



**PROVIDENT**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

# PCS FAMILY FLYER

from our school to your home

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



### Appreciation for All

The splendor of our Western Pennsylvania October was celebrated at PCS in so many ways! Thank you to Meghan Bryte, our School Spirit Committee, and Student Council for leading a **Fall Festival** that included fun activities, costumes, and a parade!

October also gave us the opportunity to celebrate **National Principal Appreciation Month** as well as **Dyslexia Awareness Month**. Many thanks go out to Mrs. Joseph and Ms. Haile for all that they do to support students and families at PCS!!

Many thanks also to Dr. Mindy Bramer, Director of Professional Development, for planning numerous **Family Engagement** opportunities that help our families and community better understand dyslexia. Read about upcoming events below!

As we move into the holiday season and reflect on family, friends, and that which we are thankful for, I want to express my sincere **gratitude** for all of the support you show the entire PCS staff. I feel hopeful that we can begin to gather more regularly as a school community and I look forward to all of us being able to make the connections that will come from that.

### Reading is a Gift

As we approach the upcoming holiday season, one of the most thoughtful gifts we can give is to put a book in a child's hand. Please read the letter below from our librarian, Lindsay Cory, and please consider reviewing our **PCS Book Wish List** for the Media Center and making a



Shared below is our PCS Book Wish List for the Media Center. These book titles are recommendations from parents and teachers but the majority of them come from our students! As our school grows and continues to be an open and welcoming place, we want to add titles so that all students will be able to find a book, and hopefully with it, a **love of reading**. As you look over the list, please keep in mind that we have a very diverse population of students. There is great variety when it comes to age level, reading level, as well as family and background. The books were selected with all of our wonderful students in mind.



The list includes picture books and novels, as well as complete series and graphic novels. **Graphic novels** in particular are very popular, especially among our population of students, many of whom struggle with reading. Graphic novels and comic books allow students to see images and art for context, which allows reading to come easier than regular chapter books. There are fiction and non-fiction books based on what students are interested in, as well as many different genres.



We anticipate that this list will continue to grow as the year continues and our Media Center grows. Any donations would be greatly appreciated by our students! Thank you!

- Ms. Lindsay Cory

PCS Book Wish List

## PRINCIPALS' POST

### Parent Reminders

- The **Scholastic Book Fair** was a huge success! We appreciate our parent volunteers for making this possible for our students!
- **Upcoming November Dates:**
  - Friday, November 12th - 11:30 AM dismissal for students
  - End of 1st Trimester - Tuesday, 11/23



• Thanksgiving Break - No School for Students - Wednesday, 11/24 - Monday, 11/29

- [2021-2022 School Calendar](#)
- [November Lunch Menu](#)
- [PCS School Store](#)



## Elementary School (2-5)

We are excited to announce **Alyssa Hicks** as our Elementary Student of the Month for September. Our Student of the Month winners are those students who earned the most Golden Bulldog awards for that given month. These students are going above and beyond and are role models showing **Perseverance**, **Compassion**, and **Self-Control**. Congratulations Alyssa!

Thank you to all families that participated in Parent/Family Conferences.

**Reminder:** Please make sure to send in an absence note each time your child is absent. List the child's name, date of absence, the reason for absence, and include a parent signature. You can also email [office@providentcharterschool.org](mailto:office@providentcharterschool.org).

**Reminder:** If your child has an early dismissal, please contact the office in the

## Middle School (6-8)

It was a pleasure to welcome families to our conference days this month! Our goal is to help students advocate for their own individual learning needs, and we hope that our student-led conferences helped to develop these skills.

We are excited to announce our middle school Student of the Month, **Abby Emery**! Our Student of the Month winners are those students who earned the most Golden Bulldog awards for that given month. These students are going above and beyond and are role models showing **Perseverance**, **Compassion**, and **Self-Control**. Congratulations Abby!

