



City Neighbors Hamilton

WEEKLY SALMON PAGES

Student label goes here

The Week Ahead

OCTOBER 3, 2016

Monday 10/3	Tuesday 10/4	Wednesday 10/5	Thursday 10/6	Friday 10/7	Saturday 10/8
	High School Choice Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 PM Café		Tea with Obi	All School 2:40 Auditorium	

High School Choice Information Session, Tomorrow Night

Tomorrow night, **Tuesday, October 4** from 6-7 PM, we will present an overview of City Schools High School Choice process in the CNH Cafe. 7th and 8th grade students and families are encouraged to attend to learn about what criteria select public high schools use to determine high school admissions, as well as ways to educate themselves about which school might be best suited for them, although all families are welcome.

Parent Information Night

We are excited to host our first Parent Information Night on **Wednesday, October 19** from 6:30-9. This first of four evenings will focus on arts integration and will be open to parents and guardians from all three City Neighbors schools. This event will take place at City Neighbors Hamilton. Come learn about a core component of our approach and philosophy: arts integration. Why do we commit to integrating the arts? What's the power and benefit? In this workshop, you will participate in five arts integration experiences – led by City Neighbors' educators – that will give you an experiential understanding of the concept and impact of arts integration. With movement, music, poetry, visual arts, and drama, the participants will explore a topic with depth and creativity. **This is an adult-only event. Spaces will be limited.** Sign-up information will be available Monday, October 10!

Be Part of the Conversation

The Fund for Educational Excellence, a local nonprofit focused on helping City Schools to improve, is holding community conversations with parents across the city to hear from them about their experiences with school choice – and they want to hear from you! Please join a group of your peer parents from the community for a discussion about school choice in Baltimore City Public Schools, hosted by City Neighbors and facilitated by the Fund for Educational Excellence on **Tuesday, October 18**, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at City Neighbors Hamilton. Please RSVP to Bobbi if you plan to attend or have any questions: bmacdonald@cityneighbors.org

After School Enrichment Clubs Beginning Soon!

Included in today's Monday Mailer is the Fall Enrichment Club Catalog and sign-up form. We have two clubs on offer this fall: The Creative Makers and the Confection Club. All club sign-up forms are due by **Wednesday, October 12**. If you have any questions about Enrichment Clubs, please contact Jill Cairns-Gallimore at jcairns-gallimore@cityneighborshamilton.org.

Looking Ahead

Monday, 10/10

Parent & Family Relations Committee Meeting
Café
6 PM

Tuesday, 10/11

Board Meeting
6:30 PM

Wednesday, 10/12

1 PM DISMISSAL
Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, 10/13

1 PM DISMISSAL (as usual)
Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, 10/14

1 PM DISMISSAL
Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, 10/21

NO SCHOOL
Staff Professional Development

Friday, 10/24

Picture Day

Thursday, 10/27

Tea With Obi

Monday, 11/7

NO SCHOOL
Staff Professional Development

Tuesday, 11/8

NO SCHOOL
Election Day

Saturday, 11/12

Progressive Education Summit
8:30 AM - 4:30

Prog Ed Summit Registration Open



Registration is now open for the 6th Annual Progressive Education Summit on **Saturday, November 12**.

Each year, the City Neighbors Foundation sponsors this **free** one-day conference focused on the ideals of progressive education. With a keynote speaker, over 40 workshops from local educators, three master classes led by expert educators, great food, and many opportunities for learning and connecting, attendance for the event has grown to almost 500 people over the last five years. The conference is held right here on the Hamilton campus.

Click here to register for this free conference: <https://cityneighborssummit2016.eventbrite.com> or visit www.cityneighborsfoundation.org.

Please pass the word through all of your contacts, networks, and friends!

A Message from Our Music Teacher

Hello, City Neighbors community. My name is Christopher Washington and I am the music teacher here at CNH. I am a native of Baltimore County and a graduate of Towson University. I have been teaching music in Howard County for 11 years and am pleased to now be joining the CNH family of educators. So far, the middle schoolers have been examining the building blocks of what it takes to create pieces of music such as rhythm, melody, instruments, and voice. The 4th and 5th graders have been studying the notes of the treble clef. The second and third graders have been discovering the difference between rhythm and beat. And kindergarten and first grade have been keeping busy just trying to maintain the beat in their songs. When it comes to music, my personal passion is working with choirs and teaching piano. I am currently working to figure out how we might develop and raise a choir among our students here and figuring out the scheduling of concerts or other the venues to display their talent. Also be on the lookout for information in the near future about an afterschool piano class I'm trying to workout for the school year. I look forward to meeting you all very soon.

