FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 27, 2019

Contact: Paul Brubaker
973-518-2298

PATerson public schools expands self-operated Halal food program

Halal food made available at 10 more district schools and counting

PATERSON – Following a successful pilot program that began last February, Paterson Public Schools has expanded its self-operated Halal food program to 10 district schools with plans to continue expanding the program throughout the school year. The district’s self-operated program is believed to be the first of its kind in the State of New Jersey.

“We are all very pleased by the success of the pilot Halal food program, and to see Halal food being made available at more schools throughout the district,” said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. “As we have said before, a student cannot learn on an empty stomach. If we truly celebrate our diversity in the Paterson community as one of our strengths, then we cannot let a student’s religion be a reason to go hungry through the school day.”

Earlier this month, the Halal food program was launched at:

- Public School No. 2
- Public School No. 7
- Public School No. 8
- Public School No. 9
- Public School No. 19
- Public School No. 27
- Public School No. 28
- Don Bosco Technical Academy
- International High School
- Dr. Hani Awadallah School

The program will expand to all district schools according to a five-phase plan, with the majority of the schools serving Halal food by Thanksgiving. In February, Shafer, Board of Education members and other district officials announced the pilot Halal food program was underway at the John F. Kennedy Education Complex and Public School No. 5. The program is continuing at these schools.

###

Paul Brubaker
Communications Director
Paterson Public Schools
973-321-2430 (office)
973-518-2298 (cell)