



November 2, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's November and it is officially sweater season! As we continue to see the temperatures drop, please make sure that your child have appropriate clothing for their commute to school and for recess. I hope the cold stays away as long as possible, but each day is an adventure.

It is hard to believe that we have completed the first quarter of the school year. I hope you had the opportunity to meet with your child teacher(s) on Quarter 1 Parent Conference Day. Our records indicate that 89% of parents met with their child's teacher. In collaboration with Bright Star and Network 9, the top 10 schools in Network 9 with the highest percentage of parents who attended Parent Conference Day will receive a school-wide pizza party. If our school wins, parents will be notified on REMIND. All Quarter 1 Report Cards that were not picked-up on Parent Conference Day were sent home with your child on October 30th.

Attendance Incentive (November)



We are now in the eleventh week of the 2023-2024 school year. It is imperative that students attend school daily and on time. Students who attend school regularly and on time have been shown to achieve higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. One of the most powerful ways to prepare a child for success in life is through regular school attendance. The early elementary years from Kindergarten through third grade are extremely important in a child's emotional and academic growth. Primary students must master foundational skills such as early counting, number sense, phonological awareness, phonics knowledge, and decoding skills, all of which contribute to the development of fluent reading.

All students who are present at school for the entire day for the month of November will receive an Attendance Incentive on Friday, December 1, 2023.

Student Arrival and Early Dismissal



It is imperative that students arrive to school on time at 8:45 a.m. When students arrive late to school, they miss valuable instructional minutes. If it is necessary for your child to leave school prior to the dismissal time of 3:45 p.m., please note: **Early Dismissals will not be granted after 3:15 p.m.**

No School Days



There will be no school on **Friday, November 10th**. It is Veteran's Day. There will be no school on **November 20th-24th**. It is Thanksgiving Break. **School will resume on Monday, November 27th at 8:45 a.m.**

Academic Check-In (5th-8th Grades)

Academic Check-Ins will be held on Monday, November 6, 2023 for all 5th-8th grade students. The Academic Check-Ins allow students the time to check their grades, speak with their teachers about their grades, missing assignments, make-up work, and set-goals prior to the distribution of progress reports and report cards. Students are provided with pertinent academic information from the school counselor and administrators.

LSC/PAC Meetings (In-Person)



There will be Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting on **Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.** in the cafeteria. All parents and community members are invited to attend.

There will be an LSC meeting on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** in the cafeteria. All parents and community members are invited to attend.

Local School Council Election



Applications to run in the 2024 Local School Council (LSC) elections are now available and are due by 3:00 p.m. on **Thursday, February 8th, 2024**. To apply, download the application forms via <https://www.cps.edu/about/local-school-councils/lsc-elections/> or you can obtain the forms from the Main Office; see Ms. Hampton-Flagg. You must submit all completed forms and two forms of identification by 3:00 p.m. on **Thursday, February 8th, 2024** to the Main Office. If you have

any questions, please contact Ms. Hampton-Flagg, our Local School Council Liaison, at (773) 535-0530 or via email at fghampton-flagg@cps.edu.

Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway



Thanksgiving Annual Turkey Giveaway: Carnegie School will give away 500 turkeys! Thank you to the Chicago Muslim Foundation for the donation. Each ACS family may pick-up one FREE turkey on **Friday, November 17th**, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. from the North Dorchester door.

Physical Examination and Immunization Requirements



There are still over 50 students who are out-of-medical compliance. Parents are reminded that physical examination and immunization requirements for Chicago Public School students are as follows: Students entering **kindergarten, sixth, and ninth** grade are required to submit proof of physical examination and current immunizations to their local school by **October 15th of each year**. Out-of-medical compliance notification was emailed to parents on September 10, 2023 and a hard copy distributed to parents on Parent Conference Day. If you have already submitted a complete Certificate of Child Health Examination Form, please accept our appreciation. If you have not met this requirement, please submit a completed Certificate of Child Health Examination Form to Nurse Reed. Students entering kindergarten, second, and sixth grade must have their dental examination completed by May 15th of each school year. If your child has not received the required examination and your family does not have healthcare insurance, please contact the Chicago Public School Children and Family Benefit Unit (CFBU). You may be eligible for Allkids or Family Care. Contact CFBU at 773-553-1809.