Our next **transition meeting** will be with previous families to ask questions about the transition process. We also plan on setting up a Q&A day for previous Provident students to come back and visit



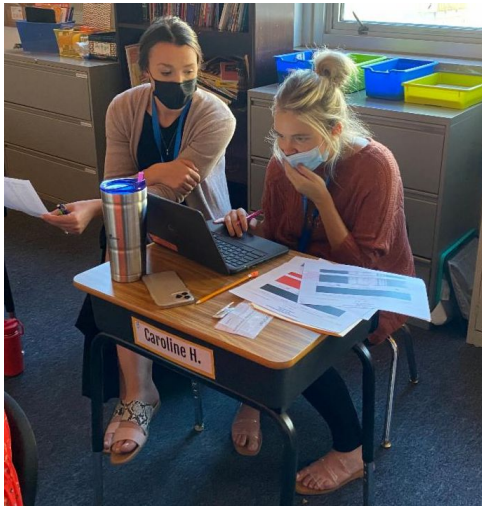
morning.

- Mrs. Connie Joseph

and give information to our current 8th-graders about their high school experience! The dates and times of these meetings are TBD.

- Ms. Leah Haile

## CURRICULUM CORNER



### WIN Time

At Provident Charter School, we continue to foster the development of a data-driven culture focused on identifying and closing gaps in student knowledge. This year we rolled out building-wide WIN, or "**What I Need**" time, as a key step in providing structured intervention to students in both reading and math.

During **ELA WIN**, teachers are using evidence-based interventions targeting vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and phonemic awareness.

During **Math WIN**, teachers are using evidence-based interventions to target number sense, fact fluency, vocabulary, and conceptual understanding.

Each month, teachers engage in **collaborative meetings** to discuss student data, evaluate the effectiveness of targeted interventions, and reflect on next steps in the instructional process.

- Ms. Shannon Iachini



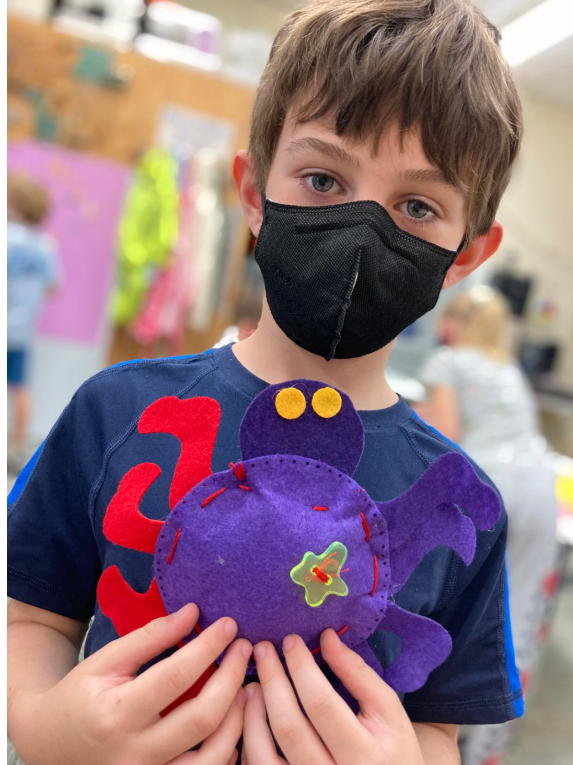
### Music

Hello PCS families!

We are at the tail end of our first trimester which will wrap up our **Rhythm Unit** in Music. Students have been learning various music terms to help them identify and compose rhythm patterns. We've then performed the different rhythms and patterns on bucket drums and a variety of percussion classroom instruments. Along with this, students have learned the many ways we play percussion instruments (strike, shake or scrape) and what they are made of (wood, metal, skin). We are very excited to tell you that our school is getting brand new xylophones and glockenspiels for our next unit, **Melody & Expression**. This next unit will build off what we learned about rhythms and students will learn to read music and play various melodic instruments.

If any families are able, we need more kleenex, wipes, and germ-x in the music room. Thank you for your continued support!

