



## *What's Good in the Neighborhood?*

**October 16, 2017**

**The Week Ahead:**

| <b>Monday<br/>10/16</b>                                    | <b>Tuesday<br/>10/17</b> | <b>Wednesday<br/>10/18</b>  | <b>Thursday<br/>10/19</b>   | <b>Friday<br/>10/20</b>                                      | <b>Saturday<br/>10/21</b>  |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>9:45</b><br>Kindergarten at<br>Rodger's Farm<br>all day |                          | <b>12:30</b><br>2nd Grade Fieldwork<br>at Oakcrest<br><b>4:00</b><br>Girls Soccer game at<br>Patterson Park<br><b>6:00</b><br>FabLab Family Maker<br>Night<br>(for registered 3rd-8th<br>grade families-SOLD<br>OUT!)<br><b>6:30</b><br>Advocacy Committee<br>Mtg | <b>SCHOOL IN<br/>           SESSION!</b><br><b>9:00-11:00</b><br>Coppin<br>Academy<br>information<br>session for<br>8th graders<br><b>6:00</b><br>Grades 3-5<br>Potluck | <b>NO SCHOOL</b><br>for Staff<br>Professional<br>Development | <b>8:00-2:00</b><br>Work Day<br>(see page 4)<br><b>10:00-12:00</b><br>Baltimore Design<br>School portfolio<br>workshop at BDS<br>for 8th graders |



Every day I drive around Lake Montebello to get to CNH. I sit at the light to turn onto Harford Road, facing the field connected to Herring Run Park, and usually photograph the view. Some days the sun is rising, some days the fog is lifting, some days it is raining, and some days it's just clear -- but every day it is beautiful. I am reminded how the same location changes with each moment, depending upon innumerable circumstances. When your children come to school, and when they return home, they are informed by experiences known and unknown. In this 7th week of the school year, let's take the time to stop, capture each moment, and listen to the stories told and untold. Have a great week, all!

Warmly,

Shyla

**Looking Ahead:**

**Tuesday, 10/24**  
 2nd Grade to  
 Aquarium

**Wednesday-Friday  
 10/25, 10/26, 10/27**  
**1 PM DISMISSAL  
 EACH DAY**  
 Parent-Teacher  
 Conferences  
 (see page 2)

**Tuesday, 10/31**  
 3rd Grade to  
 Aquarium

**Wednesday, 11/1**  
 2nd Grade to  
 Oakcrest

**Monday, 11/6**  
**SCHOOL  
 CLOSED**  
 Staff Professional  
 Development



## Parent-Teacher Conferences



"Your son carved his initials in his wooden classroom desk and argued that he was merely doing desktop publishing."

### Staff Professional Development this Friday

The City Neighbors Foundation, along with the leadership team from all three City Neighbors schools, has developed a rich and meaningful Symposium for our teachers. Organized in a conference-style format, the Symposium will allow teachers to select workshops within a focused strand, for a deep-dive into a topic. The three strands from which they can choose are: Arts Integration and Project-based Learning; Inclusion and Universal Design; or Equity and Culturally-relevant Pedagogy. Teachers will attend workshops, meet in small groups to unpack their learnings, and will end the day with new commitments for their teaching practice (of which we will revisit later in the year). The Symposium is a City Neighbors annual professional development day and provides a great experience for expanding our teaching practice!

The first P-T Conferences of 2017-18 will take place on **October 25, 26, and 27. School dismisses at 1 PM each of those days.** Aftercare will be available, as usual, for those students who are enrolled in the aftercare program. Student Progress Reports will be issued at this time. Be sure to sign-up for your conference!

- K-5th grades: Parents will sign-up directly with their child's teacher.
- 6th grade: Parents will meet with the Middle School team and was sent a link from Ms. Cohen: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45a8a723a7f49-trimester3>
- 7th and 8th grades: Parents will meet with their child's advisor, unless invited for a team conference.

We look forward to sitting with you and discussing your child's academic progress and creating ways to work as partners in your child's education at CNH.

### City Neighbors Foundation (CNF) Council Meeting

The CNF Council meets four times per year to plan how they can best support all three schools, as well as other partnering schools and organizations. Felicity Knox (CNH Board President) and Jellema Stewart (CNH Board Vice President and Diversity Committee Director) will be representing our school. Clara Walter, 2nd grade teacher, will be representing the teaching team at the CNF Council meeting. Big thanks to our dedicated CNH Board members, parents, and teachers who continually represent our school with such clarity, commitment, and care.

## **City Neighbors Advocacy Team Turns Out Strong!**



Last Thursday night, the Kirwan Commission – the statewide commission tasked with making recommendations about equitable funding and education policy to the state legislature – came to Baltimore to hear from its residents.

