

PCS Family Flyer

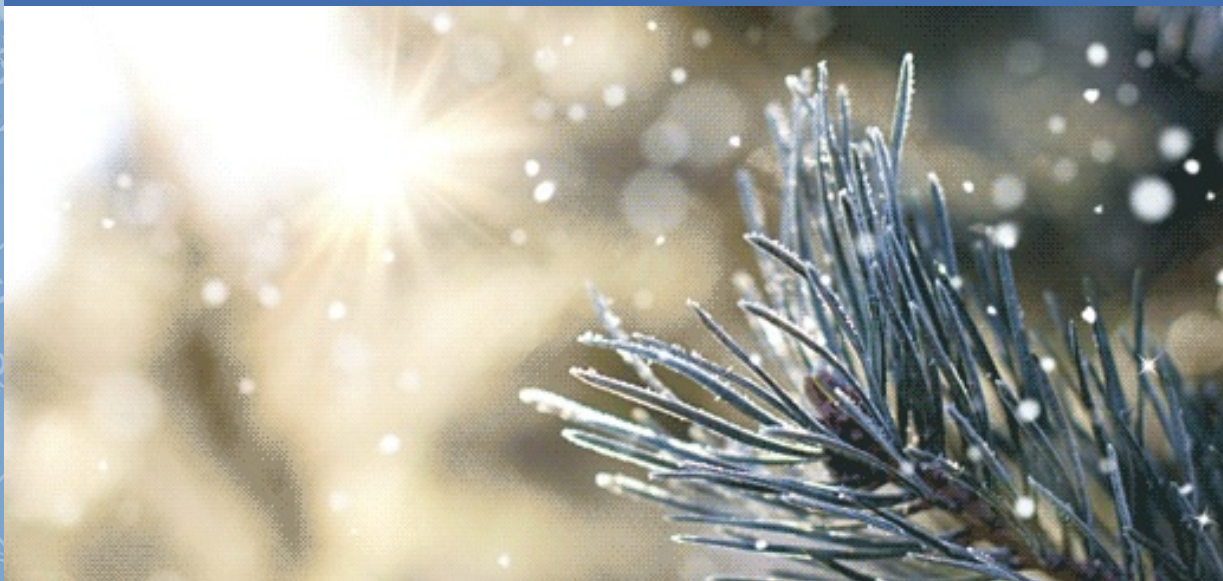
from our school to your home



PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOL

2022 - 2023 | December 21, 2022

SEASON'S GREETINGS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

'Tis the Season!

Happy Holidays, PCS Families!

I wish you health, happiness, and all the joys of the season! It is my hope that this Holiday Break will allow us to return in January recharged and ready to **continue our important work** of learning and growing together.

Provident Charter School is truly a gift to families in Western Pennsylvania. For years, families have had difficulty finding services to help remediate **dyslexia**. Our founding Board of Trustees could have developed PCS as a private school, but instead, they chose to create Provident as a charter school. As a charter, we can provide very specialized services at no cost to our families. Many of you who have been here for several years have already experienced the impact that our staff and programming have had on your child and

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Winter Break - No School for Students
 - Thursday, December 22nd - January 2nd
- Half-Day for Students - 11:30 AM Dismissal
 - Friday, January 13th
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
 - Monday, January 16th

Conquering **Dyslexia**.
Powering **Potential**.

your family.



Despite our success and the success of many charters, our model is not often received well by other non-charter schools. We had to work very hard to simply open our doors, and we must continue to work hard to retain our charter. Given these circumstances, I am thankful for the existence of the **PA Coalition of Charter Schools**, as they support our efforts and provide resources that are extremely valuable for us to continue our transformative work. Please consider **completing the survey** that is below to help provide them with

information regarding a family perspective while enrolled in a charter school.

If some people had their way, charter schools would not exist. If charter schools did not exist, I am not sure PCS would be available for your family. I am truly thankful for your continued support of our school, our staff, and the work we are able to do here. **National School Choice Week** will be celebrated from January 22nd - January 28, 2023, and we will be celebrating the fact that you were able to choose for your child to attend Provident Charter School. What a gift!

-Mrs. Maria Paluselli, CEO

Dear Charter School Parents,

The Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools was founded in 2005 as a member and advocacy organization for charter schools in Pennsylvania. We are so excited to hear your voice about Charter Schools in Pennsylvania. We want to improve education for your children and grandchildren, and we need your voice to do just that. Please complete the following [survey](#) for your voice to be heard.

Thank you, Dr. Anne Clark

Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools Parent
Survey



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

PRINCIPALS' POST



Hello, PCS Families!

December has been filled with wonderful winter schoolwide activities. The countdown to Winter Break kicked off with our second annual Holiday Gift-Making Day. Students were able to spend part of their day using unique tools and materials to make homemade gifts for their families and friends. The gift-making stations allowed our students **the opportunity to work with their hands** and perform a variety of skills including basket weaving, sewing, painting, woodworking, baking, decorating, and much more! A huge thank you to Ms. Amrit, our Experiential Learning Specialist, for prepping all of the materials and planning such a wonderful event. Also, many thanks to our families for supporting this special day by donating materials. It truly **takes a village!**

To continue the festive spirit, our school halls were filled with holiday cheer as our students went **caroling** around the building. Led by our music teacher, Ms. Cunningham, students sang holiday



songs representative of many cultures and were accompanied by an assortment of instruments including shakers, tambourines, and jingle bells. Thank you to Mrs. Cunningham and our students for filling our halls with so much **happiness!**



Nothing says 'happy holidays' more than a little friendly competition! During the last three days before winter break, students participated in our annual **Battle of the Books** event! After reading books as a grade level over the last several weeks, students were then sorted into their Provident Houses and competed in three events including physical activities, trivia, and a maker station. Thank you to our teachers Ms. Bryte and Mrs. Cory for organizing and showing our students just how fun reading can be!



