

April 2024

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



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Dear PCS Community,

As you know, the mission of Provident Charter School is to help students with dyslexia and language-based learning differences reach their potential by providing high-quality, well-rounded education that is delivered through multisensory instructional methods and individual learning plans. Our students move into high school prepared to succeed and confident in their own abilities.



Putting our **mission into action**, it was truly a joy to welcome back**PCS Central Alumni** for a transition event last week where Alumni returned to share their experiences with transferring from PCS to another school. Also related to our mission is our Dyslexia Simulation happening this Wednesday evening at 6:00. It's not too late to register for this event so please consider joining us and share this event with your contacts. Registration information can be found below.

Finally, please continue helping us spread the word about PCS West! We are so proud of what we have built this year and cannot wait to see what next year brings! There are openings in grades 1-5 for the 24-25 school year.

# **Principal's Post**

Hello PCS West Families,

Spring is in the air! As we move into warmer weather, and it is tempting to be home on nice days, attendance is still an important part of your child's academic success. It is hard to believe that we will finish our first year as a new school in a few months.



In April students will be taking the PSSA's (April 22nd-30th). Because we are a public charter school, the state requires that our students participate in the PSSA's. To ensure that students have the best testing environment possible, we ask that students attend school on the testing dates, so as not to have to make-up the test at a later date. We also ask that students get plenty of sleep and eat breakfast.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our**Career Day** (see photos below) and attended the **Health & Wellness Fair**. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Our vision is to create a Courtyard Sensory Garden for our students. I've included a link to our **Sensory Garden Wish List**. Please feel free to share with family and friends. Items can be sent to: 200 Quigley Drive Baden, PA. 15005.

Mr. Almendarez has been working diligently with students during their Makerspace class to begin facilitating a Design to **Make a Difference Program at PCS West.** Design to Make a Difference (D2MD) is a Maker-Ed outreach program that helps schools build out their programs by providing access to Maker-Ed equipment and professional development. The D2MD program is



centered on using these tools to create products that help people, ensuring those exposed to this technology see the power it has to better the lives of people.

Fourth Grade students have spent several classes identifying needs in the world; conducting research through web searches, library books, and an interview with our Occupational Therapist. Third and Fourth Grade students will now work in teams to choose a need and design a product to address it.

Within our school, we will have a mini-competition to decide which team will move on to the Showcase at Winchester Thurston's campus on May 18th. Students will have an opportunity to Showcase their design. Please Save the Date of Saturday, May 18th! Your child may be asked to attend this Showcase Event.

We will have lots of upcoming events and you will receive more information in the weeks to come:

- April 17th Dyslexia Simulation at PCS West.
- April 20th Earth Day at Villas St. Joseph Flyer was sent in a recent email
- April 22nd April 30th PSSA Testing

- May 6th Teacher Appreciation Week.
- May 16th Steam Night 6:00-7:30. We are asking PCS West Families to bring a friend to this event in order to spread the word about our school. Students and Families will participate in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) activities.
- May 18th D2MD (Design to Make a Difference).
- May 21st Family Day Luncheon. Families may purchase a lunch from the cafeteria and eat lunch at PCS West with their child. More information to follow.
- May 24th Half Day Field Day and Fitness Frenzy. Students will participate in our first field day at PCS West during the half day of school.
- May 27th No school
- May 31st Whole school field trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium. Permission slips will be sent home a few weeks prior to the field trip.
- May 29th End of the Year Celebration More information to follow.

#### **Read Across America:**

During Read Across America, students had a challenge of reading for 100 20-minute sessions. The students read over 200 20-minute sessions!

#### Egg Hunt Event:

On March 27th, students worked with their House Team to find their house colored eggs throughout the school. Each egg had a puzzle piece in it and after the team found their 24 eggs, they worked as a team to put together a bridge puzzle that represented their House. The event was a huge success!

## -Mrs. Connie Joseph, PCSW Principal



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 17 - Dyslexia Simulation - @ PCS West Register - <u>Here!</u>



### April 23rd - Understanding the Basics of Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance - Free Virtual Webinar

Although this event is not hosted by PCS, it may be of interest to our families. From 10AM - 12PM - This is a webinar presented by Pennsylvania Health Law Project (PHLP) and hosted by Achieva Family Trust and The Pennsylvania Health Law Project. The goal of this webinar is to present Introductory information to help people with disabilities better understand Medicaid and Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver programs in Pennsylvania will be covered. Regardless of your income, a child with a disability may be eligible ofr medicaid. For more information including registration click Here.

May 16th - Family STEAM Night @ PCS West Bring a friend and Register - <u>Here!</u>



# Family STEAM NIGHT

Thursday, May 16th 6:00pm-7:30pm 200 Quigley Dr. Baden PA, 15005

Come and join us for PCS West's inaugural Family STEAM Night! Discover, create, and fuel your love for science, technology, engineering, art, and math with your loved ones. Delve into interactive experiences guided by a comprehensive booklet offering step-by-step directions and thought-provoking questions. PCS volunteers will be on hand to assist families every

> step of the way! \*Activities are suitable for children ages 6 to 13 Two STEAM kits will be raffled off !

> > Registration Required Click or Scan to Sign Up Today!



