

All Families Newsletter

Week 28, 3/13/23

Monday 3/13	Tuesday 3/14	Wednesday 3/15	Thursday 3/16	Friday 3/17
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Oak Crest to visit 1st grade
NO 4/5th MICA Art Club
Report Cards Mailed

1 PM Dismissal
Founders Day!

Kindergarten walking trip to
Silver Queen Cafe

SCHOOL CLOSED for
Staff Professional
Development

Greetings, Families.

Our hearts are still full from Thursday's performance of *A Journey to Freedom*. Thank you to every volunteer, and family that helped to make this night possible. We appreciate you!

Family Engagement Night:

Next week, we have our friends from LTYC lead a session for our 2nd Family Engagement Night. If you missed the first one, and are interested in joining us, please register here: [Family Engagement Night Registration](#)

FFG Evaluation:

Does your child participate in Aftercare? We need to hear from you!

Please complete the Aftercare Evaluation Form for feedback regarding our Fitness Fun and Games partnership. [Aftercare Evaluation Form](#)



Weather for the week:



Looking Ahead

Tuesday, March 14
Report Cards mailed

Wednesday, March 15
CN Founders Day

Friday, March 17
Summer Camp applications
due

Friday, March 17
SCHOOL CLOSED for
Staff Professional
Development

Thursday, March 23
Family Engagement Night
6:00-7:00 PM

Monday, April 3 thru
Monday April 10
SCHOOL CLOSED for
Spring Break

Tuesday, April 11
School Resumes

Staffing Changes

Congratulations to Mrs. Liz Mencer, our 4th/5th grade ELA/Social Studies teacher, on the birth of her baby boy this weekend! He made his grand entrance in the world on Saturday morning. We are sending them much love as they welcome their new bundle of joy! As Mrs. Mencer is resting and recovering at this time, please direct any questions or needs to us!

While Mrs. Mencer is away on maternity leave, Ms. Fredericks, who has served as our 4th/5th grade teaching fellow for the second year in a row, will step up to lead instruction. Ms. Fredericks is committed to maintaining the structures, routines and instruction for students as they adjust to the transition. She is highly qualified to continue to lead instruction and will be supported regularly by our team of interventionists consisting of former teachers, as well as administration and other support staff. We are confident that Ms. Fredericks will bring her best efforts in making this a smooth transition.

Ms. Tanisha Brooks, who has been working with our 2nd graders this year will be joining the 4th and 5th grade team beginning this week! This opportunity allows Ms. Brooks provides support to a different age group of students, and serves as a learning opportunity for the future teacher.

Our 1st and 2nd Grade team will welcome Ms. Autumn Beal who has been working with 3rd graders this year. Ms. Beal will have the opportunity to learn instructional practices for this age group as she also aspires to become a full-time teacher.

We are excited about the shifts, and the opportunities they present for both students and staff. As new relationships will form and practices will become strengthened. We also understand that some students may find these shifts difficult. At this time, all students who will be impacted have been made aware of these changes. We will ensure that students are fully supported throughout this process. Please feel free to reach out should you have any further questions or concerns.



Don't Forget to Log Your Family Participation Hours!



By joining the CNH community, each family agreed to participate in school events for a minimum of 40 hours per school year. Logging hours is easy! You can scan the qr code or follow the link below to record your hours. Attending or participating in any of the following qualify for participation hours: Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, School events (Family Arts Nights, Gallery Night, Graduation, End of year events), IEP Meetings, Classroom helper, Fundraising events, Committee meetings, Chaperoning school trips and events, Family work days, Earth Day Celebration, Advocacy days, and anything else that you do to make CNH a better school community!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckDqjpbD2BH1PJOO2nooxTPFqv_QtMliV-4mzsavh1cMAjMw/viewform

Summer Programming Options -*Please Read*



The City Neighbors Children Summer Program will take place this summer from July 10 through August 4th for rising 1st through 4th graders. We are nearing a decade of our summer program, which offers our students a rich four-week, community-based experience including project-based learning, weekly arts residencies, weekly field trips (including the return of our family blueberry farm trip!), academic learning in reading and writing, bike-riding, and so much more. The program takes place from 9-3 each day (with before and aftercare available for a fee), and we ask families to commit to the entire four weeks. The program is led and taught by staff from our City Neighbors schools.