- Ms. Cunningham



## Makerspace

October has been packed with many wonderful projects in the Makerspace! From 4th-graders sewing stuffed animals to better understand vertebrates and invertebrates in science class, to 6th-graders designing and 3D printing their own Ziggurats for Social Studies - there was a wide variety of **Experiential Learning** opportunities!

November will be packed full of more wonderful projects with your makers including a 7th-grade science project about plate tectonics, and a 5th-grade ELA project using a green screen. Stay tuned for an 8th-grade ELA class fundraiser that will help immigrant families who have newly settled in Pittsburgh. We're also thrilled to announce the launch of two additional **Mobile Maker Carts**, for a total of 7! All teachers received training during our last Professional Development day on how to use the cart supplies to incorporate hands-on learning into their classrooms. We also launched an Instagram account: [@provident.makers](https://www.instagram.com/provident.makers) if you would like to see pictures and videos of what our PCS students are making!

- Ms. Amrit

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## TECH TALKS



### Kami

Kami is an online document annotation and markup tool. You can highlight, underline, and strikethrough text in PDF and other document formats. You can also add text boxes, shapes, and images. Kami works with **Google Drive** and **Google Classroom**. With Kami, you can easily collaborate on documents in the classroom while avoiding the hassles of printing documents.



- Ms. Amanda Bilitski

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Our next event is on Tuesday, November 9th from 6:30-8:00 pm and is entitled **Comprehension Connections** where Mrs. Dee Rosenberg, certified Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant, will explore the connections between oral language, reading, and listening comprehension. It will identify benchmarks for oral language that will facilitate reading comprehension. Click below to register or scan the QR code to the left!

REGISTER HERE

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Along with teaching Tae-Kwon-Do full-time at PCS, Grand Master Zang also owns his own dojo in Wexford, **Zang TKD**. We are so fortunate to have Grand Master Zang at PCS who has been a professional martial arts instructor since 1995 and holds the rank of **8th Degree Black Belt**! He developed PCS' TKD program using the principles of Perseverance, Compassion, and Self-Control where students have the opportunity to learn and practice international cultures and languages, practice various patterns or groups of movements that engage the right and left sides of the brain, and



learn self-defense and conflict resolution using verbal techniques. PCS and Zang TKD come together this month for the **11th Annual Zang Tae Kwon-Do Invitational Championship** which will be held at PCS on November 13th.

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## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

### All About After-School

After-School at Provident is funded by the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center grant. **This grant allows students at PCS to attend After-School for free!** After-School is Monday through Thursday from 3:30 pm until 6:30 pm. During After-School, students will participate in two 30-minutes programs each day along with 45 minutes of Math Intervention and another 45 minutes of Reading Intervention. Dinner is also provided to students at 6 pm daily. All After-School information can be found on the PCS [website](#).



Nita M Lowey

### Family STEAM Night

After-school will be holding its Annual **Family STEAM Night!** This event will be in-person and spots are limited. Please [click here](#) to register and learn more about the event. If you have any questions please contact La'Shawna McHenry via email at [lmchenry@providentcharterschool.org](mailto:lmchenry@providentcharterschool.org).



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## ON THE HORIZON

### PCS Expansion

During the second week of November, we will be hosting a **Letter Writing Campaign** seeking letters of support for the opening of Provident Charter School West in Baden, PA.

Demonstrating support for the opening of a new



school and sharing your family's connection to PCS is **vital** to the charter application process. More information will be forthcoming.



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## PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL FOUNDATION



PROVIDENT  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
- FOUNDATION -

### All About the Foundation

Did you know that Provident has a [Foundation](#) and that **you can help**? Making a donation can help our school in the following ways:

- To cover the cost of Wilson Reading Level 1 Certification which costs roughly \$2,000 per teacher
- To purchase materials for our teachers to develop hands-on lessons
- To expand our arts programming which is often the highlight of our students' day
- To purchase taekwondo uniforms, belts, and patches for our students who demonstrate Perseverance, Compassion, and Self-control (PCS)
- To foster a love for reading by putting engaging and relevant books in our students' hands

HOW TO GIVE

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Provident Charter School | [Website](#)



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