

# Riverside School

**WELCOME**  
**APRIL**



## Upcoming Events

- Mon, Apr 4 School Re-Opens
- Tues, Apr 5 Tru2U Mentor Visit (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Fri, Apr 8 NWEA Window Closes
- Wed, Apr 13 School Awards Assembly
- Wed, Apr 20 Interim Parent Teacher Conferences / 12:50pm Early Release for Students
- Fri, Apr 22 "Be The One" Day at Riverside
- Wed, Apr 27 Washington DC Trip



## Message from Principal Paige Baublitz-Watkins

Hello Families, Friends, and Community Members,

As the temperature slowly rises, we are getting closer to the end of another school year. Before that, we have state testing during the month of April. Our students and teachers have been working extremely hard all year and we look forward to them taking these tests, showing what they know, and all doing EXCELLENT. During this time, it is important that each child get 8 hours of sleep per night, eat a healthy breakfast, and get to school on time. We thank you in advance for helping our students be successful!

Principal BW



- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Very Poor

### School Communication Links

School Instagram Page  
[@riverside\\_cmsd](#)

School Website  
<http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/riverside>

School PTC Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/RiversideSchoolPTC>





# School Update Sections

## Riverside AR Challenge

Mr. Monell has agreed to regale us all with his rendition of “Let It Go” while being sprayed with silly string as an end of year reward for meeting an AR goal. The Riverside goal will be 85% participation and 90% passage as a building.

See below for percentage rate at the beginning of April.

**Deadline: Friday, April 22, 2016**

There will be weekly updates of progress made at MMM, as well as, updated graphs placed outside of classroom doors.

## Riverside Night Owls Program

### Intervention Strategy

The computer lab will be opened for a period of 1 hour after (4:05 – 5:00 p.m.) school for students.

Staff contact – Mrs. Rynties, Mr. Sisson, Mrs. McCorkle, and Mrs. Tilow.

## YEARBOOK UPDATE

**Thank you** to ALL who purchased a Riverside yearbook and helped us reach our goal. If you have not ordered a yearbook yet, make sure you do. This is something your children will look back on and smile.

Yearbook prices have now been raised by \$5. Do not miss out on getting your copy.

Price - \$20

Staff contact – Mrs. Cortez

## Monday Morning Meetings (MMM)

This year at Riverside School, we are proud to add the addition of Monday Morning Meetings to our monthly routine. Every first Monday of the month, all students will meet in the gymnasium with their teachers and building administrators. This time will be used to recognize students for achievements such as; birthday

celebrations, classroom achievements, student awards, and athletic accomplishments. Students will also be given information on different school expectations and updates.

Parents, Guardians and Friends, we would love to have you there! Feel free join us at our monthly Monday Morning Meetings.

**DON'T** be  
**AFRAID TO**  
**BE YOUR SELF**

- Start time – 9:30AM
- End Time – 10:20 AM
- Location - Gymnasium





On Wednesday, March 23, 2016, we held our “**Celebration of Black History**” Program. Thank you to all the students, teachers, and parents who helped make this event a complete SUCCESS! Above are a few pictures from the events. If you would like to see more photos and videos from the show, please check out our Instagram page.

**Riverside Instagram name - @riverside\_cmsd**

Special thanks to the Djapo Cultural Dance Institute for coming and being a part of our program. Our students and guests enjoyed each moment and look forward to seeing you back at Riverside in the future!

## Attendance campaign on target, but 4th quarter critical

With one grading period left in the school year, CMSD’s attendance campaign is on track to achieve its goal of reducing chronic absenteeism by 10 percent.

But the margin is close; that fourth quarter will be critical.

The “Get to School! You Can Make It!” campaign, launched in July, is designed to prevent students from missing 10 or more days in a school year. Students who had missed more than seven days by the end of the third quarter were considered to be at risk of exceeding the threshold.

When the third quarter ended last month, 53.2 percent of District students had missed seven or fewer days. That compares with an average of 47.3 percent at the same point the

previous three years. In a district with 38,525 students, the difference is 2,273 more students.

For CMSD to remain on a course to hit the target, more than 52.6 percent had to be on track in attendance at the end of the quarter.

