

BRENDAN MURPHY
Chairman

LUIS A. QUINTANA
Vice Chairman

ELIZABETH CALABRESE
JOHN J. COSGROVE
C. LAWRENCE CRUMP
JAMES P. DORAN
JOSEPH F. ISOLA
HECTOR C. LORA
JOSHUA A. ZIELINSKI
Commissioners



GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI
Executive Director

THOMAS FUSCALDO
Clerk

"Protecting Public Health and the Environment"

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105
Phone: 973-344-1800; Fax: 973-344-2951
Website: www.nj.gov/pvsc

For Immediate Release
July 27, 2026

Contact Information: Doug Scancarella
dscancarella@pvsc.com, 973-817-5735

PVSC Hosts Boys & Girls Club of Newark for Lab Day STEM Event

Newark, NJ – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) recently welcomed students from the **Ocean Pathways Summer Program at the Boys & Girls Club of Newark** for its annual **Lab Day**, a hands-on STEM event designed to introduce students to careers in the wastewater industry and environmental sciences.

The day began with a plant tour, with students learning about the work PVSC performs to protect public health and the environment by treating wastewater for the region. Following the tour, students participated in an interactive laboratory showcase, breaking into groups and rotating through workstations led by PVSC chemists and laboratory technicians.

Students observed several wastewater analyses performed in PVSC's laboratory and had the opportunity to conduct many of the analyses themselves. They also learned about laboratory safety procedures, water quality monitoring, environmental data collection, and the State and federal regulations that govern PVSC's operations. The hands-on activities demonstrated how the skills used in PVSC's laboratory translate directly to careers in STEM and sustainability.

"Lab Day gives students an opportunity to experience firsthand the important work performed in our laboratory every day," said Laboratory Director Jennifer Marques. "By participating in hands-on experiments and interacting with our

-MORE-



chemists and laboratory technicians, they gain a greater appreciation for the science behind wastewater treatment and the critical role our laboratory plays in protecting public health and the environment.”

The event concluded with lunch and a roundtable discussion featuring PVSC leaders and staff, who answered students’ questions and shared insights about the many rewarding career opportunities available in the wastewater profession.



“Introducing young people to careers in wastewater management is one of the most rewarding aspects of this program,” said Chief Operating Officer Tom Laustsen. “The students learned that facilities like PVSC collect and treat contaminated water in a central location before it can pollute our rivers, lakes, and surrounding environment. We hope Lab Day inspires some of these students to consider careers in an industry that provides an essential service to every community.”

###