



PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL

October 17, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Dyslexia Dash at PCS!

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

Dyslexia Awareness Month!

It was great to see so many of you join us for **conferences** last week! We are truly committed to a **daily partnership** with our families. If you are new to PCS this year, please complete this brief survey; we are interested in knowing how to best support families as they transition to a new school.

Upcoming Events:

- **Self-Defense Class**
 - Tuesday, October 17th
 - PCS West Campus
- **Dyslexia Simulation**
 - Wednesday, October 18th
 - PCS Central Campus
- **Bookshare Information Session**
 - Tuesday, October 24th
 - Virtual
- **Half-Day for Students - 11:30 AM Dismissal for Students**
 - Friday, October 27th

Quick Links:

- [2023-2024 School Calendar](#)
- [2023-2024 Monthly Calendar](#)
- [Family Engagement Page](#)

As we move through **Dyslexia Awareness Month**, I want to remind you about a Dyslexia Simulation being held this Wednesday, October 18th from 6-8 pm. You are welcome to come early at 5:15 for coffee and dessert to meet and talk with others.

We are so fortunate in Western PA to have two schools now that are devoted specifically to serving individuals with dyslexia! There are many small and large ways you can **show your support and express appreciation** for what our team accomplishes each and every day if you feel inclined to do so.

*Thank you for **continuing to spread the word about our positive work**; in conversation and through your networks, social media, etc. Word of mouth is still the most powerful marketing strategy we have!*

*Thank you also for remembering us when you are **shopping** and see dry-erase markers, erasers, Lysol wipes, etc. on sale, and pick up some of these items for our classrooms.*

*Finally, please consider supporting PCS in the next few weeks as our **Annual Fund Campaign** materials are mailed to you.*

-Mrs. Maria Paluselli, CEO

OCTOBER 18TH DYSLEXIA SIMULATION



Pennsylvania Branch
The International
DYSLEXIA
Association

This powerful simulation will open your eyes to the daily struggles children can experience. Participants will take part in simulated activities which mimic the experiences and processing of those with dyslexia.

Wednesday, October 18th
6:00-8:00 PM

Provident Charter School
1400 Troy Hill Road
Pittsburgh PA 15212

Arrive early for Coffee &
Conversation
5:15 - 6:00 PM



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[REGISTER HERE!](#)

PCS Central - Principal's Post

Reminders & Upcoming Events

Thank you for your participation in our **Scholastic Book Fair** and **Transition Fair**. Both events were successful thanks to our parent volunteers and PCS Team!

Congratulations to the students who participated with Team Storm at the Asian Lantern Festival! The performance was amazing! A couple of reminders as we move through the month of October:



Uniform Reminder: As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child has a solid color crew neck sweatshirt (Light Blue, Navy or White) or solid color sweater (Light Blue, Navy or White) to wear at school if they are cold. Students are unable to wear hooded sweatshirts or winter jackets in the classrooms. *If you are in need of uniform pieces, please email kyonushonis@providentcharterschool.org.*

PCS Central Picture Day is October 26, 2023. Students do not need to be in uniform.

Our **Fall Festival** will be held on Friday, October 27 (½ day for students). Students in grades 2-5 are allowed to **wear costumes, with some restrictions:** no full face coverings, hoodies, weapons, or offensive costumes. We will ask that costumes be brought in and can be added over the student's clothes.

Attendance: If your child is absent, please make sure to either send in a written note or email office@providentcharterschool.org. This will allow us to excuse the absence.

I am proud to announce that **Mrs. Dana Campbell** has moved into the role of **PCS Central Music Teacher**. We are currently working on filling her position as a Wilson Language Teacher.



Funded in full or in part with a grant by the
Pennsylvania Department of Education



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LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL OPEN HOUSE



Thursday, October 26th 5:00pm-6:30pm

Families are invited to celebrate after school on national lights on after school day! Come get a tour of after school, meet some of our programming vendors in our very own after school expo, view some artwork made by our students, and learn about some of our interactive interventions!

Use [this link](#) to sign up for the in person open house!
Spots are limited.

Please Note : After School will run as normal and if your student is attending that day we will bring them to you for the open house.

PCS West - Principal's Post

Reminders & Upcoming Events

Uniform Reminder: As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child has a solid color crew neck sweatshirt (Light Blue, Navy or White) or solid color sweater (Light Blue, Navy or White) to wear at school if they are cold.