Chronic absenteeism is a problem facing schools nationwide.

The campaign message is plastered on billboards and yard signs and featured on radio spots. Volunteers have canvassed neighborhoods to talk to families, and they work phones on Thursday nights, calling parents to see if the District can assist with issues that make it difficult for their children to get to school.

*Continued on page 4*



*Attendance campaign continued from page 3*

The Cleveland Browns have served as a lead partner, with contributions that include having players visit schools and record videos and automated phone calls with a pro-attendance message.

Radio One is sponsoring a series of surprise “pop-up” parties for schools with outstanding attendance.

In the past, nearly two-thirds of CMSD schools reported that more than half of their students missed 10 or more days in a year. District data shows that CMSD students with 10 or more absences are 9 percent less likely to meet Ohio’s Third Grade Reading Guarantee, required for promotion to fourth grade. They score an average of 12 points lower on state reading

tests and 15 points lower in math; high school students are 34 percent less likely to graduate.

To learn more and sign a pledge supporting the campaign, go to [get2schoolcleveland.com](http://get2schoolcleveland.com)

## Riverside School Leadership Council

A huge **CONGRATULATIONS** is in order for our new Riverside School Leadership Council.

Middle School Student Leadership Council, made up of rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders, provides leadership opportunities for interested students. Student Council members represent middle school students and promote the core values represented at Riverside School. Members respond to student issues and create student activities that promote enthusiasm and school spirit, building a community where each member and their constituents are valued and respected.

**From left to right:**

- President – Gregory George
- Ambassador Secretary – Hayden Kassoon
- Treasurer – Kierra Zimmerman
- Director of Media Relations – Chan Thatch
- Vice President – Jessica Rivera
- Ambassador Secretary – Nadia Evans



## CMSD grads better prepared for college, report says

Not only are CMSD students graduating in larger numbers, they are more prepared for college and remaining there longer, the Higher Education Compact of Greater Cleveland says in an annual report released March 18.

The report notes, however, that post-secondary enrollment continues to lag at a time when some form of it is needed to land a higher paying job. Compact leaders say cost is a major reason why, so the group is studying community scholarship funds in other cities and trying to establish one in Cleveland.

Launched by Mayor Frank G. Jackson in 2011, the Compact consists of CMSD, the city, 16 colleges and universities and more than 40 organizations interested in serving youths.

Since then, the District graduation rate has climbed from 52 percent to a record 66 percent.

The percentages of students graduating with a B average or higher, scoring a college-ready score of 21 or higher on the ACT admissions exam and participating in advanced-placement courses are at their highest points since the Compact began collecting data. And the percentage needing remediation for math and English in college is at a low.

"We're seeing all the right movement in the readiness data," CMSD Chief Executive Officer Eric Gordon told a crowd gathered in the Cleveland State University Student Center ballroom for the report's release. "Our kids can do this."

Richard Bischoff, vice president for enrollment at Case Western Reserve University, agrees that District students are much better prepared. Bischoff, who was in the audience March 18, said he and others at Case have detected a noticeable improvement in recent years as CMSD has carried out The Cleveland Plan, a customized blueprint for education reform in the city.

"That's anecdotal, but we see a difference," he said. "We think we see the impact of the work the District is doing."

According to the report, the percentage of CMSD students going to college within a year of graduating from high school rose from 53 percent to 56 percent in 2014, the most recent year for which data was available. But the increase came after drops the previous two years and remains well short of the Compact's goal of 61 percent to 66 percent by 2017.

The majority of children born into poverty remain at or near the bottom of the income ladder as adults, but their chances of



climbing higher improve dramatically if they complete postsecondary education, said the event's guest speaker, David Dodson.

Dodson is president of MDC, a North Carolina nonprofit that focuses on removing barriers to opportunity. He praised the Higher Education Compact and joked that he planned to copy "80 percent of what I've heard here and take it home."

"The work you are doing is the work of liberation," he said. "It is nothing short of that."

### Riverside School

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SCHOOL DISTRICT

[ClevelandMetroSchools.org](http://ClevelandMetroSchools.org)