Having the ability to give back during the holiday season truly is a gift. Over the two months, our **Student Council** collected items for our Northside Neighbors and donated them to Garden Cafe and the Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh. Thank you to our Student Council teacher leads, Ms. Panigall and Ms. Smith, for supporting our students' initiatives and demonstrating the importance of giving back to our community!



Over the break, we encourage our friends and families to find opportunities to **read together**. A holiday tradition for some, this year is significant as it is the 200-year anniversary of Clement Moore's poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Perhaps that is just the story to start with!

We hope your holiday is merry and bright and full of light!

Mrs. Connie Joseph, Building Principal
Mrs. Kristy Yonushonis, Assistant Principal
Mr. Jason Kerr, Dean of Students



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SERIES

Bookshare Information Session

Students that receive specially designed instruction through an Individualized Education Program and students that receive services, accommodations, and supports as the result of a 504 plan are eligible to participate in the federally funded Bookshare® program. At PCS, qualified students that meet these requirements receive a membership. Throughout the month of January, our curriculum department will be working with our 8th-grade families to create **individual memberships** for qualified students as part of our

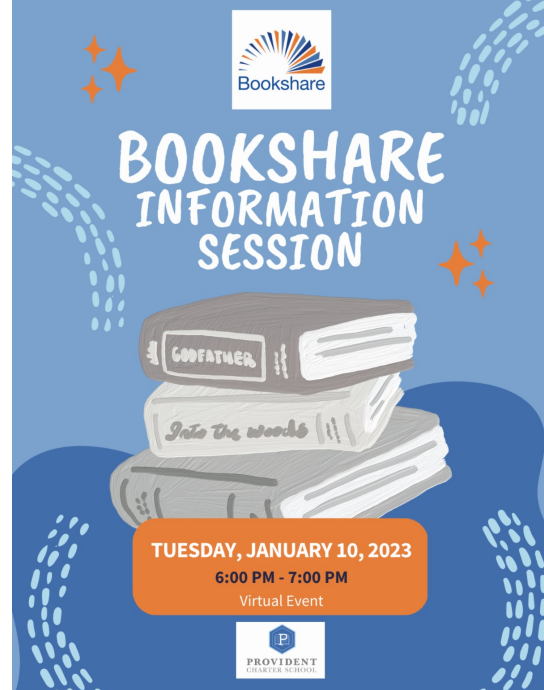
transition process. Individual membership allows students to access and add any of the 1,171,394 Bookshare® titles in accessible ebook form to their account.

When students read independently, they increase their reading comprehension skills and become more confident learners. Even struggling readers step up to the challenge when they see the progress they're making. Join us to learn how to foster a connection with reading in your home.

Tuesday, January 10th @ 6:00-7:00

Location: Virtual

Presenter: Mrs. Shannon Iachini



Bookshare Registration Form

TECH TALKS

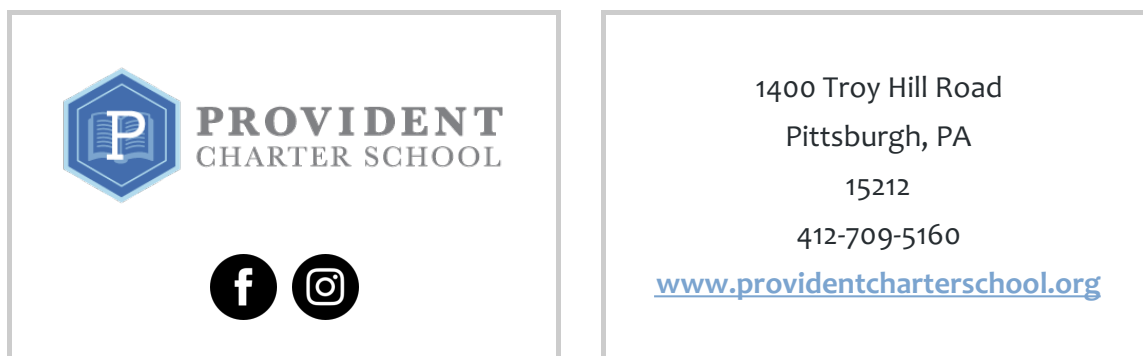
Synchronous Learning Days



The winter weather is now upon us! Please be sure to plan in advance and check your **notification preference (voice or text alert)** within your Alma profile. Also, to avoid any last-minute snowy day frustrations, we suggest taking the time to sit down with your child and **review their Google Classroom(s)** with them. If they aren't already traveling with their devices and chargers, students will soon be

doing so, so please support your child at home to ensure that they feel confident in navigating their online learning programs.

Please be sure to read over and become familiar with our Weather-Related Delays and Flexible Instruction Days located on the [PCS Parents Page](#) on our school website.



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