tournament



# Student Spotlight

Elon Lomax was the First Atlantic City High School Student to Attend the Prestigious “A Most Beautiful Thing” Rowing Camp



## Elementary School News



Uptown School Complex  
Supported  
Red Ribbon Week





# Elementary School News

Chelsea Heights School honored veterans with a special program on Tuesday, November 12, 2024



## Chelsea Heights School Honored Veterans



New York Avenue School celebrated an improvement in chronic lateness and absenteeism on Monday, October 21, 2024, after the school's first challenge through the California-based KnowleJ education program



## New York Avenue School Improved Attendance



## Texas Avenue School Raised Morale



Fathers and Father-Figures flocked to Sovereign Avenue School on Thursday, September 19, 2024, marking the annual "Dads Take Your Child to School Day," which originated in New York state



## Sovereign Avenue School Embraced Dads Take Your Child to School Day





# Elementary School News



**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex celebrated Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day with an anti-bullying walk on Thursday, November 14, 2024



**Venice Park School Engaged Students**

Venice Park School engaged students in Preschool standards



**Pennsylvania Avenue School Hosted Donuts with Dads**

A line of more than 300 fathers and father-figures stretched from one end of Pennsylvania Avenue School to the other on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, for the annual "Donuts with Dad" event



**Richmond Avenue School Presented Preschool Smoothie Workshop**

Parents received an opportunity to make smoothies with their children at the Early Childhood Parent Workshop on Thursday, November 21, 2024



# District News

## BRIGHTON AVENUE SCHOOL



# Fall Fest

Brighton Avenue School held its inaugural fall festival on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, drawing students, parents, teachers, and community organizations together for a few hours of wholesome fun.



## The Atlantic City Public Schools

Present

## Competitive Swimming



The program is open to students in Grade 5 - 8 who have prior swimming experience.

Practice is held on Tuesdays from 3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex.

For more information contact: Kellie Hornbaker at (609) 343-7380 [khornbaker@acboe.org](mailto:khornbaker@acboe.org)



**Project Child Find**  
A Free Referral Service

Do you have concerns about your child's development? **Call us!**  
All Calls Are Confidential

Email your questions, concerns, and acknowledgements to [WebMaster@acboe.org](mailto:WebMaster@acboe.org)



# District News

## Former Philadelphia Eagles Offensive Tackle Barrett Brooks Brought Inspiring Words to Atlantic City Public Schools for Red Ribbon Week

ATLANTIC CITY - Former Eagles Offensive Tackle Barrett Brooks brought inspiring messages to Atlantic City High School and various elementary schools, including Brighton Avenue School, Chelsea Heights School, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex, New York Avenue School, Richmond Avenue School, Sovereign Avenue School, and Texas Avenue School, in honor of Red Ribbon week.

The Atlantic City Public Schools joined the national anti-drug campaign from October 23, 2024, to October 31, 2024. “Red Ribbon Week serves as a potent reminder of the importance of making healthy choices and staying committed to a drug-free life,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. La’Quetta S. Small. “Our district is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment where every student can thrive. Together, we can make a lasting impact and ensure that our students have the bright, drug-free futures they deserve.”



Uptown School Complex highlighted Red Ribbon Week with creative anti-drug initiatives, including themed days such as “crazy sock day” to “sock it to drugs” and wearing school gear to show unity. Other schools in the district, including Pennsylvania Avenue School and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex, held similar activities, including art contests and themed dress days.

The week’s events culminated with Brooks’ presentations, which inspired many students. Brooks emphasized the importance of education and diverse career paths.

Atlantic City Public Schools’ staff, including Dr. Kelly Bird, Michele Farrell, and Theda Allen, praised the campaign for promoting prevention and awareness. “The most important thing is that students know they have someone they can trust,” said Farrell. The district’s focus on healthy choices aligns with the campaign’s 2024 theme: “Film Your Future Drug-Free.”



Brooks, who played 12 years in the NFL, including a Super Bowl-winning stint with the Pittsburgh Steelers, visited the district to share insights on achieving success while avoiding the pitfalls of substance abuse. “I’m not here to preach to you,” Brooks told students. “I’m here to put you up on game.”

Speaking to high school seniors, on Thursday, October 31, 2024, Brooks offered hard-earned wisdom about financial management and planning, while also reflecting on challenges many professional athletes face after retirement. He also encouraged students to excel in whatever they pursue, sharing his personal journey of perseverance despite initial disinterest in football. “Whatever I do, I do it to the best of my ability,” he said.



# Atlantic City High School Athletes Announced Future Plans for Post-Secondary Careers



## Yeannelly Acosta-Sosa will join the Delaware State University Softball Team



## Sah' Nye Degraffenreidt will join the Rutgers University Football Team



## Lauren Fox will join the University of Delaware Crew Team



*(Photo Credit: Randee Rosenfeld, Atlantic City High School Photography and Yearbook Teacher)*

