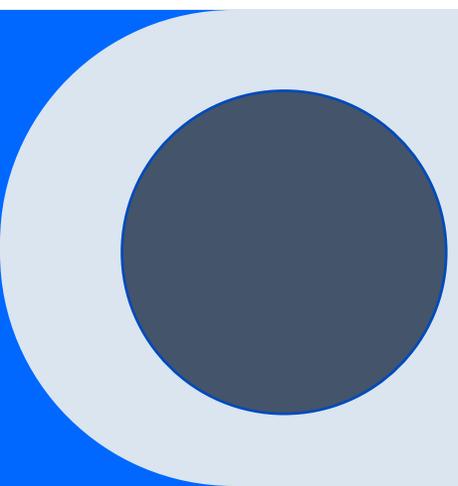


PS 121Q

A Beacon of Educational Excellence



Principal Nicholas J. Patrello

About Me

Entered NYCPS: January 2004

School Experience:

2004: 11X097 – Classroom Teacher (Gr 3, 4, 5; Gen Ed; ICT; Science Cluster; RTI Interventionist, PS 97 Bronx

2012: 01M539 – Lower School Assistant Principal, NEST+m

2015: 28Q054 – Assistant Principal, PS 54Q

2021: 28Q121 – Principal, PS 121Q

Highlights:

Member of D28 for 10 years

Joined PS 121Q School Community in July 2021

ELA/Math Proficiency has improved 13% (currently #3 in D28!)

Member of Principal Advisory Group; Co-Facilitator of Principal Lever Groups; Co-Facilitator of Assistant Principal Professional Learning Series; Co-Facilitator of D28 Aspiring Leadership Pipeline



About PS 121Q

Location: South Ozone Park, Queens, NY
Grades Served: Pre-K through Grade 5
Enrollment: Approximately 686 students

PS 121Q is a vibrant, close-knit community school with a proud tradition of serving multi-generational families. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment where every child can thrive. Our academic offerings include:

- **General Education Classes**
- **Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) Classes**
- **Self-Contained Special Education Classes**
- **Gifted & Talented Program**

At PS 121Q, we emphasize collaboration, respect, and inquiry-based learning. Our dedicated staff works to ensure that all students receive a well-rounded education that nurtures both academic excellence and social-emotional growth.

Our School Motto: **A Beacon of Educational Excellence**



PS 121Q Demographics/Data

Demographics:

Asian: 42%

Black: 13%

Hispanic or Latinx: 16%

Native American: 20%

Native Hawaiian/Pacific
Islander: 4%

White: 1%

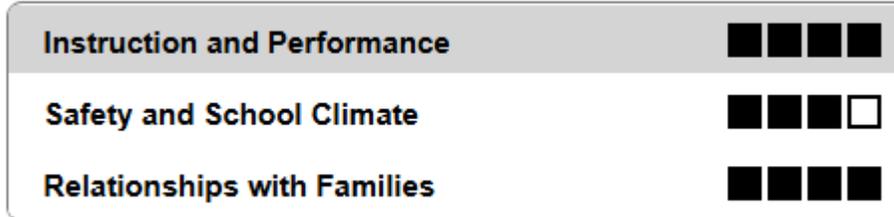
English language learners: 8%

Students with IEPs: 16%

Economic Need Index: 71%

Female: 52%

Male: 48%



ELA:

Performance on State Tests: 84%

Comparison Group*: 76%

District 28: 66%

City: 58%

MATH:

Performance on State Tests: 86%

Comparison Group*: 77%

District 28: 69%

City: 60%



PS 121Q NYCPS Highlight

< New York City Public Schools's post

NYC Public Schools

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P.S. 121 Queens

+4.4
point increase
in ELA scores
across all grades

87%
proficiency
in ELA across
all grades

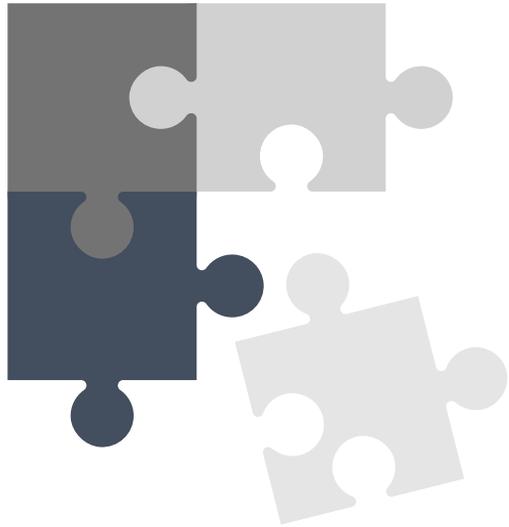
★ ★ ★


"The district's steady growth in ELA and high proficiency is a testament to the dedication of our educators, students, and families. P.S. 121's achievement reflects a broader trend of excellence across all of our District 28 schools, where commitment to academic success continues to shine. Well done to the entire D28 community!"
Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake


