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MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2026 | COURIERPOSTONLINE.COM

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Jozina Molina speaking to a classroom of students at LEAP Academy. PROVIDED BY SONIA GONZALEZ

From student to administrator

Jozina Molina's journey at LEAP Academy charter school

Mia D. Boykin
Cherry Hill Courier-Post
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

At LEAP Academy, a familiar face has walked the halls since childhood, and now she sits in one of the top administrative roles. Jozina Molina, the new Lead Person and Chief Operations Officer (COO) of LEAP Academy University Charter School in Camden was announced in her new role on Aug. 17.

Molina has 15 years of experience in education, most of it at LEAP Academy, a K-12 school. Her LinkedIn profile re-

flects a steady rise at her alma mater, from part-time substitute to a top administrative role.

For her first school year as COO, Molina has many plans. She described a new podcasting club and studio, an expansion of the school's Fabrication Lab, and a partnership with Rutgers School of Nursing as her first steps as COO.

LEAP gave her the skills to come back better than ever

An alumni of LEAP Academy, Molina is no stranger to Camden and the com-

munity that surrounds it. She first began attending LEAP in sixth grade, where she said it was the first time she had heard so much about college in Camden schools.

She was assigned a College Access Advisor, and she said conversations on college plans started in early middle school for LEAP academy students. This was new to her, but gave her the resources she needed to succeed.

After going back and forth on which school to choose, Molina went on to

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New health orders issued for Atco care facilities

Jim Walsh
Cherry Hill Courier-Post
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

The state Department of Health is demanding changes after multiple cases of Legionnaires Disease at two extended-care facilities at a Waterford Township complex.

The agency has curtailed admissions and readmissions at the long-term care and assisted living units for The Fountains at Atco.

In a 27-page letter, a DOH official says "water management concerns" involving the Legionnaires' bacteria pose "an immediate and serious risk of harm to facility residents."

The letter includes more than eight pages of required improvements at the Hayes Mill Road facilities, including the hiring by each unit of a state-approved administrator consultant and a certified infection control practitioner.

It noted DOH has conducted three investigations into Legionnaires' disease at the Atco sites since 2014, looking at the deaths of three residents and

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The state Department of Health is demanding changes to address concerns over Legionnaires' bacteria in water in the long term care and assisted living facilities at The Fountains at Atco in Waterford.

JIM WALSH/COURIER-POST

State judge's decision ends Burlington Twp. man's council hopes

Joseph P. Smith
Cherry Hill Courier-Post
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

BURLINGTON TWP. — Voters won't see Bryan Lasater's name on the November ballot as a candidate for Township Council, a state judge has decided.

Lasater, 49, received enough write-in

votes in the June 2 Republican primary to qualify for a place on the ballot. However, he was registered as a Democrat at the time, which state law prohibits.

The township refused to certify Lasater for a ballot position on that basis, relying on New Jersey election law as well as case law. Lasater subsequently filed a complaint on June 18 with Burlington

County Superior Court.

Citing favorable court precedents, Lasater asked Judge Terrance Cook to compel the township and the county clerk to accept his primary election win. The county Republican Party ended up joining the lawsuit to support his claims.

However, on Aug. 5, Cook issued an

order denying the request. The reasoning was that protecting the "associational rights" of the political parties from interference is the priority under state law, Lasater said.

"So, it is what it is," Lasater said in an interview August 19. "I gave it my best

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Volume 152 | No. 130
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