

Oliver H. Perry

18400 Schenely Avenue
216.838.0900



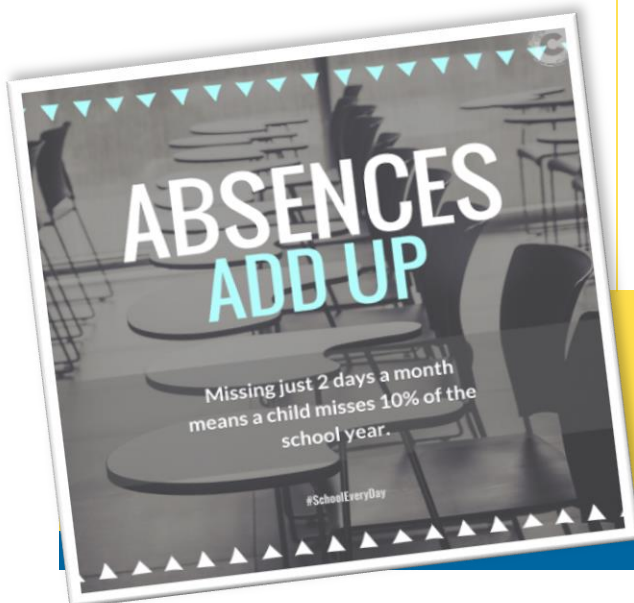
Upcoming Events

- [12/11] Community & Parent Breakfast, Host- Principal Irvin
- [12/20] Middle School Dance (8th Period)
- [12/21] Polar Express – PreK -3
- [12/22 – 1/8] School Closed – Winter Break

Message from Principal Irvin

We had a wonderful November and celebrated the annual Molly Day with outstanding performances by our students and the students of Wade Park. We are winding down our first semester and looking forward to winter break for rejuvenation. We are focused on attendance this month and we have several special events planned for our students. We need your continued support to ensure all students arrive on time and ready to learn.

We are also seeking volunteers and will hold a mandatory volunteer orientation on January 16th from 8:00 am-9:00 am., please join us to support our scholars and community.



School Attendance

Absences add up! Missing just 2 days a month means a child misses 10% of the school year.



Five Causes-And Solutions For Chronic Absenteeism.

Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 Kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent.

1. Bad Grades

Struggling in class can be demoralizing for students, and leaves them wondering whether it's worth going to school in the first place. However, a little bit of effort at home can go a long way.

2. Illness

When most people think of absences, calling in sick is probably what comes to mind. Sometimes it's unavoidable, but there are ways families can minimize illness-related absences and ensure their child still gets the education they deserve. Good health is essential to a child's well-being, so encouraging good [diet and exercise](#). When students do feel unwell, it's worth it for families to ask [whether their child is too sick](#) to go to school

3. Caring for another family member

Whether it's a younger sibling, a grandparent, or someone with special healthcare needs, oftentimes students are spending time helping their family instead of being at school. It's a tough choice students and families shouldn't have to make, but there are ways of easing the burden caregiving places on families. There are resources to help locate [eldercare services](#), affordable or even free [childcare](#), and even [planned or emergency care](#).

4. Mental or emotional health issues

Mental and emotional health issues can be a perfectly valid reason for missing school. But it's important for families to work with schools so students can move forward, as extended absences can exacerbate both

academic and emotional problems. Families should understand the range of a child's [emotions and behaviors](#) that might not entail missing school, and understand how to identify and help children through more serious [mental health issues](#) when they do arise

5. Difficulties with housing or food

When a family is worried about whether their child has enough food on their plate or a roof over their head, school can be a secondary consideration. If these challenges are preventing students from coming to school, educators should make a concerted effort to point families in the right direction to alleviate these burdens. The [National Center for Homeless Education](#) offers parents ways to ensure their kids are still able to learn while experiencing homelessness. 2-1-1 can offer essential information on how families can meet [food](#) and [housing](#) needs.

FASTFACTS

ATTENDANCE

Our Goal: 95%

Year-to-Date Attendance Rate: 93%

Students Chronically Tardy: 34%

Administrator Attendance: 100%





Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

The School Parent Advisory Committee's role is to provide advice and assistance to school administrators and educators relating to the Academic Achievement Plan, programs, activities, resources and services in order to help the school attain its goal of providing each child with the best education possible.

