



# Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

## Office of Community Engagement

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## **Plainfield High School Students attend International Women's Day Event**

*Sponsored by the Schools Development Authority*

**Plainfield, NJ – March 8, 2019** – Students from Plainfield High Schools attended a celebration of International Women's Day, sponsored by the Schools Development Authority (SDA) in Trenton on Thursday.

Seniors Deniesha Green, from Plainfield High School and Ajaleen Frazier, of Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies, represented Plainfield public schools.

The students participated in a tour of SDA facilities and met women administrators from various New Jersey State departments as well, as girls representing the thirty-one SDA districts in New Jersey. The women spoke about their career choices and professional paths leading to their current positions as program directors, managers, grants and program development, ethics managers, records, operations, IT, banking, human resources, legal, communications and other positions.

The visit concluded with a panel discussion led by SDA CEO Lizette Delgado Polanco with top level women in Governor Phil Murphy's administration such as Kim Walker, Deputy Chief of Staff and Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Executive Services for the New Jersey Department of Education and Julie Diaz, Chief of Staff, Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Ms. Delgado Polanco said International Women's Day is a time to celebrate women. "It's about women coming together to show that we must never put limits on the things we can do. We can do anything we put our minds to."

The students received letters and proclamations signed by Governor Murphy honoring New Jersey women. In the letter to the students the Governor said, "we pay our respect to the great women in history...and we take time to celebrate the young women of today...because you truly represent the future of our State and, as Governor, I am proud to applaud you for all your achievements."

In keeping with this year's Women's History Month theme, the Governor's Proclamation recognized New Jersey's "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Non Violence"- Elizabeth Carteret, Harriet Tubman, Alice Paul, Clara Barton, Betsy Stockton, Dorothea Dix, Mary Philbrook, Alberta Gonzalez and Effa Manley.

For more information, please call 908-731-4333 or email [gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us).

Photos attached:



*Denise Petraglia, and Nicole Burnett, Deputy Program Directors in the Development Dept.*



*Deniesha Green and Ajaleen Frazier with others on the tour of SDA departments*



*L-R Denise Petraglia and Nicole Burnett, Deputy Program Directors, in Development Dept..*



*Lilli Montero, Payment Processing Manager and Kim Nickelson, Designer and Program Officer in Design Dept.*



*SDA CEO Lizette Delgado Polanco opening the panel discussion session*



*L-R Lizette Delgado Polanco, SDA CEO, Julie Diaz, Dept. of Labor & Kim Walker, NJDEO*



*Panel discussion to group*



*SDA staff members*



*L-R Plainfield Representatives w SDA CEO Lizette Delgado Polanco. L-R BOE Member Carmencita Pile, Ajaleen Frazier (PAAAS), SDA CEO Lizette Delgado Polanco, Deniesha Green, (PHS), Gloria Montealegre, PPSD Community Engagement Liaison*



*Group L-R Colleen Connelly, Mg. Dir. Program Development, students from Perth Amboy, Deneisha Green, (PHS) Patricia Stella Cabrera, Communications, Ajaleen Frazier (PAAAS), Carmencita Pile, Plainfield BOE Member.*