

THE DRAGON'S VOICE

JANUARY 2025



Principal:
Courine Elias Raffoul

Instructional Coach:
Susan Brunecz

Dean of Engagement:
Grace Abunimeh

Say Yes Cleveland,
Family Support Specialist:
Kelli Shanklin



DILIGENCE
RESPONSIBILITY
ATTITUDE
GRIT
OPEN-MINDEDNESS
NO OPPORTUNITY
WASTED



HELLO
january

- 1/1/25: New Year's Day
- 1/6/25: Classes Resume
- 1/6: Start of Third Marking Period/Semester 2
- 1/15: Parent Literacy Night 4:30PM - 6:00PM
- 1/17: Student of the Month December & January
- 1/20: NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1/21: National Day of Racial Healing
- 1/31: PreK NO SCHOOL - PreK Teacher Professional Development Day

Testing Schedule

- 1/6 - 1/24 - AIMS Web K-3rd grade
- 1/21 - 2/7: NWEA/iReady Winter Benchmark - 1st-8th grades

Reminders:

Arrival time is 9:15am - Parents if you drop your child off at school please remember, that doors open at 9:15am.

Dismissal time is 4:00pm - Parents if you pick your child up, you may start lining up at 3:50pm. You **MUST** stay in your car if you are in line on W.29th street, and wait for someone to come read your car sign or ask your child's name.



Cell Phone Policy

Reminder: Paul Dunbar is a cell phone free space! To help improve teaching and learning, we strongly encourage students to leave their phones at home or in the car with parent, but if that is not possible we have implemented phone lock boxes. Students that bring their cell phone or electronic device to school are **required** to turn their device in to the adult at the cell phone lock boxes upon arrival, after going through security checkpoint at the main entrance door. If a student arrives late they are **required** to turn their phone in to the main office, and their device will be placed in the lock box by an administrative staff member. Cell phones and electronic devices remain locked in the lock boxes until students are dismissed at the end of the school day.

This change is not just a Paul Dunbar policy, it aligns with CMSD's board policy that states: "To maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, students who choose to bring a personal cellphone or electronic device to school will have their phone/device subject to collection and/or storage during the student school day." The CMSD policy follows Ohio House Bill 250 (a state law), which requires the minimization of cell phone use in schools. "The objective of this policy is to strengthen each school district's focus on learning, in alignment with our mission to ignite students' passion for learning, cultivate a strong foundation of knowledge, and foster a sense of community within our schools".

Research shows that student use of cell phones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains and lower test scores. **Turning in phones is protocol for CMSD and the State of Ohio, and if a student is caught with their phone/device they will be subject to consequences.**

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to the main office at 216-838-7400. To best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in the adoption of our district cell phone policy.

Follow us on social media at:



<https://www.facebook.com/PaulDunbarAcademy/>



@cmsd_pauldunbar

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING



winter jacket



hat



earmuffs



scarf



mittens



gloves



vest



snow pants



socks



boots

Cold Weather Clothing

Winter is here, and it's time to bundle up! As the colder weather continues we want to remind you to ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the season. Despite the colder temperatures, students may still go outside for recess, however, we will be mindful of the conditions and limit outdoor time if temperatures become too harsh. As part of our commitment to their health and well being, please make sure your child comes to school wearing:

- A warm winter coat
- A hat
- Gloves or mittens
- A scarf
- Boots

If you need assistance in obtaining winter clothing items, please don't hesitate to contact the school office. We are happy to provide support or connect you with resources to help.

CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL & COMMUNITY Support for Families

COVID-19 Health Hotline	216.838.WELL (9355)
Rapid Response Hotline for Social & Emotional supports	216.838.2273
IT Computer support	216.838.0440
School Choice & Enrollment Hotline	216.838.3675 or visit
ChooseCMSD.org including other remote learning options	
Early Childhood	216.838.0110
Family and Community Engagement	216.838.3223
Multicultural Multilingual support	216.838.0140
Special Education Office	216.838.7733
Project ACT Foster & Homeless support	216.838.0210
All other District-related supports	216.838.0000
Community Resources: Social Services (food, health, housing, basic needs) Dial 211	
24 Hour Suicide Hotline	216.623.6888
Domestic Violence Hotline	216.391.4357
Ohio Mental Health Crisis Hotline Text 4HOPE to 741741	
Safety and Security Dispatch	216.838.7777

Follow us on social media at:



<https://www.facebook.com/PaulDunbarAcademy/>



@cmsd_pauldunbar

Paul Dunbar Gear

Don't forget your school spirit gear! Show your school pride with our exclusive spirit gear! From cozy sweatshirts to trendy t-shirts, there is something for everyone. Perfect for game days, pep rallies, spirit day, or everyday wear, these items let you represent Paul L. Dunbar in style. Use the link below to check out all the options to support our school community. Grab yours today and keep the Dragon pride going!

https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/OH/Cleveland/Paul+L+Dunbar+Elementary.+School/collection_detail.html



Social Media

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on what's happening and resources you may need!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PaulDunbarAcademy

Instagram: @cmsd_pauldunbar

<https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/dunbar>



Follow us on social media at:



<https://www.facebook.com/PaulDunbarAcademy/>



@cmsd_pauldunbar

Upcoming events in February:

- Black History Month Events
- 2/5 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- OELPA Testing

Stay Connected!

If you need help with technology please contact Ms. Sunny (Ms. Sanisha Grigsby) by calling the school 216-838-7400 or by email at sanisha.grigsby@clevelandmetroschools.org.

In school technology services will be available Wednesday and Thursday. If students experience technical issues, need device repairs, have broken devices, or require chargers, please make sure they see Ms. Sunny on Wednesday or Thursday.

Resources for Families!

Say Yes Cleveland Family Support Specialist

Connect with our Family Support Specialist

Ms. Shanklin

216-905-4481

kshanklin@sayyescleveland.org

Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Family Support Specialists can help connect you with services in school and out in the community.

Ms. Shanklin is also a contact person for 8th grade parents with questions regarding High School Choice.

**Say
Yes!
Cleveland**