

CMSD SponsorShip

A newsletter for CMSD-sponsored community schools



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More information on CMSD's community school sponsorship and other collaborative initiatives related to community schools in Cleveland is available on the CMSD website, ClevelandMetroSchools.org, by clicking on the "Schools" tab on the main menu and then on "CMSD/Charter School Collaboration."



Happy Spring!

We hope you enjoyed a nice break and are ready for the homestretch of the school year.

We are now entering the sponsor evaluation part of the year, when we have to submit thousands of pages of documents to ODE demonstrating our quality as a sponsor and providing evidence that our schools are in compliance with laws and rules. Your staff will be very helpful with this process, and with meeting our deadlines of May 15 for Quality Practices and July 1 for Compliance.



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Upcoming Events

This list is not comprehensive but highlights some upcoming events. Schools should continue to rely on other tools as well, especially Epicenter.

CMSD ANNUAL SUNSHINE TRAINING

April 10, 2019
9:00 – 11:00 am

East Professional Center

Room 214
1349 East 79th St., Cleveland, OH

STUDY THE NETWORK WORKSHOP

April 12, 2019

UPrep-State St.

617 West State St., Columbus, OH

The School Performance Institute, a division of United Schools Network, presents a Study the Network workshop for school leaders.

SchoolPerformanceInstitute.org/register

FROM LAST TO LEADER: HOW BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN EDUCATION RESEARCHERS AND EDUCATORS HELPED CHICAGO SCHOOLS

April 25, 2019
Noon – 1:30 pm

The City Club of Cleveland

850 Euclid Ave., 2nd Floor
Cleveland, OH

In 1987, then-U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett called Chicago Public Schools the [worst public school system](#) in America. Swift reforms followed,

A few important reminders for the rest of the school year:

- All board members and select school staff must complete public records and open meetings training by June 30.
 - We are hosting a training April 10 at 9:00 am; see the calendar for details
- For the four schools undergoing the renewal process in 2019–20 (Citizens Academy, Citizens Academy East, Citizens Academy Southeast, Stonebrook Montessori), you will need to send one staff member and one board member to a mandatory renewal meeting in May, which will be announced soon.
- As we did last year, CMSD's Charter School Office will host a back-to-school kickoff meeting prior to the start of the next school year. Stay tuned for details, and plan to send at least one board member and one staff member.
- Annual Opening Assurances will take place in July and early August. CMSD staff will schedule visits with school staff once this current school year has ended.

We recently completed spring site visits at all of your schools. We will be discussing these at upcoming board meetings. Our staff enjoyed the opportunity to meet with your staff, as well as parents and students. These visits, in addition to allowing us to verify legal and contractual items, give us additional insight into what is going on at your schools. We also hope they provide you with helpful ideas and suggestions for things to work on.

Thank you for choosing CMSD as your sponsor, and we hope you have a great rest of your school year, and a fun, safe summer!



Upcoming Events

including the establishment of The University of Chicago (UChicago) Consortium on School Research which conducts research that informs and assesses policy and practice in the Chicago Public Schools.

Since its inception, the Consortium has tracked data and provided research to help educators solve the most difficult problems facing urban schools. Over the past 10 years, at least 13 cities—including New York and Los Angeles—[have replicated](#) the consortium's model for place-based research-practice partnerships.

The results are striking. Last year, [a study from Stanford University](#) showed that Chicago's students have learned at a faster rate than 96 percent of all school districts in the country, including its wealthier and more well-resourced peers.

How did they do it? What role did the data partnership with UChicago Consortium play? And what can Cleveland and other urban school districts learn from Chicago's success?

<https://www.cityclub.org/forums/2019/04/25/from-last-to-leader-how-building-partnerships-between-education-researchers-and-educators-helped-chicago-schools>

**MORE EVENTS ON
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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Bipartisan legislation aimed at enhancing school, student safety

Legislation (**H.B. 123**) recently unveiled at a Statehouse press conference is aimed at improving school and student safety through reporting programs, threat assessment teams, training, and violence prevention clubs.

Rep. Gail Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) and Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald) were joined by Mark Barden—the father of a victim of the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, who founded the Sandy Hook Promise organization.

The legislation is aimed at ensuring that a “comprehensive approach to school safety” is implemented throughout Ohio.

