

Robinson G. Jones

News From The Launchpad



Upcoming Events

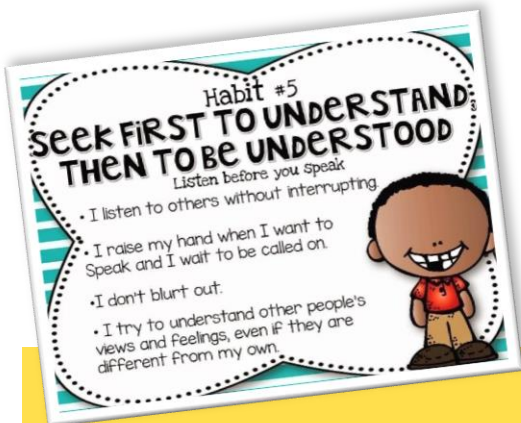
- January 18 Chat & Chew Parent Meeting, 8:30 a.m. – All are welcome!
- January 18 No School for Preschool ONLY – Staff PD
- January 21 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Message from Principal Melissa Watts

Research has shown that the simple act of writing a goal greatly increases the chances of accomplishing the goal. If the goal is broken down into action steps and the action steps are tracked, goals have an even greater percentage of success.

At school, your child may write his or her academic and personal goals in a Leadership Notebook. You will gain a lot of information on how your child is doing if you ask your child to tell you about his or her goals. The goals chosen are meaningful to your child so be sure to practice Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood.

The Leadership Notebook idea can also be used in your home. Create goals such as reading together, eating dinner at the table, or doing an activity together. Involve everyone in the family in choosing a meaningful goal and action steps. Post the goal and the action steps in a visible place and be sure to track and celebrate progress!



The Leader in Me

Habit 5 — Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood

Listen Before You Talk - I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.



Classroom News: Inside Out

NEA Big Read

7th Grade scholars are participating in the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Program in partnership with the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning. Scholars will read the book *Citizen: An American Lyric* by Claudia Rankine, which lays bare moments of racism that often surface in everyday encounters. Not only will students have an exclusive audience with the author later in January, but they will also participate in hands-on art related workshops to support their reading.

Visit <https://arts-inspiredlearning.org/neabigread2019/> to learn more!

Time to choose!

8th Grade families are encouraged to attend the High School Choice Fair with their scholars. There are two evening options –Jan 23 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at East Professional Center and Jan 30 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Max Hayes High School.

RGJ will also be hosting a High School Choice info night for families on Feb 13th from 5-6:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, talk with the 8th grade team, meet representatives from schools your child is interested in and learn how to apply using the school choice portal. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Mrs. Hatgas, Wraparound Site Coordinator

Teamwork makes the dream work!

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade scholars are taking advantage of the Holistic Life Team Building Program offered through the City of Cleveland. Students will spend the day at Camp Forbes in Highland Heights and will work together on a series of small group work and activities that underscore the building blocks of successful teamwork: listening & communicating.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, February 7th. Stay tuned for more information from your student’s teacher.

Rocket Pride: December Students of the Month

Each month, our teachers have the opportunity to recognize scholars for exemplary behavior, academic progress and/or demonstrated effort in academics. In December, a total of 21 students were awarded “Student of the Month” status.

These students are: Qamar Abdulhasan, DJ Adkins, Ja’Marie Barnes, Ayane Blake, Hanna Borowski, Rashawn Broadnax, Mason Delaney, Ahma’Dre Diggins, Sakai Dork, Isis Gist, Jmir Hairston, Kazuya Le, Angelis Martinez, Robert Martell, Alysianna Medina, Jazmine Pinkney, Izick Randleman, Brianna Spooner, Matthew Surface, Tristian Story and Jocelyn Vargas.



Has your son/daughter already been named a Student of the Month this school year? Please join your scholar Friday, January 25th for a celebratory breakfast from 8:10-8:40 a.m. in the Media Center.



The Coordinator's Corner

Studies show that healthy students are more focused and are able to perform better academically. In 2019, we are focused on bringing programming in to the school that helps students be the healthiest, happiest versions of themselves.

Join us at the next Chat & Chew Meeting on January 18th @ 8:30 a.m. to hear more!

Yearbook Pre-Orders Underway Yearbooks are \$10 and can be ordered online directly through LifeTouch at ybpay.lifetouch.com and use yearbook ID 11992419 OR, send \$10 cash in the envelope that was sent home with your scholar the first week of January. Order deadline is February 15.