The Committee may:

- Assist by providing input on the educational priorities of the school based on achievement data
- Offer advice on a variety of school issues (school climate, social-emotional learning, Title I, special education, ELL, attendance, extracurricular activities, etc.)
- Promote and encourage parent and community participation in the school
- Provide volunteers and fund raising activities to enhance the school experience for students
- Provide a communication link between the school and the community
- Help identify the concerns of students, parents, and community members and assist in developing solutions
- Parents or guardians whose children attend the school are eligible to serve as members of the advisory committee

Family and Community Engagement (FACE)

The **Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE)** is responsible for the development of programs and strategies to support the meaningful district-wide engagement of families and community stakeholders in The Cleveland Plan. At the core of our work is expanding the capacity of schools to partner with families and community-based organizations in support of student achievement and school improvement.

The Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) is committed to authentic engagement of families/parents and community partners that reflects the following core values:

- All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them
- All parents have the capacity to support their children's learning
- Parents and school staff should be equal partners in the education of children
- The primary responsibility for building partnerships between home and school rests mainly with school leaders and staff
- Our community partners and stakeholders are valuable contributors to the education of our students in preparing them to compete in the 21st Century Global Economy and are critical to the success of The Cleveland Plan and the continued vitality of the region.

State says CMSD making progress under *The Cleveland Plan*

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District faces challenges but is making progress under *The Cleveland Plan*, the Ohio Department of Education says in a report released Nov. 15.

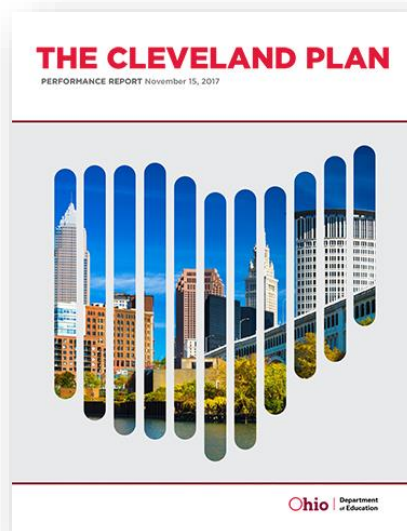
The report, submitted to Gov. John Kasich and legislators, was required by the 2012 state law that cleared the way for *The Cleveland Plan*, a customized blueprint for education reform in the city. State approval of the plan spared CMSD from state takeover five years ago.

The Department of Education says the District improved academic achievement last school year and has increased preschool enrollment, improved its graduates' college and career readiness and given principals more control of spending.

The report points out that the state has changed its testing system twice and adopted more rigorous learning standards since *The Cleveland Plan* was adopted.

Chief Executive Officer Eric Gordon welcomed the announcement but repeated his previous acknowledgement that the District has "a long way to go." He said he was pleased that the Department of Education did not recommend further intervention.

"We are not yet meeting Ohio's new high standards, but we are improving," said the CEO. "We are significantly better



Download the full report
<http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/stateReport>

than we were when we implemented *The Cleveland Plan*."

While CMSD's most recent report card shows an overall grade of F, the District's performance index, a composite of all test scores, increased for the first time in a decade and came within 1 percentage point of a D. Cleveland's K-3 literacy grade jumped from an F to a C, showing more than growth than 88 of Ohio's 609 districts.

CMSD's four-year high school graduation rate reached another record high, 72.1 percent, and is up nearly 20

points in the last six years. The rate is third fastest growing in the state during that period and the fastest growing of Ohio's large urban districts.

The Cleveland Transformation Alliance, which monitors school progress, also sees signs of hope.

In a report issued Nov. 9, the organization cited the rising graduation rate and improving K-3 literacy, as well as stabilizing enrollment, but called for new strategies to strengthen low-performing schools, especially at the K-8 level. Gordon has said the report card shows the need to continue improving in the early grades and high school while bearing down on strategies for the fourth through eighth grades.

In his recent State of the Schools Address, Gordon called for CMSD to move beyond creating pockets of excellence and become the first major city in the United States to raise performance across the board.

He urged support for Cleveland's ongoing efforts to become the nation's fourth chapter of "Say Yes to Education." The program aligns community services to keep students on track to graduation and provides scholarships that help fill gaps in tuition for college or other postsecondary education.

Toolkit provides tips for parents

NBC News' Parent Toolkit website provides tips to help parents monitor and support their children's growth and development. Learn how to assist in your child's development in English language arts and math, health and wellness and social and emotional learning.

Parents can also text TOOLKIT to 33733 to get the app on their mobile device.



Free legal clinics return to CMSD schools

Families who need legal advice but don't have access to a lawyer need look no further than CMSD.

