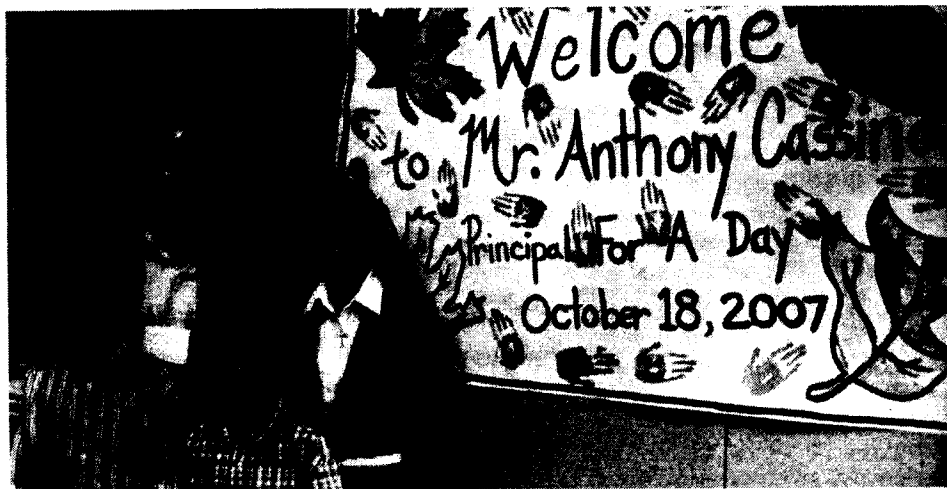


PS24 Welcomes Tony Cassino as Principal for a Day

by Brad Trebach



Principal for a Day, Tony Cassino, with PS24 students Derrick Fulton, Chris Dominguez and Darianna Herring, who, with Ms. Anne Maistre, created the welcoming banner for Mr. Cassino.

On October 18, **Tony Cassino**, a lawyer, and chairman of Community Board 8, served as our **Principal for a Day**.

Accompanied by year-round Principal Philip Scharper, Mr. Cassino attended a breakfast meeting with leaders of the Parents Association. There, he spoke of his desire to learn more about the school's operations and needs, and to identify ways he could be of assistance in the future.

Mr. Scharper then guided his temporary replacement throughout the school, visiting classrooms, where Mr. Cassino made time to sit and talk with students about their reading, science and art projects.

Before lunch hour, Mr. Cassino stopped by the library to be interviewed by the third-, fourth- and fifth-graders on the **Student Organization**. He said he was surprised by the incisiveness of some of the questions, which touched on such topics as his own childhood experiences as a public-school student in the Bronx, his love of history, and the joys and challenges of being a parent.

Third grader **Rory Muldoon** asked Mr. Cassino, one of New York's leading experts on public-interest law, "How do you make money if you don't get paid?"

Mr. Cassino then explained the process by which his firm, Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, provides pro bono legal services to needy individuals and to charitable organizations.

In addition to his day job at the 500-lawyer firm, Mr. Cassino chairs Bronx Community Board 8, one of the city's 59 local advisory panels appointed by the borough presidents to play an important role in zoning and other land-use issues, in community planning, in the city budget process, and in the coordination of municipal services.

Mr. Cassino is also chairman of the Riverdale Nursery School and Family Center, and he serves on the executive committee of the Northwest Bronx Democratic Alliance, a civic and political organization, which hosted Mayor Bloomberg's recent town-hall style meeting at PS24.

Asked to sum up his experience at our school, Mr. Cassino said "Being Principal for a Day gives me the chance to know PS24 in a personal way." He added, "I'm impressed not only by the seriousness and abilities of the students here, but also by the way the teachers engage their curiosity and sense of adventure."

What's the S.O. Scoop?

PS24's STUDENT ORGANIZATION (S.O.) is Off to a Great Start in 2007!

Early in October, interested 3rd, 4th and 5th graders completed a brief questionnaire describing their goals in representing their class as an S.O. Rep. Our favorite Librarian and new S.O. Faculty Advisor, **Fran Cicia** reviewed their answers and selected the following slate of enthusiastic students from each class. S.O. Reps will be leading PS24 in many important school fundraising drives and activities throughout the year so be sure to talk to your S.O. Rep about ways to **HELP YOUR SCHOOL** and **HELP YOUR COMMUNITY!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2007-2008 S.O. REPRESENTATIVES!

- 3-201 **Jakey Auerbach, Avi Bajpai**
- 3-202 **Sam Jurcic, Rory Muldoon**
- 3-212 **Sophia Spielberger, Quinn Wilke**
- 3-215 **Ian McNamara, Hannah Greaves**
- 3-236 **Erica Han, Juliette Gray**
- 4-231 **Ethan Morales, Amanda Callmese**
- 4-234 **Lorenc Doml, Andersson Lopez**
- 4-237 **Sam McCauley, Sophia Balaj**
- 4-203A **Ana Perez, Jayson Taport**
- 5-233 **Kyle Malorano, Aileen Corrigan**
- 5-238 **Leeza Lakhter, Sami Osborne, Samantha Samedl, Danell Lara**
- 5-239 **Arlena Myers, Sonnie Kirschbaum**
- 5-240 **Ajani Skeet, Zara Mian**
- 5-242 **Gabriela Varela, Eddy Rosario**



Members of the S.O. at a Question & Answer session with Tony Cassino, Principal for a Day.