Students are unable to wear hooded sweatshirts or winter jackets in the classrooms.

Attendance: If your child is absent, please make sure to either send in a written note or email the office at westoffice@providentcharterschool.org. This will allow us to excuse the absence.

PCS West Picture Day is on Thursday, October 19th. Students do NOT need to be in uniform.

PCS West will be participating in the **New Brighton Halloween Parade** on October 25th from 6-8. We will be promoting our school in the parade. If you would like to participate and walk with us, please reach out to the school and let us know. We will then provide you with the parade information.

Please use the following [link](#) to register for a **Free Self-Defense Class** taught by Master Huang (Provident TaeKwonDo Instructor). Bring a friend!

We are continuing to host open houses for families who are interested in visiting PCS West and learning about our school. Please help us get the word out to families who have children who may need our programming.

New Staff Member: Ilene Greenblatt is an Orton Gillingham Practitioner and will be working with some of the students during their Wilson intervention time.

Students participated in a **Fire Prevention Program** hosted by the Economy Borough Fire Department on October 12th. The students had the opportunity to visit with the fireman and explore the equipment.



Our school is now a part of **Scholastic Book Clubs**. Parents are able to go to the book club website and look at the flyers of books each month. We have one class for the entire school. All points accrued will be used to purchase additional books for our library. All orders will be online (no checks) and submitted by the parent directly. Books will come to the school and will be sent home with students. You will need to set up an account. Go to: clubs.scholastic.com and select Provident Charter School West and then Mrs. Joseph's class. Thank you for helping support our library and promoting reading with your child!

We are collecting **Shop N Save receipts** to participate in the **SEED program** offered by the Pittsburgh Zoo. Just send the receipts in with your child. Collect receipts from family and friends as well!

-Mrs. Connie Joseph, PCS West Building Principal

FREE **SELF-DEFENSE** *Class*



HOSTED BY
TAE KWON DO INSTRUCTOR
MASTER ZACHARY HUANG

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

6:00-8:00 PM

AGES 14+



REGISTRATION
REQUIRED



PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL WEST
200 QUIGLEY DR BADEN PA 15005
PHONE: 412-709-5160

Curriculum Corner

CDT Testing

Hello Provident Families,

Beginning this week, PCS students in grades 3-8 will be participating in our school-wide assessment program, [Classroom Diagnostic Tools Assessment](#). This assessment provides valuable information regarding each

individual student's performance on grade level standards in order to help our teachers target specific areas of need. PCS Students in **grades 3-8 will participate in the Reading and Writing CDTs on October 18-20 during their English Language Arts classes** and the **Mathematics CDTs on October 23-24 during their Mathematics classes**. Student Performance Reports will be available from students' teachers the second week in November.

PCS families can help students by ensuring they **get enough sleep** on these evenings and **arrive at school on time, ready to participate in the testing**. Students who are **present for all five days of CDT testing** will have the opportunity to participate in an **attendance incentive during our annual PCS Fall Festival on October 27, 2023**. Please see the additional information below regarding CDT assessments. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to email Ms. Shannon Iachini at siachini@providentcharterschool.org.

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

What type of test is the CDT?

The Pennsylvania Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT) is a computer adaptive test (CAT). Similar to other assessments, students complete a CAT by responding to a series of multiple-choice items. A computer-adaptive test (CAT) is different because as a student responds to each test question, the CAT determines the next test question to ask the student. The CAT uses the student's responses to determine which follow-up question would give the most information about the student's performance on the Pennsylvania Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content. This means that each student can be administered a unique set of questions, which allows the test to give diagnostic information about each student's understanding and abilities of the Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content.

