



Involving High School Journalists in Education Coverage

Panelists



Shoa Khan
Student Reporter
P.S. Weekly



Taylor McGraw
The Bell
Executive Director



Jose Santana
Student Reporter
P.S. Weekly



Alex Zimmerman
Chalkbeat NY
Reporter

Agenda

1. What is P.S. Weekly and how does it work?
2. Deep dive into two stories
3. Why youth-adult journalism collaboration matters
4. Tips for working with student journalists

P.S. Weekly



P.S.
Weekly

The sound of the
New York City
school system

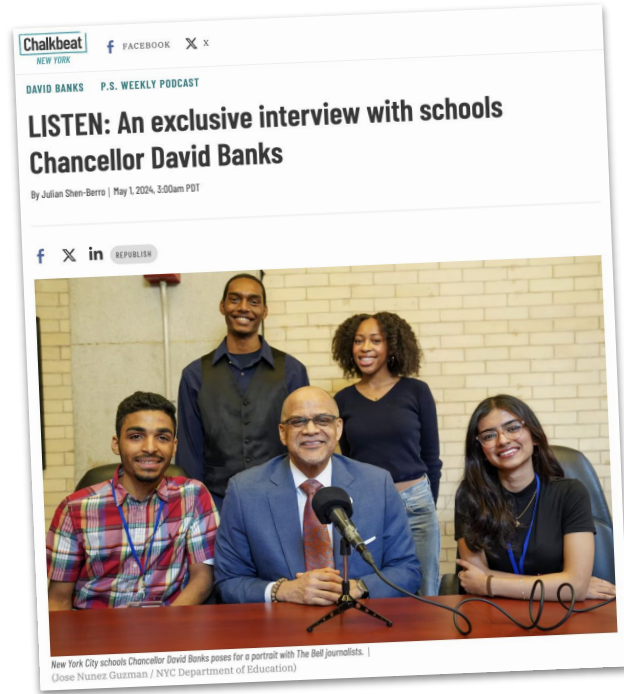


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The team!

How we did the story



An Exclusive Interview with Chancellor David Banks

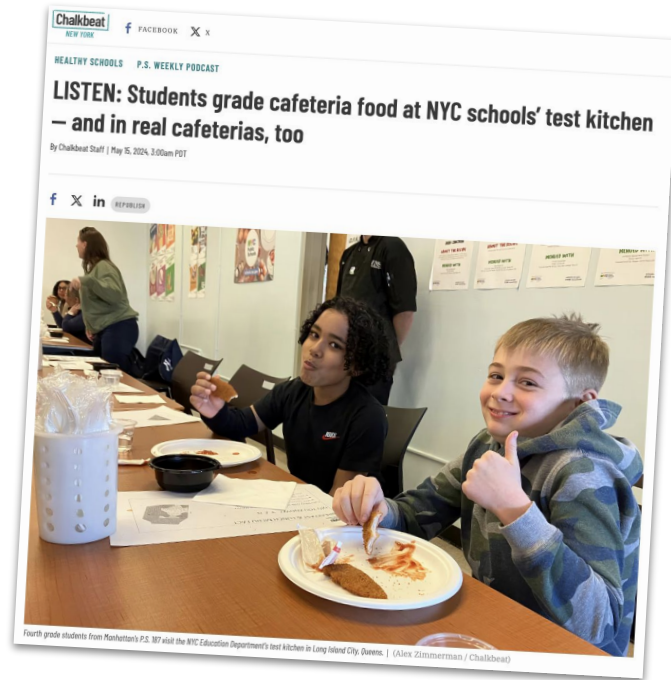


Shoaa Khan: *Yeah. So this is kind of on a different branch. But according to the UCLA Civil Rights Project, New York has the nation's most segregated school system today. So how do you feel about that?*

Chancellor David Banks: *It's a complicated issue. And for me, I've not spent a lot of time on it because I recognize that as chancellor, you can't do everything. Generally when people were asking about integration efforts, historically, that question was about how do you get more Black kids into predominantly white schools? That's historically what I meant, because that was what my experience was.*

I grew up in southeast Queens, in a pretty much all Black neighborhood, and everybody was trying to go to better school districts and the better school districts, quote unquote, really meant going to the more whiter, more affluent neighborhoods because those schools seemed like they had everything. I'm trying to make sure that wherever you happen to be, your district, your neighborhood has all the great stuff that anybody else has.