"At P.S. 121Q, student achievement is not just a measure of academic success. It is a reflection of our belief in every child's potential and our commitment to helping them reach it. P.S. 121Q is a Beacon of Educational Excellence."
Principal Nicholas Patrelle

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What's New at PS 121Q

This year, we have emphasized our **STUDENT ENRICHMENT** experience. We currently offer the following **STUDENT ENRICHMENT** programs, either **BEFORE** or **AFTER** school:

Basketball Team

Cheer Squad

Stem Team

Soccer Team

Student Government

Chorus

Newspaper Club

MSK/MBK



Basketball Team

Our basketball program at 121 is focused on teaching our young players the fundamentals and rules of basketball. Most of our players come to us with minimal basketball experience; they like the game or have played at recess. As coaches, we try to break the game down into developing the kids' skills and teach them offensive and defensive strategies. We have a google classroom where we post skills we have gone over for the players to study after practice. Through their hard work, we have seen our players transform into athletes; ready to play in a game which requires an adequate skill set, basketball IQ, and most importantly- teamwork and sportsmanship. No matter the score, we strive to teach our players how to be a good sport and supportive teammate.



Cheer Squad

The P.S. 121 Cheerleading Team is an enrichment program for 4th- and 5th-grade students. Participation is selective, as students must try out to earn a spot on the team. Team members meet twice a week in the mornings at 7:05 a.m., demonstrating strong commitment by arriving on time and dedicating themselves to learning cheers and routines.

The cheerleaders perform at school basketball games, where they showcase both cheers and a halftime dance routine. In addition, the team performs in the school's annual winter dance show and spring show. Last year, the P.S. 121 Cheer Team was honored with an invitation to perform at the District 28 Cheer Showcase.

Through their hard work, the students develop leadership skills, teamwork, and a special bond with one another while serving as positive role models within the school community. Members of the cheer team are expected to maintain good academic standing and consistently demonstrate kindness and respect throughout the school day and beyond.



Step Team

P.S. 121 Phoenix Step Team is a new addition to the school community. The Step Team is made up of 4th and 5th graders who use body percussion like clapping and stomping in rhythmic ways to express themselves. A musical way to tell a story. Although our mascot of our school is an eagle, the Phoenix bird represents the rebirth of something powerful and exciting. These students are unique, graceful and powerful like a Phoenix in all of their moves as a stepper and in their academics as a P.S. 121 student.



Soccer, Student Government, Chorus

PS121 Soccer Eagles - This is a new program started by the PS121 school counselor, Doreen Ramdath, in efforts to teach sportsmanship and teamwork. Working with coaches, Kelly Luttenberger (5th ICT), Anjuli Dyal (2nd ICT), and Adam Kleinfeld (2nd ICT), this group of 15 fifth graders plays other District 28 schools in a friendly, fun soccer match. This activity promotes being physically active and healthy while reminding our students about hard work and dedication.

PS121 Student Government - This group is ran by Doreen Ramdath (school counselor) and Kelly Luttenberger (5th ICT). It focuses on community outreach. Two projects already completed are the cards and candies which were donated to St Albans Veterans Hospital as well as a schoolwide food drive where donations were brought to a local church for families in need. Upcoming projects include participation in our school's Multicultural Show as well as in a program called PS I Love You Day! This group is meant to instill in our students the idea of philanthropy and how important is it to give back to their community.

PS121 Senior Singers - This school chorus group has been a school favorite for over 15 years. Directed by Doreen Ramdath, this choral group sings in our Winter Dance Showcase. This group also, for over a decade, has been visiting the Jamaica Nursing Home, to sing holiday songs for their patients. It is a rewarding moment for the students as it reminds them to use their talents to better their community and those around them. The students use their voice to better lives and bring joy.



Newspaper Club

The PS 121 *Golden Eagle* Newspaper is a new venture for the 2025-2026 school year. Our newspaper currently has 17 budding journalists from the fifth grade. The jobs that students can choose from are writing articles, conducting interviews, reporting on the various sports teams, gaining a student perspective on events, and so much more!

Fun Fact: Our students chose the name based on our school motto “A Beacon of Educational Excellence”.

This club was formed for those students who have a passion for writing and sharing information with the community at large. We hope to develop strong writing skills, as well as show students what it is like to be a journalist in the real world. Publications will be released to the entire school community.



MSK/MBK @ PS 121Q

MBK/MSK is a program that supports students through mentorship, leadership activities/ civic engagement and positive role models.

It gives students a safe place to build confidence, support one another and grow academically and socially while preparing for their future.



Trip to Apollo Theater



Hispanic Heritage Month



Hurricane Melissa Drive



My Food My Culture Event

Other Events to Highlight...