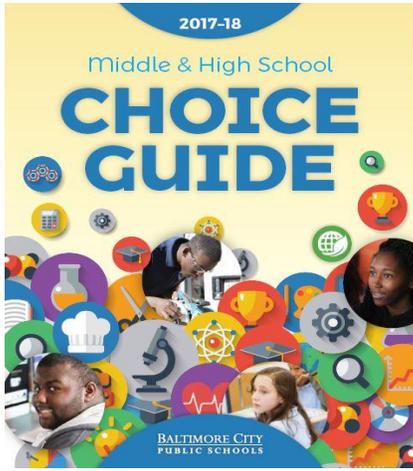
City Neighbors helped to make sure they heard from Baltimore! Almost 30 City Neighbors parents, staff members, and students turned out for the event at Baltimore Polytechnic High School. And two of our community members moved the room with their testimonies. Kuana Holley, parent and Board President at City Neighbors Charter School, gave an impassioned speech about the need for equitable funding for Baltimore City Schools and against those who seek to divide charters and neighborhood schools in this effort. City Neighbors High School senior, Ciera Smith, spoke with power and clarity, and was the only speaker all night to bring the entire auditorium to its feet! Ciera made the news --- and made it big:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/education/bs-md-kirwan-hearing-20171012-story.html>  
<http://www.wbalTV.com/article/governors-commission-hears-passionate-pleas-to-better-fund-city-schools/12843578>

Thanks to our Advocacy Team, comprised of 15 members from all three of our schools. Their work to build awareness and turnout paid off. Our work is just beginning, though. The Advocacy Team reconvenes this Wednesday night. Everyone in our community should look out for our next action and ways that you can get involved in making sure Baltimore City Public Schools gets the funds it deserves in the next decade and beyond!

## **3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Families Potluck**

On Thursday, October 19 from 6-7:30 PM, 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade families will dine in the CNH Cafe by bringing a family favorite entree, side dish, or dessert to share. Reach out to 5th grade class parents Jellema Stewart at [stewarj1028@gmail.com](mailto:stewarj1028@gmail.com) or Juliana Wood at [julianamwood@juno.com](mailto:julianamwood@juno.com) with any questions.



## High School Choice Calendar

The Middle School Team has created a calendar for 8th grade parents and staff to keep up-to-date on events including open houses, visitations, and shadow days. This Google Calendar was shared with all 8th grade parents. Please email Dr. Shyla with any questions about how to access the calendar.

[Click here for the link](#) to the Baltimore City Public Schools *Middle & High School Choice Guide*.

## Work Day This Saturday!



The Facilities Committee has scheduled its first Work Day of the school year for **Saturday October 21, beginning at 8 AM**. We will be focusing on the playground, weeding, mulching, pruning and removing and re-planting some of the small trees on the campus.

Breakfast, coffee, and hot chocolate will be provided for those who join us in the morning, and pizza for lunch for all who attend in the afternoon. Bring the family and earn volunteer hours by helping to beautify our campus on what we hope will be a beautiful fall day! If you have any questions, please contact parent volunteer, Kristin Kasprzak, at [kskasprzak@msn.com](mailto:kskasprzak@msn.com) or Facilities Director, Leo Guevara, at [leonardo\\_guevara2010@comcast.net](mailto:leonardo_guevara2010@comcast.net).

## Ms Cohen's Advisory Visits SPCA



Advisory groups are offered to middle school students at CNH. Each group consists of approximately 10 students with a staff member who stays with them for all three years of middle school. It is an important way for students to connect with a staff member deeply over time, and have a place to turn to for help and support. Advisors also act as the advocate for the students and liaison between students and their families.

In this picture, Ms. Cohen's advisory visited the SPCA and read to dogs last Friday. It was a great day had by all!

## **City Neighbors Staff Play Softball**

*Sometimes we all simply need to play together. Teachers from all three City Neighbors schools joined forces at The Big Game last Friday night. It was a great evening of swinging bats, running around, and sometimes catching the ball!*



*Darrell Boyd and Seamus Jackson, along with Ms. Farley, taught Dr. Shyla how to properly fold the American flag.*

*Thanks to Ms. Farley for sharing stories of folding their family flag every night as a child.*



*The CNH Board working (and laughing) hard throughout our board meeting last week. What a great group of dedicated people!*



*Third grade students practicing a dance routine with Ms. Williams in the dance studio. It's so great to see students shining in all different situations around the school!*



*Kindergarten researched different pets and designed a home with details that help to make a happy pet. They also shared information on what a responsible pet owner should consider for their pet.*



**2018-19 Enrollment Season in Full Swing!** City Neighbors Hamilton is accepting enrollment applications for 2018-19 now through 3 PM on February 2, 2018. Spread the word!

Our enrollment Open House dates are:

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| January 11 | 9:00 AM |
| January 20 | 1:00 PM |
| January 24 | 6:30 PM |
| February 1 | 6:30 PM |

We are unable to give personal tours, so please encourage any interested families or friends to attend an open house.

Current CNH students do not need to reapply. **HOWEVER**, if you have a sibling of a current CNH student who you want to enroll for 2018-19, you **MUST** complete and submit an application by January 29. Siblings are not entered into the general lottery, but an application must be on file by the deadline in order for them to be considered in our Sibling Preference Policy. See Stephanie for an application for download one from our website: [www.cityneighborshamilton.org](http://www.cityneighborshamilton.org).