



Alex, I can't believe the news. You were a great person and went out of your way to make me feel good about myself.



Alex...You taught me how to be a better friend and how to respect differences of opinion.



When I struggled, you would constantly see how I was doing in the halls and sit next to me in the cafeteria in the mornings and talk about Harry Potter...

Hello,

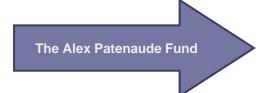
I just wanted to show you how amazing your son was. Senior year, he helped me when I wanted to kill myself. He saved my life. He is dearly missed and meant the world to so many people. Thank you for raising such an amazing kid

The Alex Patenaude Compassion Project

We are happy to be announcing two important elements of the Alex Patenaude Compassion Project today.

- → The Alex Patenaude Compassion Award
- → The Alex Patenaude Compassion Project: Elementary School Pilot



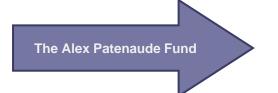


What is The Elementary School Pilot?

This is a Social-Emotional Learning and Positive Behavior Interventions pilot in 2 elementary schools.

- → This program is being created with the support of Dr. Imad Zaheer of Montclair State University.
- → The project will initially be led internally by Dr. Felice Harrison-Crawford, plus the two participating elementary school principals.





What is a Social-Emotional Learning/Positive Behaviors Program?

- → Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS) provides a framework for teachers and administrators to build a positive environment in the school.
- → Social Emotional Learning (SEL) provides a curriculum to teach children (K-12) how to understand and regulate their emotions essentially, teaching elements of emotional intelligence, such as self awareness, self restraint, delayed gratification, and more.

What is a Social-Emotional Learning/Positive Behaviors Program?

- → Both interventions SEL and PBIS have been extensively studied over the past 30 years, and they are mutually reinforcing.
- → When done right, they "stick" 90% of the time, and study after study has demonstrated that they can have significant and lasting positive impacts on students.



What are the Benefits of The Alex Patenaude Compassion Project School Pilot?

In these pilots, School Teams will develop a *customized SEL/PBIS framework* at each school. Results will be transparent, with dashboards and ongoing metrics.

Benefits to Montclair include:

- → Supporting personal growth and development for ALL students, plus professional development for all staff
- → Providing support for other strategic initiatives, including *Undoing Racism* and the achievement gap.
- Potential reductions in drug use, bullying and stress, along with the opportunity for improvement in academic performance

What are the Benefits of The Alex Patenaude Compassion Project School Pilot?

If the elementary school pilots are successful, we hope to roll out this approach, along with an expanded awards program, across the district over the next 4-5 years, with continuing support from the Alex Patenaude Fund.