- Family Reading Night

To help support the scholars and families of PS 121Q, we hosted a Family Reading Night on December 8th, 2025. This year's theme is **“Building Strong Readers Together”**, and focused on teaching **literacy strategies** that parents can use at home to help their children learn to read



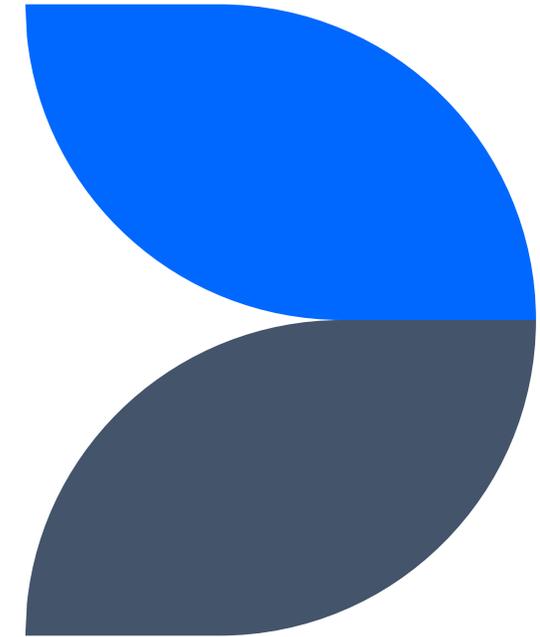
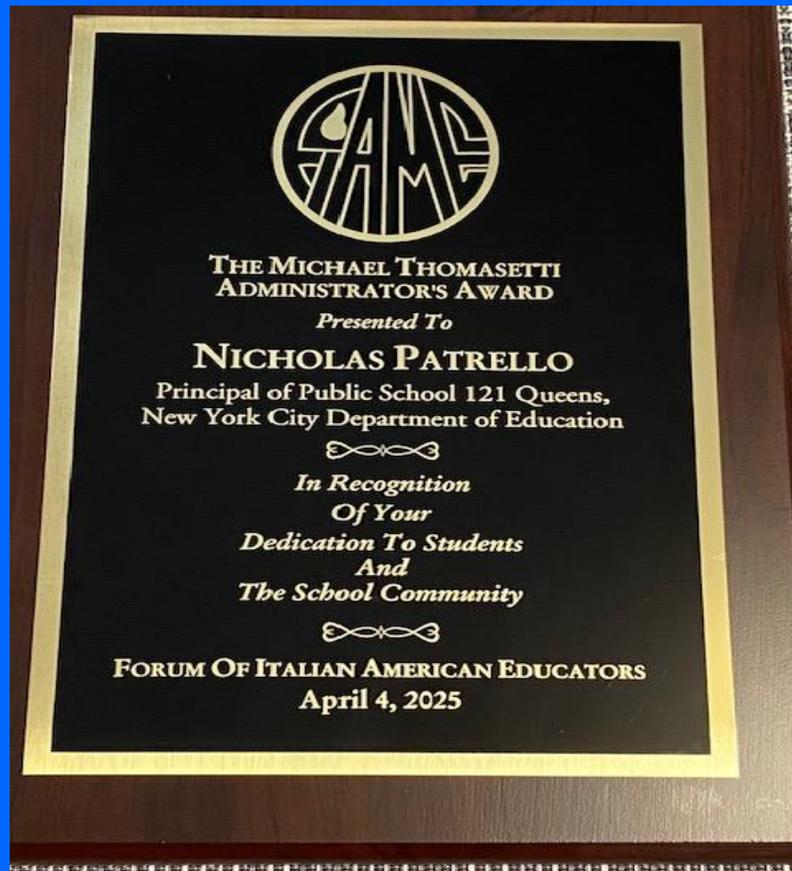
First Alert Weather 101



MARCH 2025

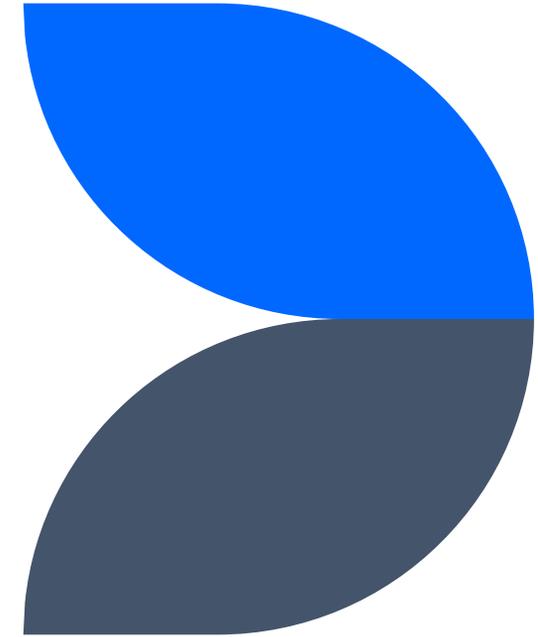
Other Distinctions

Awarded The Michael Thomasetti Administrators Award: Forum of Italian American Educators



Other Distinctions

Invited to join D28 for NYCPS State of Our Schools Address





Thank you!

www.ps121Q.com

