



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



### Quick Links:

- [2023-2024 School Calendar](#)
- [2023-2024 Monthly Calendar](#)
- [Weather Delays & Closure Info](#)

### Thanksgiving Break Dates:

- No School for Students  
November 22nd - 27th. Students  
return Tuesday, November 28th

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One of the PCS Core Values and Belief Statements is:

***The partnership among teachers, parents and administration is a daily commitment.***

We demonstrate this commitment in various ways that include; ClassTag notifications, email, phone calls, social media, IEP meetings, weekly classroom newsletters, the PCS Family Flyer, and PCS Parent Group meetings. If you have a question or concern, please reach out sooner, rather than later, so that we can address it.

The end of Trimester 1 is upon us (November 21st). You can expect to review your child's report card by the end of the day on December 1st via the parent portal in [Alma](#). If your child has an IEP, you can expect to receive IEP goal progress reports in prior to Winter Break.

As more holidays approach, I am including our [Wellness Policy](#) that the PA Department of Education requires us to have. This policy must be reviewed every three years. If you are interested in participating on a Wellness Committee, please **sign up here**. I expect the Committee to meet in January. Families often wish to send in snacks to celebrate. **Please do not do so unless your teacher has requested items.** Food allergies are a concern and we also need to limit the amount of snacks we distribute.

Another policy that the PA Department of Education requires review and revisions

every three years, is our [Anti-Bullying Policy](#). This was approved at the Nov. 14th PCS Board Meeting. Our mission, vision and values can only be obtained in an environment free from bullying, harassment and discrimination. To ensure a positive school culture, we have various proactive measures including the schoolwide Positive Behavior Supports and Intervention Program (PBIS) and we expect to be starting a new Social Emotional Curriculum in January 2024- more details to come.

We all have an obligation to ensure that all students feel safe and that they belong in our school. Students in grades 5-8 have received training in Safe 2 Say (Pennsylvania Safe2Say Something app, website or phone (1-844-SAF2SAY), and there is a button on our [website](#) for anyone to report instances of bullying. Of course, you can always reach out to our Principals, Mrs. Yonushonis and Mrs. Joseph or our Dean of Students at PCSC, Mr. Kerr. Bullying Reporting Forms can be found here - [PCS Central](#) and [PCS West](#).

PCS is happy to welcome three new ladies to the **Cafeteria Team**: Desiree Rankin, Dayna Sirianni, and Curshae Gill!

We will also be welcoming Mr. Damian Farrall as our new Computer Science teacher at Central and Ms. Erica Keefer, Special Education Teacher, at West. We are thankful that Ms. Leah Dorsey-Thompkins has been able to teach Computer Science until Mr. Farrall arrives.

Finally, I am proud to share that our Afterschool Program Director, Ms. La'Shawna McHenry is applying for the Cohort 12, Nita M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learners Grant, to operate the afterschool and summer program for another five years.

I truly hope you enjoy time with your families during Thanksgiving Break.

-Mrs. Maria Paluselli, CEO

## PCS Central - Principal's Post

We had our first **Literary Luncheon** of the year and it did not disappoint! What an amazing event where we were able to reimagine the cafeteria into Percy Jackson's *The Lightning Thief*. It was a great success and the students enjoyed the fun in the cafeteria. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event successful!



Our PBIS store is up and running! Students have enjoyed shopping with their earned way-to-go bucks! The next opportunity for the students to shop will be the week of **Thanksgiving break**. It's exciting to see students earn dress down days but please remember that students are not permitted hoodies in the school building. Thank you!



*Just a few reminders for PCS Central:*

The weather is getting colder. Please send your child

with the appropriate dress and outerwear as students do have recess outdoor recess as long as the "feels like" temperature is above 32 degrees Fahrenheit and there is no precipitation.

Please let Jennie know in the front office of any dismissal changes by 2:45pm. It is important that dismissal changes are made by 2:45pm so we can make sure everyone is notified of these changes immediately. Continue to send in excuses for absences and early dismissals.

The students have been showing great perseverance since the start of the school year! November 21st is the end of the trimester.

**-Mrs. Kristy Yonushonis, PCSC Principal**

**-Mr. Jason Kerr, Dean of Students**



## PCS West - Principal's Post

There are many exciting things happening at PCS West! Last week, we headed to the Byham Theater for our 1st field trip to see **Giraffe's Can't Dance**, and it was a hit!

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Patterson, a music instructor, who will be providing music experiences for the students each Wednesday. Music is not a special, so students will not be receiving a grade for music. PCS West received a donation of buckets to be used for **bucket drumming** in Music from Do It Best Hardware in Ambridge.



Another addition to PCS West is School-Based Counseling through the Psychology and Learning Center. Ms. Jocelyn Smith will be the **school-based therapist** assigned to PCS West. If you have any questions regarding school-based therapy, please reach out to Ms. Amanda Pinto, guidance counselor at PCS West.



*Just a few reminders for PCS West:*

November 21st is the end of the trimester. Students will be bringing home a Certificate to test in TaeKwonDo soon. If you wish your child to test in order to earn TKD belts, please return the form.

If you purchase spirit wear, hoodies or tank tops purchased cannot be worn during the school day because they are not part of the dress code for Provident Charter School.

Please make sure to send in an absence note each time your child is absent. These



-Mrs. Connie Joseph, PCS West Building Principal

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### Gift Making Event - PCS Central

#### Volunteers Needed!

Ms. Amrit is organizing the yearly **Handmade Gift Day**. This is an event where students will have the opportunity to create handmade items that they can give to loved ones and friends.

PCS needs our help for donations and volunteers. If you are available **Dec. 8th from 8:05-11:30**, please consider volunteering for this event! There will be 17 stations where a volunteer and a teacher will assist students in making a gift.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Holiday Making Day event, you must have your clearances. The [volunteer section](#) of the PCS website lists the 5 clearances/paperwork that you need. Once all 5 are complete, please send them to Elizabeth Swartz, HR Manager, at [eswartz@providentcharterschool.org](mailto:eswartz@providentcharterschool.org).



#### Want to make a donation to Handmade Gift Day? Here's How:

If you are able and willing to make a donation, please drop off your supplies at our school's front office by Friday, December 1st. The Amazon Wish List can be found [here](#), the list of supplies needed from other stores can be found [here](#), or just scan the QR codes below!

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### Recent Events

Thank you to all who came out in October for the **Dyslexia Simulation**; we had over 40 participants!

There were three parents who attended our **Bookshare** session and there were five parents who attended our recent session about **Supporting ELA and Math at Home**

Please reach out if you have topics of interest for Family Engagement sessions and keep an eye out for events scheduled for the second half of the school year.



-Maria Paluselli, CEO

# PCS CENTRAL'S PARENT GROUP INFORMATION

## PCSC Parent Group November Happenings

The PCSC Parent Group knows how crazy it can get around this time of year. While all the running around for Fall sports has finally given parents some room to breathe... a new race has begun with all the holiday preparations and school activities. In an effort to conserve your time and keep you informed, [here are](#) all the PCS Parent Group November Happenings that you need to know.



-Meghan Karn, Parent Group President

## SUPPORTING PCS

Dear PCS Families,

We are excited to be in the midst of our 3rd Annual Fund Campaign, and we invite each and every one of you to join us in making a meaningful and lasting impact. This is a time when we come together to celebrate the **strength, resilience,** and **unique potential** of our students. As the state's only non-profit, tuition-free public charter schools, we depend on the generosity of people like you who believe some children learn differently and should have the chance to succeed.



-Maria Paluselli, CEO

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