

Happy Holidays!

December 2, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As the Winter Break nears, I want to wish our families Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Las Posadas, Happy Kwanza and a Happy New Year!

Reflecting on this first half of the school year, I am so proud of what we have accomplished together. Our beginning of the school year Reading and Mathematics Star 360 data indicates that 42.7% (ELA) and 53% (Mathematics) of all 3rd through 8th students are at or above grade level. However, students in grades Kindergarten through 2nd grade students are performing far below grade level in both Reading and Mathematics.

We must partner together to help to improve your child's attendance, so we can keep them engaged and learning. During the winter break all Kindergarten-8th grade students will receive Holiday Homework Assignments will be given via hardcopy or on-line (*Nearpod, Discovery Education, iReady Reading/Math, or Raz-Kids*). The Holiday Homework assignments must be completed by **Monday, January 9th**. Holiday Homework will be graded and input into Gradebook by Friday, January 13th.

We are committed in helping all our students recover both academically and social-emotionally. We remain hopeful that we can continue to address our challenges and make academic progress toward our goals, providing our learners with the relationships, nurturing climate and culture, and supports they deserve.

As the holiday season approaches we must continue to be extra vigilant in doing our part to help keep ourselves and those around us safe. Here's what each of us can do to limit the spread of the coronavirus and support healthy schools:

- ✓ **Get a flu shot and the COVID-19 vaccine or booster** if you haven't yet done so. The vaccine is now available for everyone five and older. Click <https://events.juware.com/IL-IDPH/726589ad-1495-4ad0-94aa-386f7ca5408> to find a vaccine or booster location near you.
- ✓ **Wear a mask** that covers your nose and mouth when in indoor public places and outdoors where there is a high risk of COVID-19 transmission, such as crowded events or large gatherings.
- ✓ **Get tested, it's free** - we are asking everyone in our schools to get tested prior to spending time with family and friends over the holidays and prior to returning to schools to ensure you are COVID free when we reopen, especially if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had close contact with someone who has COVID-19. All students will receive a COVID-19 At Home Kits on Thursday, December 22nd. All parents are asked to administer the COVID test to your child(ren) on Saturday, January 7 or Sunday, January 8. If your child test positive for COVID-19, you must self-report the results www.cps.edu/covidresults and your child must remain home in isolation for 5 days.

Reminder, there will be no school on **Friday, December 23rd**. It is a School Improvement Day. The Winter Break begins on **Monday, December 26th through Friday, January 6th**. **Classes will resume Monday, January 9, 2023**. From my family to yours, have a joyful and safe holiday and a Happy New Year! See you in 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 that: Early Dismissals will not be granted after 3:15 p.m.**

December Attendance Incentive

December Attendance Challenge! Students with an attendance rate of 95% or higher for the period of **December 1st through December 16th** will receive an Attendance Silent Dance Party and Out-of-Uniform Day on **Thursday, December 22nd** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **We need 100% attendance daily!**

2nd Quarter Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be sent home with your child on **Friday, December 2nd**. You may 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-student-portal/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>.

Fall/Winter After School Programs

Carnegie's OST Fall After-School Programs ends on **Monday, December 2nd**, with the exception of the Girls & Boys Basketball practice. If you have any questions, you may contact Mrs. Boateng, fnimpson@cps.edu or at (773) 535-0661.

GOCPS Application for Early Entrance to Kindergarten and First Grade

The applications for 2023-2024 Early Entrance to Kindergarten and Early Entrance to First Grade closes **on December 2, 2022**. For more information, click <https://www.cps.edu/gocps/about-gocps/accelerated-placement/>. As a reminder, this is the only way for students to bypass the age requirements in Board Rule 6-2; principals do not have discretion to allow students who are not yet five or six by September 1 to enter kindergarten or first grade, respectively. For more information or questions about the application or testing processes, please reach out to <mailto:gocps@cps.edu>.

GOCPS Application for Whole-Grade & Single-Subject Acceleration

The applications for whole-grade and single-subject acceleration closes **on December 2, 2022**. For more information and the application for both processes will be found at <https://www.cps.edu/gocps/about-gocps/accelerated-placement/>. As a reminder, as of 2019 when the Accelerated Placement policy was passed, **principals do not have any discretion to move a student forward a grade level in a single subject or a whole grade if they do not go through the state-mandated process**. For more information or questions about the application or testing processes, please reach out to <mailto:gocps@cps.edu>. For questions about implementation or what qualifies as single-subject acceleration, please contact Margeaux McReynolds in Teaching & Learning at mlmcreynolds@cps.edu.

Local School Council (LSC)

There is one open community representative vacancy on our Local School Council (LSC). If you are interested, please see Ms. Hampton-Flagg in the Main Office and complete an application packet. Our next LSC meeting will be held virtually on **Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m.** See the below meeting link to access the meeting.

