



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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New Partnership Between Ramapo College’s Berrie Center and Paterson School District to Bring Two Children’s Theater Productions with Anti-Bullying Message to School 28

MAHWAH, N.J. – Officials from Ramapo College’s Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts and Paterson Public Schools announced a new partnership with Public School No. 28 that will bring two children’s theater productions aimed at empowering young students against bullying to the school on February 11.

“The Berrie Center is committed to providing opportunities for all children in northern New Jersey and found this unique partnership through Ramapo’s teacher education and certification program,” said Lisa Campbell, director of the Berrie Center.

“We are very pleased to have the generous support of Ramapo College’s Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts in bringing two wonderful theatrical experiences to our young people,” said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. “The anti-bullying message in these productions complements the district’s initiatives to combat harassment, intimidation and bullying. We are grateful to the Berrie Center for these tremendous opportunities for our students.”

School 28 students in grades kindergarten through four will see *Bob, The Bully Buster* performed by the Walnut Street Theater, a Philadelphia-based theater group selected by the Berrie Center. The story, which is about a young teacher who wants to make a difference, uses the latest research on effective ways for children to deal with bullying. This fun-filled adventure will have students laughing and joining in the fun as they learn how they can help stop bullying.

School 28 students in grades five through eight will see a presentation of *Mean Girlz R Bullies, Too!* This song-filled musical recreates the same hallways the students travel every day and the many anxieties students face. The story follows one new eighth-grader, Ellen, who is trying her best to fit in at her new school.

Both productions will be presented at no cost to the district.

In 2018, Public School No. 28 became the first school in the Paterson district to be awarded the Blue Ribbon School honor by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for the Performing and Visual Arts is located on the campus of Ramapo College of New Jersey in Mahwah.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, data science, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Data Science, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.