How we did the story



Cafeteria Chronicles with the Critics Who Matter

Jose's original pitch:

Essential question: What are student's thoughts on NYC's recent \$60M school food budget cut? How is it impacting them in their day to day lives (so what has changed)?

1-2 sentence summary: Co-hosts both go around in their schools (and maybe even other schools) recording short quick 15-30 second vox pops hearing students' thoughts on the story. It would actually be cool if co-hosts went to different boroughs maybe to get a variety of input from affected students.

Cafeteria Chronicles with the Critics Who Matter



NARR (Jose): *It's Plant Powered Friday Friday and I'm at the Bronx Latin High School cafeteria during their lunch period. The menu posted in the cafeteria says there should be a vegan kidney bean rajma, vegan cucumber salad, and vegan flatbread. But today, I see only one option on student trays and it's not vegan: grilled cheese. And the students were not happy about the lunch that was served...*

Justin (student): *I'm not gonna lie, they're kinda bad, and particularly the grilled cheese, uh, the cheese isn't really that melted, I'll just say that. It isn't really grilled, you know.*

Lambryann (student): *Yeah, um, it's very nasty. Like, it's so soggy. The quality is not qualifying.*

Joseph (student): *We got a grilled cheese joint. Feel me? Um, it's not the best, but it ain't the worst. Give it a 5.7 out of 10.*

Marcus (student): *I say this is like a good 6 out of 10. 6 out of 10? Yeah, that's solid.*

Jose: *So typically, do they only have one option? Like in terms of variety?*

Justin: *Yeah, I mean sometimes they'll have two at most but mostly it's pretty bad and we don't really have a lot of options like they've been literally having mozzarella sticks for like two weeks straight. Like we only been having mozzarella sticks. We haven't had a variety of choices. So it's been kind of bad*

Pop Quiz!

Why this work matters

Chalkbeat
NEW YORK

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**73% of NYC high schools don't have a newspaper.
Efforts are growing to fill in the gaps.**

By Alex Zimmerman | November 23, 2022, 5:00am PST

FORBES > LEADERSHIP > DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Recent Figures Show That Media Is Still Overwhelming White

Janice Gassam Asare Senior Contributor @

I help create strategies for more diversity, equity, and inclusion.

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Apr 23, 2023, 03:39pm EDT

The Journalism Gap in NYC Schools

Of the **50 high schools** with the...

- highest percentage of **White** students, **38** have a student newspaper.
- highest percentage of **Black** students, **4** have a student newspaper.
- **lowest poverty** rates, **36** have a student newspaper.
- **highest poverty** rates, **3** have a student newspaper.

Baruch College, 2022



Youth Journalism Coalition



Politics

The NYC Youth Journalism Coalition Is Making Journalism More Accessible

This op-ed talks about one organization's efforts to make journalism careers possible for students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Learn more at: youthjournalismnyc.org

The Youth-Adult Journalism Collaboration Spectrum

Fleeting impact

Long-term impact



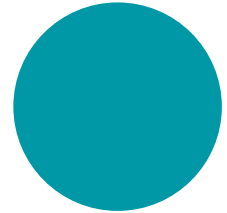
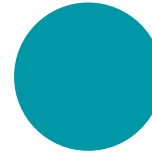
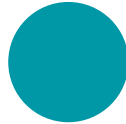
basic

amplifying

engaging

teamwork

symbiosis



Including student sources in your coverage

Publishing student work on your platforms

Sourcing story ideas from students

Sharing bylines with students, training, mentoring

Co-creating content with students that neither of you could do on your own

Advice for working with student journalists



Tips for adult journalists working with student journalists

1. Keep it low lift
2. District wide initiatives lend a natural news hook
3. More than sources
4. Be flexible about the final product
5. Be generous with credit

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