LSC Meeting

Tuesday, December 13th · 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ixz-xmqu-wuj>

Or dial: (US) +1 443-507-8816 PIN: 904 006 699#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ixz-xmqu-wuj?pin=4163635060020>

Winter Holiday School Assembly & Holiday Classroom Door Contest

There will be an (in-person) Winter Holiday Assembly for Kindergarten-4th grades on **Wednesday, December 21st at 9:30 a.m.** All parents are invited to attend. However, space is limited. Parents, please help your child's classroom win prizes in the Holiday Door Decorating Contest. After the Winter Assembly, parents/guardians can tour the 1st & 2nd floor classroom doors and cast your vote for your favorite Holiday classroom door. Good Luck to all classrooms!

Holiday Classroom Celebration

Teachers may host a classroom Holiday Party on Thursday, December 22nd from 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. **This is an OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAY for all students.**

Blue Carnegie Hoodies

Our vendor has re-sealed our logo on the blue hoodies, which were originally fading after the initial wash. Parents who previously purchased a blue Carnegie hoodie for their child, may return it to the school to swap for another blue hoodie only. Students can see Mrs. Roberson during their lunch breaks.

8th Grade Class Trip to Philadelphia

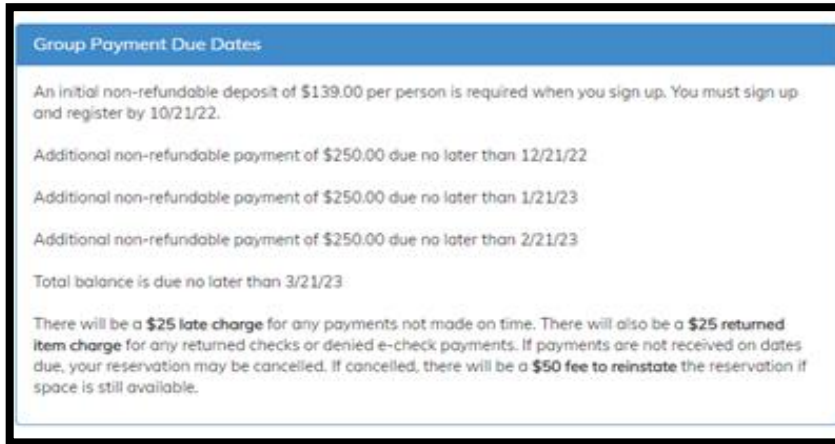
We are excited to announce the details for the Class of 2023, Class Trip to Philadelphia, PA. Our school has partnered with Educational Travel Adventures (ETA) for all the arrangements. The Class Trip is scheduled for May 15th - 19th, 2023. Currently, there are four (4) parents who have registered and one (1) parent who has paid the deposit of \$139. Attached is the Class Trip itinerary for each day. If you would like for your child to attend the Class Trip, you must register your child and **submit a non-refundable deposit of \$139 per person** as soon as possible.

If you are interested in chaperoning or required to chaperone with your child, you must complete the volunteer online application at <https://chicagopublicschools.civicore.com/index.php?action=userLogin>. All volunteers must apply for Level 1 status. **Website Registration Instructions: Student and Chaperone Registration**

1. Visit our website at: <https://www.etadventures.com/>

Click the green button in the top right-hand corner "Log in to myETA"

- **Trip Code:** andrew23
 - **Password:** phltrip23
2. Click on the Red Button that says "Make a new reservation"
 3. Complete the information and continue to follow the instructions to complete your registration.
 4. Once you have completed your reservation, you will come to a page with tabs at the top, click on the "Passengers" tab.
 5. On the Passengers tab, click on the "Waiver Incomplete View/Edit" button.
 6. Complete all required information in the Waiver. You can log out and log back in to finish the waiver at a later date using the reservation information emailed to you.
 7. The monthly payment plan is as follows:



COVID-19 Information & Updates

As of Wednesday, November 16th, there are 151 out of 184 or 82% of staff and students who were tested for COVID-19. There were two confirmed cases of COVID-19. On-site COVID testing for staff and students (with parent consent) is **conducted on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. near Room 116. Testing is voluntary.** Staff, parents, or guardians can click the link: <https://www.color.com/cust/readycheckgo-cps> to complete this year's consent/registration form. Once consent is given for the 2022-23 school year, staff and students will remain consented until they leave CPS. Parents/Guardians can also submit a paper consent form for testing. Click for the current version of the paper consent form ([ENGLISH](#)). To track the impact of COVID-19 at CPS, click the link: <https://www.cps.edu/services-and-supports/covid-19-resources/covid-19-readiness-data/>.

Testing Positive for COVID-19

If your child is sick or experiencing any COVID- or flu-like symptoms, your child should stay home and not report to school, even if s/he is vaccinated. If your child test positive for COVID, please reach out to us at www.cps.edu/covidresults to self-report. Your help is the key to keeping our communities safe.

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.**

School Communication: REMIND APP

Parents may receive important school-wide communications and updates from the school via REMIND (i.e. monthly parent newsletter, district-wide information, etc...) Parents are highly encouraged to sign-up for REMIND. Go to the school's website www.carnegie.cps.edu, go to the top of the page, click "Parents," click "REMIND," and then click the REMIND icon for instructions.

Happy Holiday!
Principal Pollard