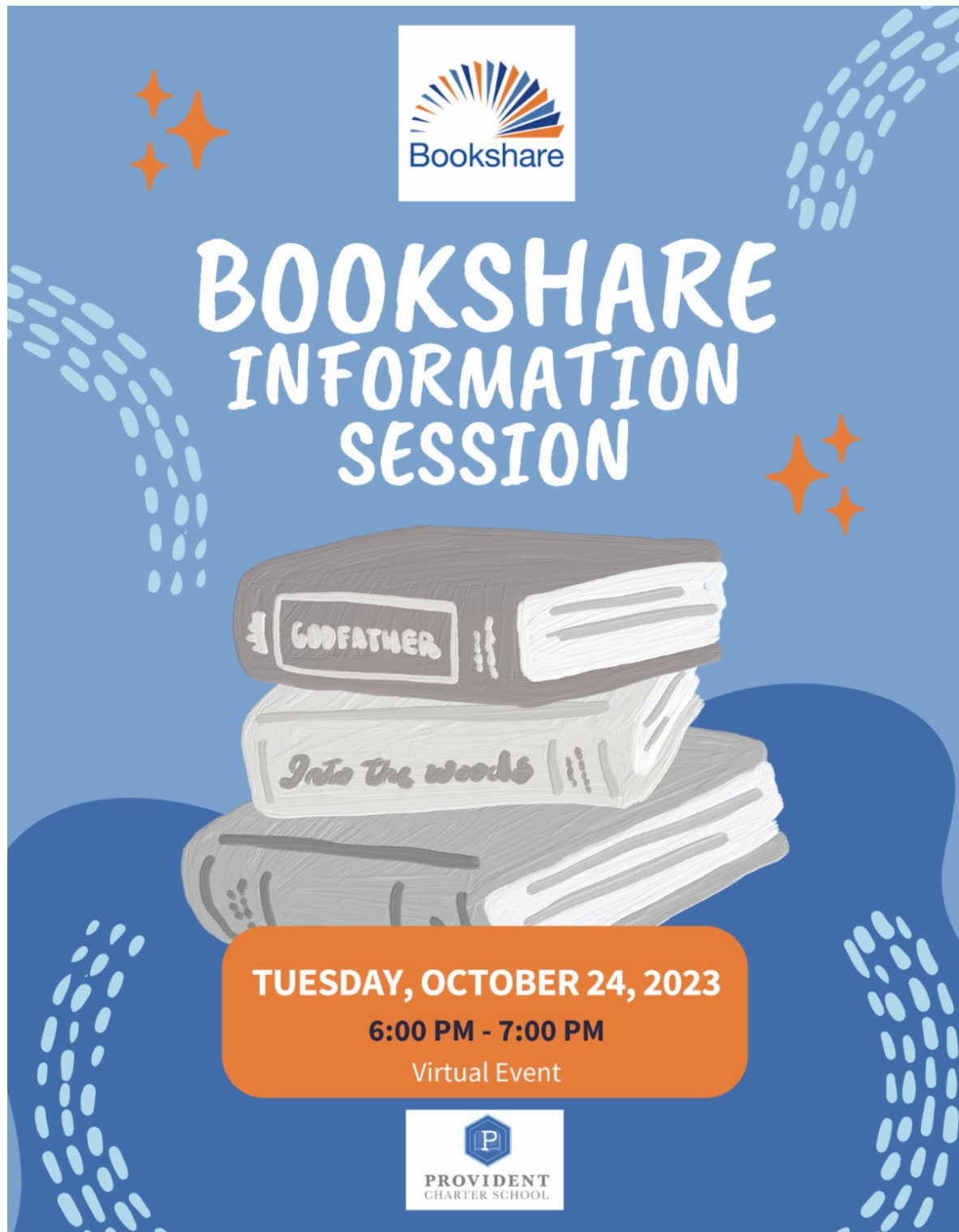
What is the purpose of the CDT?

The purpose of the CDT is to provide information that will help guide instruction by providing support to students and teachers. The CDT reports are designed to provide a picture or snapshot of how students are performing in relation to the Pennsylvania Assessment Anchors and Eligible Content. The CDT goes beyond focusing only on What students should know and be able to do at a particular grade and/or course. It also provides a snapshot of How and Why students may still be struggling or extending beyond the grade and/or course Eligible Content. This valuable information is typically not identified through other types of assessments. Teachers, through the use of CDT reports, may access additional information through the Learning Progression Map. The Learning Progression Map allows teachers to pinpoint where students are struggling along or extending beyond the learning continuum. The CDT helps identify, and provides suggestions, for "next steps" in student academic development.

Bookshare Information Session

Interested in learning about how you can **support reading at home** for your child with special education services?

Click [here](#) to register for our **PCS Bookshare Virtual Informational Session** on Tuesday, October 24th from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm.





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