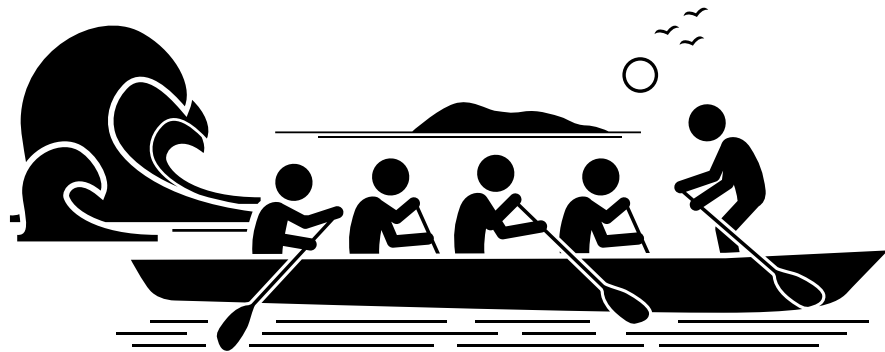
# Atlantic City High School Athletes Announced Future Plans for Post-Secondary Careers



## Alexis Gormley will Join the Stanford University Crew Team



## Maggie Morgan will Join the Jacksonville University Crew Team



*(Photo Credit: Randee Rosenfeld, Atlantic City High School Photography and Yearbook Teacher)*

# Atlantic City High School Competed for Central Jersey Group V Championship for First Time in 25 Years

**ATLANTIC CITY** - The Atlantic City High School Vikings Football team battled the Washington Township Minutemen on Friday, November 15, 2024. This marked the first time Atlantic City advanced that far in the playoffs since 1999.



The Atlantic City High School football team (8-3) lost to Washington Township 27-6. The Vikings final game will be played at Holy Spirit on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Director of Secondary Education Donald Harris was pleased with the team's efforts. "While coming up just short of the championship title is naturally disappointing, it's crucial to remember that this team achieved something truly remarkable," Harris said. "They faced every challenge with unwavering determination and displayed exceptional sportsmanship throughout their journey. Their commitment to excellence on and off the field has brought immense pride to our school and the wider community."

## The Atlantic City High School 2024 - 2025 Football Team Roster

Jersey #	First	Last	Class	Position	Height	Weight
0	Khajuan	Roseborough	Sr	QB/S	5'11	180
1	Sah'nye	Degraffenreidt	Sr	WR/OLB	6'1	210
2	Tamir	Rex	Jr	WR/DB	5'7"	160
3	Jeremiah	Williams	Sr	LB/WR	5'10	185
4	Quamir	Bailey	Jr	WR/S	5'10	170
5	Kyree	Barksdale	Jr	DB	5'9"	160
6	Cornell	Davis	Jr	RB/LB	6'0"	185
7	Sirr	Luckey	Jr	WR/S	5'7"	150
8	Jeremiah	Bradley-Brown	Sr	FS/RB	5'8"	170
9	Omar	Kelly	Jr	WR/S	5'10"	220
10	Vish	Turner	Soph	WR/CB	5'10	150
11	Jayden	Hemphill	Jr	LB/RB	5'10	185
12	Kevin	Entress	Jr	QB	5'10	175
13	Zepheniah	Bradley-Brown	Sr	DE/RB	6'2	240
14	Zamuad	Reynolds(FAT)	Soph	WR/DB	5'5	130
15	Sharod	Taylor	Sr	QB/LB	6'2	170
16	Jaylen	Day	Jr	DB/WR	6'0	170
17	Marvin	Burroughs	Frosh	QB	5'10	175
19	Kenai	Austin	Soph	WR/LB	6'3	185
18	Dontaye	Thompson	Frosh	WR/DB	5'11	150
20	Jarrod	Barnes II	Frosh	LB/RB	5'11	195
21	Lendell	Wilson	Jr	RB/OLB	5'10	175
22	Nayquan	Woodall	Jr	RB/LB	5'9"	175

25	Sharod	Taylor	Soph	WR/DB	5'9	150
26	Zhamir	Hargis	Sr	LB/RB	6'0	170
27	Xclusive	Dublin	Jr	WR/DE	6'5	185
29	Jalil	Daniels	Jr	WR/DB	6'1	170
28	Marty	Small Jr	Frosh	RB/DB	5'10	170
31	Javonte	Johnson	JR	WR/DB	5'9	160
35	Makai	Corbin	Frosh	WR/DB	5'9	170
51	Edgar	Camacho	Jr	OL/DL	6'3	220
52	Nicholas	McBall-Jones	Jr	OL/DL	6'0"	250
53	Ambrose	Kurtz	Frosh	LB/OL	5'11	200
54	Malachi	Collins	Frosh	LB/OL	5'8	210
55	Walid	Rhodes	Sr	OL/DL	6'2	245
56	Jonah	Shakur	Jr	OL/DL	5'9	195
60	Hasin	Bridgers	Frosh	OL/DL	5'8	170
65	Sears	Wright	Soph	OL/DL	5'10"	190
66	Tariq	Ransome	Soph	OL/DL	5'10	290
70	Makai	Grant	Sr	DL/OL	6'4"	260
77	Jakai	Mobley	Jr	OL/DL	5'9"	230
81	Darryl	Wilson	Frosh	OL/DL	5'8	200
34	Isaiah	Wilson	Jr	WR/DB	5'10	160
99	Anas	Newsome	Soph	DL	5'8	310
Jersey #	First	Last	Class	Position	Height	Weight

## Congratulations to the ACHS Horror Contest Winners

### Writing Contest Winner

"The Head of the Game"  
by Maryjane Hernandez '28

### Art Contest Winners

Collage by Fajar Bano '26  
Painting by Jomarie Mejia '25



*(The Horror Contest is administered by Atlantic City High School English and Creative Writing Teacher Ethan Tinkler.)*