



City Honors School

AT FOSDICK-MASTEN PARK

William A. Kresse, Ph.D. PRINCIPAL

Alicia E. Barinas ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Tandy J. Hamilton ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Angela R. Hannah ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

May 20, 2018

CHS Parents and Students:

I write to let you know that we are losing a truly valuable member of our school community. Our assistant principal, Mrs. Barinas, has been selected to join the Multilingual Department as the Director of Bilingual Education for the Buffalo Public Schools. She will begin this new position on June 5.

Mrs. Barinas has been our assistant principal for the past five years. We were incredibly fortunate to find an assistant principal with her training and experience. Prior to working at CHS, she was an assistant principal with the New York City Public Schools in the Bronx. She has two masters degrees, one from Fordham University in curriculum and instruction and one from the College of New Rochelle in School Leadership. Her intelligence, leadership skills, talent with technology, data analysis and curriculum design were all assets she brought to her work with us which will serve her well in her new role.

Mrs. Barinas had an immediate impact upon the quality of teaching and learning at our school when she arrived. She worked closely with our instructional coach, Ms. Cammarata, and compiled student performance data in a way that made it accessible to teachers, and began a systematic approach to studying this information. She worked with our Grade 5 and 6 teachers to align our curriculum and acceleration.

We have always known that our teachers for World Languages at City Honors were hardworking, but Mrs. Barinas helped our students and teachers take our program to the next level, working with them on their curriculum design and establishing the NYS Seal of Biliteracy Program at CHS. Mrs. Barinas was also successful in securing and managing a grant for our Mandarin language program which provided \$25,000 of benefits in its first year and \$10,000 in perpetuity every year after.

Mrs. Barinas is a delegate-at-large and secretary of the New York State Association of Bilingual Educators. Over the past two years, she has collaborated with the BPS Multilingual Education Department to design a pathway and program for students from ENL backgrounds to better access City Honors, which we hope to see put in place in the near future. Mrs. Barinas has served as a mentor to many of our Hispanic students, and has brought much needed attention and a sense of pride to our students by engaging CHS students in the NYS Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute and the New York State legislature.

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Above all, it is evident that Mrs. Barinas truly loves children. I know it is going to be hard for her to leave the students she has been able to help grow and mature from their very first days as 5th graders. It would not surprise me to see Mrs. Barinas pop up at moving up days and graduations for years to come.

The work that Mrs. Barinas will undertake for our city to help bilingual children excel is a challenge that she is uniquely qualified to tackle. We have been honored to have her as our assistant principal for the past five years, and I hope you will join me in wishing her the best as she moves on to her new leadership position with the Buffalo Public Schools.

Our new assistant principal will not be appointed until this summer. I will notify you of any developments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William A. Kresse".

William A. Kresse, Ph.D.
Principal