Free legal consultations are now being offered at Glenville High School and George Washington Carver School. Attorneys from the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association will be on hand to provide advice on civil matters.

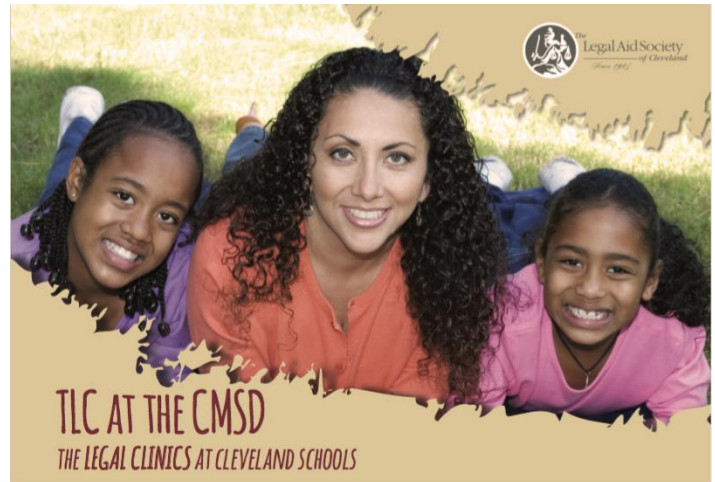
The program is designed to increase student success by helping to resolve legal issues that contribute to family instability.

The clinics at Glenville, located at 650 East 113th Street, will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays: Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, April 12 and May 10.

The volunteer lawyers will be at George Washington Carver, 2200 East 55th Street, from 5 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 7 and Thursday, Jan. 11.

Families can receive advice on legal issues such as bankruptcy, housing, child support, child custody, divorce, immigration and employment. The lawyers will not provide advice on criminal matters.

Consults will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. The person making the request will be asked to complete a questionnaire.



The clinics are a continuation of the TLC at CMSD program launched last spring. The volunteer lawyers are seeking to reach more District families.

Katie Donovan Onders is the lawyer referral service coordinator for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. She said having clinics in Cleveland schools is a way to make legal consultations convenient and accessible to parents and caregivers.

"We're looking to give access to legal advice by coming to where the parents already are," she said.

6 schools open for recreation, other programs

Six CMSD schools will be open three nights a week through March for free recreation and other community programs.

The sites include James F. Rhodes Campus, John Adams Campus, John Marshall Campus, Lincoln-West Campus, New Tech Collinwood High School and Sunbeam School.

The programs are being offered on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights when school is in session. Hours are 5-7:30 p.m. at Sunbeam, 6:30-8:30 at John Marshall and 6-8 p.m. at the other sites.

The programs are part of Schools as Neighborhood Resources, a partnership between Neighborhood Leadership Institute, CMSD and the City of Cleveland.

Activities include aerobics, line dancing, arts and crafts, open gym and more. Some sites serve dinner for children.

To reserve free space for an activity or interest group, call Blair Wise at 216-658-1360.



For more information, go to neighborhoodleadership.org



Monitor your child's bus travel online

Parents and caregivers who sign up for CMSD's new Bus Tracker system will be able to tell whether their child's bus is on time and how far the bus is from its destination.



Registered users will be able to monitor CMSD yellow buses – the service does not apply to vans or RTA buses – at ClevelandMetroSchools.org/BusLink.

To register, go to ClevelandMetroSchools.org/BusLinkRegister. Have the child's student identification number ready.

A user's guide is available at ClevelandMetroSchools.org/BusTracker.

List of top-rated preschools reaches 38

Mound and Louis Agassiz schools are the latest additions to CMSD's growing list of top-rated preschool sites.

Both received the maximum five stars awarded under Ohio's Step Up to Quality rating system.

So far, 38 of CMSD's 61 preschool sites have earned five stars through the voluntary system. The remaining sites will undergo evaluation in an attempt to join them.

Through the PRE4CLE partnership, CMSD is working with private providers to make high-quality preschool available throughout the District.

Expanding access to high-quality preschool is one of the goals of *The Cleveland Plan*, a customized blueprint for education reform. A rating of three stars or higher is considered high quality.

CMSD still has high-quality preschool seats available. To enroll your 4-year-old child – or 3-year-olds who will turn 4 before Jan. 31 – call 216.838.0110.



Oliver Hazard Perry Elementary School

18400 Schenely Avenue, Cleveland, 44119
Principal: Brittani Irvin
Assistant Principal: Sammy Ali
216.838.0900

O.H. Perry Home Page
<http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/1017>

