

CHARTER SCHOOL INVITES DADS TO PARTICIPATE IN MILLION FATHER MARCH ON FIRST DAY OF CLASS

(Paterson, NJ) The John P. Holland Charter School will honor the Million Father March movement by asking fathers to take their children to class on the opening day of school on September 8, announced school principal, and founder Christina Scano.

Fathers who take their children to school on that day will be asked to take a pledge that, among other things, commits them to be responsible for the education of their children, volunteer at the school and meet with children's teachers.

Fathers will be arriving at the school at 7:30 a.m. and are invited to have breakfast and meet teachers and staff. Dads who cannot make breakfast are invited to lunch **between 12:15 p.m. and 1:15 p.m.** Fathers are encouraged to tour the facility at 190 Oliver Street. Guest speakers for the day include New Jersey Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly and Paterson City Councilman Andre Sayegh.

The charter school opening day program is part of the national Million Father March initiative, a nationwide effort to involve men in children's lives. The initiative started in 40 cities in 2004 and has grown into a nationwide movement.

“Research shows that the father's role in a child's life, and in education in particular, is very important to the development of the child and his or her educational success,” says Scano. “Fathers can be very positive role models and can help children to be accountable, disciplined, and well behaved in school.

“I'm looking forward to a good turnout from our fathers and the opportunity to invite them to play a bigger role in the success of our school and the success of their children's education,” added Scano.

Fathers who are interested in participating in the Million Father March on September 8 need to register for the program by calling either Victor Vilchez or Giuseppe Lepiani at 973-345-2212 or emailing them vvilchez@johnpholland.com or glepiani@johnpholland.com