

MONTHLY ANNOUNCEMENTS



January 2023

Calendar at a Glance

2 - Winter break
3 - Back to School
11 - HOPPP Coffee Hour
16 - MLK Jr. Day; No School
18-PPPCS, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, 7pm
18 - GAL meeting for K and new students
19 - Family Math Night, Winter "One-derland"
21- Open House for 2023-2024 school year
23 Professional Development for staff; schools closed for students
25 - Quarter 2 Report Card Distribution
1/30- The Penny Challenge begins

Volunteer Opportunities

Lunch and Recess Volunteers

We would love to have family volunteer help out in the cafeteria and during recess! Help is needed monitoring students, collecting trash from students, wiping down tables and supervising play outdoors. Contact LObara@pppcs.org if you can help.

Join the Read-a-thon Committee!

The Read-a-thon Committee is gearing up to prepare for our 4th Annual Read-a-thon! Consider joining the committee! Contact Heather Savino, Director of Development and Marketing at Hsavino@pppcs.org if you are interested!

Volunteers

We are happy to welcome volunteers back into the school! Fingerprinting will be needed for any volunteer consistently working alone with children. Please go to <https://bit.ly/FingerprintBCPSS> to register to get fingerprinted at City Schools. Field trip volunteers and supervised volunteers do not need to be fingerprinted but will be properly vetted by the school.

Field Trips

2nd grade: National Aquarium 1/31
10:30-1:30



Important Information

Updated COVID Protocols

As these new protocols take effect, we ask the school community to be even more vigilant of health and safety. Please test your children before they return from Winter Break. Masks are suggested for the first 2 weeks after we return. Monitor your child for symptoms and continue to wash hands and keep distance. We can continue to keep our kids safe!

Baltimore City Public Schools has updated their COVID health and safety procedures:

Holiday At-Home Testing

Before the Winter break, we will provide COVID test kits to every student and all staff. Students and staff should take the tests 1 to 2 days before returning to school and report any positive cases. Please ensure your children bring them home and don't open them themselves.

School-based COVID screening testing: Starting January 3, 2023, we will no longer conduct screening testing in schools every other week.

We will continue to test students that show COVID symptoms in the health suite and provide take-home tests as needed.

Notification of Positive Cases: Starting January 3, 2023, schools will no longer notify families about individual cases. We will notify an impacted classroom or school of an outbreak, which consists of three or more cases that are linked.

Masks: Masks are optional, but students need to wear a mask for 10 days if: they have symptoms, they are in a positive pool, they are recovering from COVID, or they have been exposed.

Isolation: Individuals who test positive must continue to isolate for at least 5 days, with day 0 being the day of the positive test.

Reporting: Please continue to report any positive cases to the school

Attendance and Lateness

Our attendance year to date is 91.16%. Pre-COVID, our attendance was typically around 94% or above. PPPCS has goals around attendance and wants our students to be present and on-time for school! If you are facing barriers to getting your child to school, please email LObara@pppcs.org.

Around PPPCS

PPPCS, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Please join us for the PPPCS, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, 1/18 at 7pm. Zoom link will be shared on the website. These are public meetings, and an opportunity for the school community to see the decision-making behind our operations.

GAL meeting for K and new students

Families of newly identified Gifted and Advanced Learners are invited to learn more about programming, ways to support your child, and other resources. You will receive an invitation from the school for this meeting.

Family Math Night, Winter "One-derland"

Join us for a Winter "One-derland," our Family Math Night, on Thursday 1/19 at 5:30pm in the cafeteria.

Come learn ways to support your child's math skills and have fun with games and activities with your child. A light dinner, prizes, homework passes and resources will be provided.



Uniform Reminder/Coats

Families, with cooler temperatures, please be reminded that students can wear solid navy blue or white long sleeved shirts under their uniform shirts, and plain navy blue sweaters or sweatshirts without hoods. Also, note that students need to wear safe, close-toed, low-heeled shoes—no Crocs or slides. If your child is in need of a coat for the winter, please email LObara@pppcs.org. Please use the winter break to purchase the winter items so that your students can come back and start the school year off right!

Mis Raices

Mis Raices is an education and support group for Latino families that lifts up heritage, community, family and education. They meet every Monday at 8am in the church basement. Please enter and sign in at the main office. Join us!

HOPPP Coffee Hour

Join HOPPP our Organized Parent Group 8am in the PPPCS cafeteria. Please enter and sign in at the main office.

HOPPP Penny Challenge

The Penny Challenge starts the last week of January! Classes will be collecting and donating coins, competing against each other to battle for first place! Start collecting your change now in preparation!

In the Community

Community Zumba @ PPPCS

Join the Friends of Patterson Park as they bring Zumba indoors for the cooler weather! Join us for free family-friendly Zumba every Wednesday at 6pm in the PPPCS gym!

Operation Warm

Coats will be distributed to youth at the Southeast Anchor Library on Saturday 1/14/23.

PPPCS and Clay Hill Enrollment

PPPCS and our partner school, Clay Hill, are accepting enrollment applications for new students for the 2023/2024 school year.

Applications can be found at www.pppcs.org/enrollment. Please help spread the word to your friends and family! Let them know about our Open House on 1/21 from 9am-11am!

Community COVID Vaccine Clinics

The new bivalent booster against COVID (including the Omicron variant) is available for persons 12+, free at many locations in Baltimore. Check out the website for dates and locations: <https://bit.ly/BCHDCOVID>

Enoch Pratt Free Library

During this season of spending (and saving!) give your child the gift of reading and learning this year by signing up for a library card! Check out books, movies, hotspots, tablets, and more for free! Download and stream eBooks, movies and more! <https://www.prattlibrary.org/black-friday> Here are a few events to check out at the Southeast Anchor Library

Drawingnoons! Spend an afternoon drawing and having fun at the Creation Station Jan 6 3:30pm

Digital Drop in Clinic: learn how to use e-resources and get help on your devices or accounts Jan 3 and 5 at 2pm.

Family Storytime: For families with children ages 2-5, bilingual storytime, Tuesdays at 12 and Fridays at 11am.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

TURN
AROUND—>