Applications are due **THIS FRIDAY, March 17**. The application can be found here: [Summer Camp 2023 Digital Application](#). Families will be notified on March 24th if their child has been accepted into the camp!

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Program Director, Sharon Jackson, at sjackson@cityneighbors.org.

Stay Tuned: Possible City Neighbors FREE Summer Academic Program for rising 5th through 8th grade students

City Neighbors Charter School and City Neighbors Hamilton are partnering to apply for a BOOST grant to offer a five-week, 5 hours per day, academic enrichment summer program for rising 5th through 8th graders at City Neighbors schools. The program will take place from July 5 through August 4 and will be led by City Neighbors 5th through 8th grade teachers from both campuses. Students would be expected to attend all five weeks. The program could accommodate a maximum of 40 students (10 students per grade). **The program would be free to all participants.**

We will know if we receive the grant on April 14th. Assuming it's a go, registration will open immediately after the 14th. If you might be interested and would like registration information as soon as it becomes available, please complete this form: [City Neighbors BOOST Preliminary Interest Form](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Chalupa at mchalupa@cityneighbors.org

Summer Job Opportunities



If you are a Baltimore City resident between the ages of 14 and 21, and are interested in a summer job, apply to YouthWorks between January 3 and April 7, 2023.

For more information, visit <https://youthworks.oedworks.com/>.

Understanding MCAP Results

Dear City Neighbors Hamilton Community,

Over the last few weeks, we have received results from the Spring 2022 MCAP assessments. These assessments were taken at the end of our first full year of returning from virtual learning. At City Neighbors Hamilton, we measure student and school progress in a multitude of ways, including work samples, portfolios, multiple forms of assessments, project work, and more. We do not believe that standardized testing is the most accurate measure of a student or school's performance, and we do not create our student experience tailored to the test. However, as a public school, our students are required to take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) annually in grades 3 - 8. And, in Spring 2024, our results will help determine our charter's renewal.

While we decenter standardized testing in our curriculum and approach, we are pleased to share some positive news about our testing:

- In the recent MSDE study "Promising Practices in Charter Schools", City Neighbors Hamilton was rated one of the top 3 charter elementary schools in the state of Maryland.
- In MSDE's recent Maryland Report Card, City Neighbors Hamilton was rated a 4-star school, with our middle school scoring near the 80th percentile of middle schools across Maryland. We are only one of eight schools to receive a 4-star rating, and only one of three schools in Baltimore to see a rating increase. For that, we were recognized in the [Baltimore Sun](#).

Here are our broad results, in proficiency rates:

	CNH, Spring 2022	Baltimore City, Spring 2022	Maryland, Spring 2022
ELA Elem	35.5	19	48.6
ELA Middle	42	23	40.8
Math Elem	21	9.9	34
Math Middle	8.6	6.7	18.2

Here our results from the Fall 2021 MCAP compared to Spring 2022 MCAP

	Fall 2021	Spring 2022
ELA	26	39
Math	9	14.7

Despite the positive news and regardless of standardized testing, we know that our work is not even close to done. And, we will continue and expand all of our efforts to create a high-quality, authentic, rigorous learning experience for all of our students - including our new math curriculum, our Algebra I course in middle school, our significant intervention and tutoring efforts, and many other efforts. As always, thank you for your partnership and please reach out if you would like to talk further about any of this information or your child's progress.

Jabari Bush, Principal & LaShawn Bowser, Educational Associate

Family Engagement Night! 3/23/23



Come join us for our next Family Engagement Night with our partners from LTYC! Registration is now open!

[Family Engagement Night Registration](#)

LTYC & CITY NEIGHBORS PARENT ENGAGEMENT NIGHT

In this interactive workshop, we attempt to break down stereotypes, misconceptions, and assumptions that two generations place on one another. Through improvisation, role-playing, script writing, and reflection, we take a deeper look at the other party's perspective in an effort to increase awareness, understanding, and empathy.

**MARCH 23, 2023
6:00PM-7:00PM**

**CITY NEIGHBORS
5609 SEFTON AVE
BALTIMORE, MD 21214**

For more info contact lgardner@cityneighborshamilton.org

Annual Earth Day Event- Save the Date: April 22



CITY NEIGHBORS HAMILTON ♡