

PATERSON CHARTER SCHOOL MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER TO CREATING BASEBALL TEAM FOR STUDENTS

Equipment Donation Sought

(Paterson, NJ, August 5, 2015) The sound of “play ball” and the crack of baseball bats will be heard next spring at the John P. Holland Charter School in Paterson, says Principal and Founder Christina Scano. Scano said the school is taking steps to create a co-ed baseball team or possibly both a baseball and softball team.

Recently, Scano received correspondence the executive director of the Batters Up USA, notifying the charter school that its application for baseball equipment was successful. Batters Up, located in Georgia, promotes healthy lifestyles for the nation’s youth through participation in community recreational baseball and softball programs. The organization places particular emphasis on underserved communities.

The Holland School will receive gloves, aluminum bats, helmets, bases, and baseballs.

“We are very excited that we were chosen to get the baseball equipment,” noted Scano, who said her goal is to develop co-ed softball/baseball teams to offer students the opportunity to compete in a team sport.

Besides teaching students the skills of the game, a baseball program will also provide a safe environment for students in a city that is beset by fatal violence that too often takes the lives of young people, added Scano.

“By providing our vulnerable students with a positive outlet to enjoyable after school activities, we will be empowering them to develop the ability to work as a team, build self-discipline, and harness their self-respect as athletes and prepare them to become positive role-models in their community,” said Scano.

The baseball/softball program will be available to the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at the charter school, who are typically between 9 and 13 years old.

While the grant from Batters Up USA is a good starting point for outfitting a baseball team, Scano says more equipment is needed. “We are in the process of contacting other organizations, and nearby high schools asking them to donate baseball equipment,” said the principal. I am hoping we can count on the generosity of organizations and suburban school districts to help us make our sports program successful.”

Anyone wishing to donate baseball or softball equipment to the John P. Holland Charter School, please call 973-345-2212, or e-mail Frank Cappello at fcappello@johnpholland.com