

Passaic County Technical Institute

“Passaic County’s Award-Winning Public High School for Academics, Careers & Technology”

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PRESS RELEASE

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PCTI Graduates 50th Class as County Career and Technical High School

Wayne, NJ – **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – On Wednesday, June 25th, 770 seniors from fourteen diversified programs of study at Passaic County Technical Institute (PCTI) paraded across the beautifully decorated football field. Members of the Class of 2014 were greeted by the sun shining brightly overhead, floral arrangements, balloons, arbors, parents, friends, family, and even a huge inflatable Spike mascot! This year’s ceremony was one to remember, as the Class of 2014 celebrated the 50th graduation ceremony since PCTI was declared a County Career and Technical high school

From 1964 to 2014, PCTI has grown to become a hallmark of the community. Many Bulldogs have been ushered through the halls, going on to live their lives enriched by an education that includes rigorous academics and career training. This year, the high school initiated something completely new when they graduated students by their program of study. Seniors were led by students who bore the respective flags of their academy/school. More than 3,500 guests attended the graduation of one of the largest classes in the high school’s history.

The 50th Graduation Exercises opened with the traditional processional of the high school’s Academy & Program flags and was led by NJROTC students who then presented the colors during the flag salute and the National Anthem. PCTI’s Alma Mater followed and was eagerly sung with the help of the Tech Tone Choir, American Sign Language Club students, and graduating seniors.

Class Co-Presidents, Damilola Onifade and Elianni De La Cruz, along with class officers, took turns introducing the speakers at the ceremony. Then the top two students took the stage. First, Payal Shah delivered her Salutatorian address to the class. She was followed by Valedictorian Ashley Garcia whose inspiring words detailed heart-warming advice for her fellow classmates.

Following both speeches, Superintendent Diana C. Lobosco and Principal Dr. Michael Parent congratulated students and addressed the Class of 2014. The Passaic County Board of Chosen

Freeholders were also present and Freeholder Deputy Director Theodore Best gave a stirring speech to graduating seniors and guests.

Then it was time for students of the Class of 2014 to receive their diplomas from Board of Education President Al Alexander, Vice President Damaris M. Solomon, and Commissioners Glenn Brown and Michael Coscia.

This year's graduation boasted the extraordinary accomplishments and achievements for students and staff. The Class of 2014 is bound to achieve great success. Congratulations to all and good luck in the future!



Photo Caption 0024: Students of the School of Construction Technology pose for a pre-graduation photo.



Photo Caption 0532: Salutatorian Payal Shah (right, Woodland Park) of the Academy of Medical Arts marches onto the field with her fellow classmates.



Photo Caption 0527: Valedictorian Ashley Garcia (Paterson) of the Academy of Medical Arts receives her diploma from Board of Education President Al Alexander.



Photo Caption 0116: PCTI seniors receive their diplomas at the school's 50th graduation ceremony.