Parent Portal



Please sign up, if you have not done so already, for the CPS Parent Portal (Aspen) and check/track your child's grades and assignments 24/7. This is an important way for you to get involved with your child's education. The information on how to sign up and log in to Aspen is here:

<https://www.cps.edu/services-and-supports/parent-and-studentportal/parent-portal>. For assistance, please email Mrs. Roberson, at mailto:segriffin@cps.edu. For additional information and videos on how to access ASPEN Parent Portal, please click <https://cps.edu/Pages/parentresources.aspx>.

Single-Subject & Whole-Grade Acceleration Eligibility Notification Letters

On October 4th, the District sent an email notification to parents/guardians of all students currently in 4th-6th grade who may be eligible for single-subject or whole-grade acceleration based on the results of their spring 2023 IAR. Families can apply for acceleration for their child(ren) through **November 9, 2023 at 5pm**. If families have any questions or would like more information about Accelerated Placement, they can contact gocps@cps.edu or (773) 553-2060.

GoCPS Kindergarten Applications

Pre-K students who attend a school other than their neighborhood school will need to re-apply to stay for kindergarten. On October 20th, families of CPS Pre-K students who do not have an automatic continuing seat at their current school and who have not yet submitted a GoCPS application were notified via email that they must participate in the GoCPS

application process if they are interested in having their child attend the same school for kindergarten. The [GoCPS application](#) will close on **November 9th at 5pm**. Families can apply online or via phone at (773) 553-2060.

GoCPS High School Application

Because of the adjusted timeline for High School Admission Testing, the GoCPS re-ranking deadline is being extended until December 1st, 2023 at 5 pm. **The application deadline remains November 9th, 2023 at 5 p.m.** Families must submit an initial application with their choices by the November 9th deadline, but will be able to re-rank their choices until December 1st. For questions about the GoCPS application, please contact gocps@cps.edu.

IB-MYP Class Trip Fundraisers



Many thanks to the ACS school community for participating and supporting the Double Good Popcorn and Taffy Apple Fundraisers. The Double Good Popcorn fundraiser raised \$13,728.00, in which 50% of the student sales will be applied to their Puerto Rico Class Trip. The Taffy Apple sales yielded over \$1,000 in funds, in which those will be applied to the students' Puerto Rico Class Trip. Thank you again for supporting our school's fundraisers. If you missed contributing to these two, there are more fundraisers to come!

IB-MYP Class Trip to Puerto Rico



We are excited to announce the details for the IB-MYP Class Trip to Puerto Rico. Our school has collaborated with Explorica for all the arrangements. The IB-MYP Class Trip is scheduled for April 22nd - 26th, 2024. All 6th-8th grade students are invited to attend. If you would like your child to attend the Class Trip, you must register your child. See below registration information. If you are interested in chaperoning or required to chaperone with your child, you must complete the volunteer online application via <https://chicagopublicschools.civicore.com/index.php?action=english>. All volunteers must apply for Level 1 status. Please check the school's website for more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ramirez at <mailto:eramirez262@cps.edu>.



Parent Volunteers



As we return to a more traditional school year, we are welcoming the return of parent volunteers to assist in the classroom, coach a sports team or club, chaperone field trips, and help in the cafeteria and during recess. The district has revised its vaccination requirement. If you would like to volunteer, you must complete the volunteer application for Level 1 via www.cps.volunteers.org. Once completed, the volunteer must provide the main office with a photo ID for school level approval. Please Note: If you were an approved parent volunteer last year, you will need to reapply. All parent volunteers must complete this process each year! The application process can take up to 2 to 5 weeks.



Principal Pollard

"Educate, Encourage, Empower"
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