



PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOL

December 2023

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Quick Links:

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

Winter Break Dates:

- There is a half-day for students on **Friday December 22nd**. Dismissal begins at 11:30am.
- No School for students **December 25th - January 3rd**. Students return Thursday January 4th.

Dear PCS Families,

As we approach the end of 2023, I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for being a vital part of our community.

The holiday season is a time for reflection, appreciation, and celebration of our **experiences throughout the year**. We've witnessed incredible growth, achievements, and moments of success from our students, and it fills us with immense pride to see the positive impact our school has on their lives.

As we all embark on a well-deserved break, I hope you enjoy the company of your loved ones. Looking ahead to the New Year, I am excited about the learning opportunities that lie ahead for our students. **With your continued support**, we will strive to create an even more enriching and nurturing environment for our students to thrive.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education and growth of your children. It is a responsibility we take to heart. On behalf of the entire Provident Charter School team, I wish you a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic New Year!

-Mrs. Maria Paluselli, CEO

Something Special

As the former principal at Central and now the principal at West, we thought our entire PCS Community should know that **Mrs. Joseph became a grandmother** earlier this month! Her daughter Sarah had Sophia Rose on December 5th. What a special gift this holiday season!

Congratulations Mrs. Joseph!



PCS Central - Principal's Post

As always, there are many exciting things happening at PCS Central!

We recently welcomed Mr. Farrall, our new Computer Science Teacher to our team. Mr. Farrall holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Science and is eager to share his knowledge with the students at PCS!

Earlier this month, we had our first Buddy Day where 2nd and 3rd graders partnered with 7th and 8th graders to read, snack and craft together. Many new friends and connections were made.



This past week we had our annual Handmade Gifts Day! It was a busy morning filled with excitement for our students. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and their time to make this special day a success!

Coming up:

On Friday, December 22nd we will be having a Winter Wonderland party! Students will have grade-level parties, a snowball dance, a hot cocoa bar, and a gingerbread making competition. **We need your help to make this day memorable!**

We are looking for supplies to make gingerbread villages. Students will be working with their houses (Rachel Carson, Clemente, Liberty, & Hot Metal) to create a village made out of gingerbread and candy! Please check out the sign up genius and donate if you can -- [click this link!](#) Supplies are needed at the school by Wednesday, December 20th!

Thank you all for your continued support. Our students really enjoy these events, and love being able to spend time with their friends. **We couldn't do it without you!** Individual grade levels will be reaching out about parent volunteers.

A few house keeping items:

- Yearbook are currently discounted and will be until January 17th:

Strawbridge Yearbook Orders
Discount if ordered by 1/17/2024: \$18.00
After January 17th - \$23.00

Checks Made Payable to Provident Charter School.
(Teacher please send orders to room 202)

Order online at:
WWW.STRAWBRIDGE.NET
Online Code: YB28715

- We are going to begin using a Pre-Approved Absence Request form. Please complete this [Pre-Approved Absence Request Form](#) if students will be missing school due to travel. A Pre-Approved Absence Request Form is to be no more than five school days.
- Finally, we have one more earned Dress Down Day on December 22nd.

-Mrs. Kristy Yonushonis, PCSC Principal
-Mr. Jason Kerr, Dean of Students

PCS West - Principal's Post

It is hard to believe that we are half way through December! If you are not already aware, students and staff are placed in HOUSES (Rachel Carson, Liberty, Clemente and Hot Metal). These houses serve to **build our school community** at PCS West. On our half days, we may have house challenges or host a PBIS Reward.

During our December 8th half day, the students made a snowman ornament and also participated in a house challenge: Snowman bowling. During house challenges, students and staff are able to earn points for their House. In addition, students are able to earn points for their house by earning **Golden Bulldogs**. On the past half days, we held a kickball game, had scooter relay races, and held a glow dance as a PBIS reward. I have enjoyed getting to know your children, and I am looking forward to the rest of this school year and the growth your child will make here at PCS West!



Just a few reminders for PCS West:

- TKD belt forms are due December 18th. If you have not returned the form and need a new form, please let the office know.
- We are having an issue with backpacks not fitting in the lockers. Backpacks should be small in size and should not contain personal items from home.
- Thank you to all of the families that have donated to our Scholastic Book Campaign. If you have not, but wish to donate, you can [visit this link](#).
- Our Music Instructor is now coming on Tuesdays instead of Wednesdays.
- We have a new Staff Member! Erica Keefer is co-teaching with Michelle Cable in 3rd grade.
- We are going to begin using a **Pre-Approved Absence Request Form**. Please complete this Pre-Approved Absence Request Form if students will be missing school due to travel. *A Pre-Approved Absence Request Form is to be no more than five school days and will count toward the ten parent notes allotted per school year.*

- In order for your child's attendance to be updated from an unexcused absence to an excused absence, you must send in a note to the office or email the office at westoffice@providentcharterschool.org each time your child is absent. Parents are allotted ten parent notes per school year.

-Mrs. Connie Joseph, PCS West Building Principal

CURRICULUM CORNER

We have many exciting learning experiences happening this year! Our students in second grade through fifth grade are exploring math concepts with our new math curriculum, Eureka Squared. Eureka Squared focuses on building **mastery of concepts** over time through productive struggle, rather than in a single lesson. Look for the family math newsletters that come home every 1-2 weeks. If you do any of the home activities, share pictures with your child's teacher on ClassTag!



Are your eighth-grade students looking at food labels more frequently? That's because they are reading *Omnivore's Dilemma*, an anchor text that provides an in-depth look at what we eat and where our food comes from. Take some time to read labels **together as a family** and discuss healthy choices for all three meals!

-Shannon Iachini, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

SUPPORTING PCS

Dear PCS Families,

As we approach the year's end, we extend an invitation for you to contribute to our school's mission and impact positively on the lives of our students. Your generous donation plays a crucial role in supporting our school. Whether it's providing resources for innovative programs, enhancing classroom experiences, or supporting students in need, your contribution makes a significant difference. As the year concludes, consider making a donation to our school, and join us in shaping a better educational experience.



-Maria Paluselli, CEO

DONATE TODAY!



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