Adding Afterschool Partners This spring, we welcome two new afterschool partners: Girls On The Run and Beat the Streets. Girls On The Run is for girls in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade and will meet two days per week from 3-4:15 p.m. beginning in late March. Beat the Streets is a new program that will also meet two days per week from 3-6 p.m. and will focus on mentorship and wrestling. This program will be open to boys in 3rd-8th grade. Contact Mrs. Hatgas, Wraparound Coordinator, for more information!

Free Produce Continues Fresh produce distribution will continue during the winter months on the second Friday of each month. However, to better serve RGJ families, distribution will begin at 1 p.m. and will continue until food runs out. This will hopefully allow more families to take advantage of this great community partnership!



Thanks to all of the families who attended the 6th Annual *Bring A Grown Up Day* in December!

Strategies for Success: National Assessment of Educational Progress

Robinson G. Jones will be participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress on Feb 12 (4th grade) and Feb 13 (8th grade). NAEP is A Common Measure of Student Achievement. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only assessment that measures what U.S. students know and can do in various subjects across the nation, states, and in some urban districts. Also known as The Nation's Report Card, NAEP has provided important information about how students are performing academically since 1969.

NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). NAEP is given to a representative sample of students across the country. Results are reported for groups of students with similar characteristics (e.g., gender, race and ethnicity, school location), not individual students. National results are available for all subjects assessed by NAEP. State and selected urban district results are available for mathematics, reading, and (in some assessment years) science and writing.

Please ensure your 4th and 8th grade students get plenty of sleep and are prepared for their assessment on days they are scheduled to test!

Choice fairs to welcome families in January

Families can explore CMSD’s many high school options when the District holds two community choice fairs this month.

CMSD allows students to attend any high school as long as space is available and, in a few cases, they meet admissions criteria.

Eighth-graders preparing to make this critical choice can talk to representatives of the District’s high schools when they take turns visiting East Professional Center during the school day from Wednesday, Jan. 23 through Friday, Jan. 25.

Families can explore the options from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 23 at East Professional Center, 1349 E. 79th St. They will get another chance from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 30 at Max S. Hayes High School, 2211 W. 65th St.

Parents and caregivers can submit choices at choosecmsd.org through March 22. To improve the chances of getting their first choices, they should submit selections as soon as possible.

Starting Jan. 7, the portal also can be used to choose elementary schools.

Lotteries will be held if sign-ups exceed capacity. Lottery results will be announced on April 1.



App lets parents monitor students’ buses



CMSD parents can download a free app that allows them to track the travels of their children’s school buses.

Using GPS technology, the app, Edulog Parent Portal, allows a parent to monitor progress of a bus in real time and can provide notice of the vehicle’s distance from the stop or school. Android users can receive notification when a bus is within a customized radius of up to 2 miles.

The app will track only CMSD’s yellow buses, not RTA buses or vans that transport students. It is similar to a web-based option that the District introduced last year.

To use the app, parents will need the student’s first and

last names, District ID number, school and birthdate. The District ID and the student’s ID number are the same.

If problems occur while signing up a student, refer to user guides located at www.clevelandmetroschools.org/bustracker.

The app can be downloaded through Google Play or the App Store.

For further information go to ClevelandMetroSchools.org/BusTracker or call 216.838.4BUS (4287).

Browns, ADA help students grab quick breakfast

Students who are hustling to class in the morning at 13 schools will be able to eat breakfast on the run, compliments of the Cleveland Browns and the American Dairy Association.

The Browns and the ADA, partners in the [Fuel Up to Play 60](#) program, awarded \$20,000 in grants to the District to purchase 13 “grab-and-go carts” that will be stocked with 17 packaged items like cereal bars.

“You need to fuel yourself for the school day,” Chris Burkhardt, CMSD’s executive director of school nutrition, told students when the grants were announced Dec. 18 at Marion C. Seltzer PreK-8 School on West 98th Street. “You can’t learn if you’re hungry.”

Besides academic performance, nutrition also plays a role in health and, as a result, school attendance.

The Browns are the signature partner in the District’s “Get 2 School. You Can Make It!” attendance campaign, which has substantially reduced the number of students



who miss more than 10 days in a year. Browns kicker Greg Joseph and offensive lineman Earl Watford were present for the announcement and spoke to students about their own diets.

The District already had grab-and-go carts in 25 schools and will cover nearly 70 more with the grants announced Dec. 18, another grant and some of its own funds.

Seltzer Principal Caitlin Kilbane believes the message the players helped to deliver about nutrition made a strong impression on her students, one that will have lasting effects.

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