The bill would require the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to develop a statewide anonymous reporting program—providing technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week—to report any dangerous, violent or unlawful activity that has occurred or may occur on school property or that relates to a school community.

Within two years after the bill's effective date, every public school would be required to participate in the program. They would also be required to submit annual reports to ODE containing information

Upcoming Events

STUDY THE NETWORK WORKSHOP

May 16, 2019

CCA-Main St.

1469 East Main St.
Columbus, OH

The School Performance Institute, a division of United Schools Network, presents a Study the Network workshop for school leaders.

SchoolPerformanceInstitute.org/register

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

June 30–July 3

Mandalay Bay Conference Center

3950 S Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89119

<https://conference.publiccharters.org/2019/registration/>

received through the program, disaggregated by school, including: the number of anonymous reports; number and types of disciplinary actions taken; number and type of mental wellness referrals made; and, any other information ODE determines necessary.

The legislative proposal would also require every public school to create a certified school threat assessment team for every building serving grades 6–12, and require team members to complete an approved threat assessment training certification program upon appointment and once every three years thereafter. ODE would be tasked with developing a model policy and list of approved training programs.

School administrators would be required to develop, adopt, and submit a school threat assessment plan to ODE and local law enforcement agencies, in addition to emergency management plans required under current law.

Schools would also be required to provide instruction in both suicide awareness and prevention in safety training and violence prevention for students in grades 6–12. ODE would be tasked with adopting model curricula and developing a list of approved peer-reviewed, evidence-based staff training programs for instruction in suicide awareness and prevention, violence prevention, and social inclusion.

The bill also mandates the creation of student-led violence prevention clubs in buildings serving students in grades 6–12.

Barden noted that Sandy Hook Promise offers a “suite of programs” to help both students and adults recognize and report potential signs of violence.

“This is an indescribable pain and journey that I will just never get used to living with, but what I have chosen to do with the pain is to try to prevent it from happening to other families,” Barden said.

Pleased that the proposal is a bipartisan effort, Barden said, “We can all agree that we want to protect our children.”

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—Mark Barden

Citizens Leadership chair committed to opportunity for youth

Cynthia Tancer is not an educator but is determined to do her part in ensuring that children receive a good education.

Tancer has chaired the board of Citizens Leadership Academy since the charter, for the sixth through eighth grades, opened in 2011. The board's oversight has expanded with the addition of Citizens Leadership Academy East and, coming this fall, Citizens Leadership Academy Southeast.

She also is partnership manager for Generation, a global nonprofit that partners with Youth Opportunities Unlimited to provide job training and support for 17- to 24-year olds who have a high school diploma or GED. And she sits on the boards of the Breakthrough Schools charter network and the Cleveland office of Facing History and Ourselves, a worldwide organization that helps students understand the impact of their moral choices.

"I care deeply about social justice and providing opportunity for youth who might not have it otherwise," said Tancer, whose parents worked as immigration lawyers in Arizona.

I knew this work was really important and that this was where I wanted to spend my time and energy

—Cynthia Tancer

Tancer said she was inspired to help students meet their educational needs more than a decade ago, while volunteering in a first-grade classroom at a Cleveland



parochial school. She was struck by the challenges many children face in school when they are dealing with the burdens of poverty.

She knew Citizens Leadership Academy Head of School Shelly Saltzman through their mutual involvement with Social Venture Partners Cleveland, which funds and assists nonprofits.

Tancer signed on at CLA before it opened in Cleveland's Hough neighborhood, pitching in to do whatever it took to get the school going.

She brought along family on weekends to paint radiators in the building and assemble furniture in the building, a former Cleveland district elementary school, and worked orientation sessions held for parents. Until last year, she assisted families with high school placement.

"I knew this work was really important and that this was where I wanted to spend my time and energy," Tancer said.

Tancer praises her fellow board members and credits the principal, teachers and school team with building a record of achievement at Citizens Leadership Academy.

For three straight years, CLA has received the state Momentum Award, which recognizes schools that earn A's for value-added in all categories on their state report cards. Value-added measures whether students achieve the growth expected of them in a year.

"Our students are interesting and engaging and want to learn," Tancer said. "And they're getting an excellent education in Hough."