~Mr. Washington~

Maker Night Fun!

Maker Night went off great! You can check out the photos/videos here: <https://www.facebook.com/cityneighborsfablab/posts/1647053805584670>

Stay tuned for our next Maker Night in November!

CNH Library Needs You!

After moving this summer, the library is excited to be up and running! We are now located in the room off the courtyard. Do you have an hour or two during the week? Checking out books and seeing student enthusiasm for reading is a rewarding way to contribute to CNH! Generally classes come for a half hour at a time, so no big time commitment is necessary. We would gladly train you! The system makes it easy. Please contact the library at library@cityneighborshamilton.org and let us know if you are interested. Better yet, come by and see us! Currently parent volunteers are here on Thursdays from 10 AM -1PM and Fridays from 8:30 AM -11:30 AM. Thank you!

~ Martha, Lisa, & David, library volunteers~

Parent & Family Relations Committee

Please join us on **Monday, October 10** at 6 PM in the CNH café for the Parent & Family Relations Committee Meeting. Help make Teacher Appreciation week another week to remember. Bring your ideas for ways to make our teachers feel pampered and special. Let's talk about Room Parent responsibilities and how our committee can help this year. Children welcome. Refreshments served. RSVP to Parent and Family Relations Chair, Maryhelen Pflug at mpflug@cityneighborshamilton.org

A Message from Our PE Teacher

I apologize for my absence at Back-to-School Night. Please read the following letter I was prepared to hand out at Back-to-School Night (see page 3), and feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions. The letter includes two important topics that I will be trying to focus on this year. Again, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions: achambers@cityneighborshamilton.org. ~Mr. Chambers~

Grounds Keeping Day at CNH

Our campus grounds need just a little TLC to look its best. The playground needs some sprucing up, the trees need trimming, there's a tiny bit of weeding necessary and planting, and some debris dumping. We have tools and gloves to lend if needed, and also provide coffee, juice, bagels, fruit, and donuts. No expertise required. So bring the kids, eat, play, and help us get the grounds looking good! **Saturday October 15**, 8:30-2:00. If you have any questions, contact Kristin Kasprzak at kskasprzak@msn.com or 410-961-8310, or Leo Guevara at leonardo.guevara2010@comcast.net.

A Message From Our PE Teacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am very excited for my third year of teaching PE at City Neighbors Hamilton. While I am not a full-time teacher yet, I have gained more time around the school. I am now here every day but Thursday. I am eager for this new opportunity and for my first chance as an advisor. Please use my schedule as a guide if you ever need to get in contact with me. While I am not always in my office during the day, I try to check my emails as often as possible to address any arising issues.

I want this to be a successful school year for your child. To ensure this success, it is important that we maintain open communication. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You can reach me at achambers@cityneighborshamilton.org.

Last year's PE classes revealed two important issues that I would like to address before the year gets rolling:

- Clothing is very important in PE. I do not require our older students to change for PE because they are on such a time crunch as it is. However, they know which days they have PE and should be wearing or bring appropriate clothes to change into for PE. Boots, high heels, sandals, dresses, skirts, loose fitting tops, etc. are all unacceptable for class. If clothing is the reason your child cannot participate in class, they will be losing points for that day. For parents of younger students, please understand that they will be doing a lot of running and moving. No open-toed shoes or dresses on PE days. Scooters are very painful if they accidentally run over their toes. Please make sure your child can participate without having to worry about their clothing.
- Participation is key for Physical Education. I completely understand that all activities in class are not going to be a hit with every student. But they need to at least try their best. If a student chooses to sit out of an activity because they do not like it, or because they do not feel like doing anything that day, they will be losing points. Please discuss the importance of their effort. If your child is sick or injured and you or your child's doctor requests the child refrain from PE activities, please provide a note from you or a doctor requesting this. When your child is well enough to participate again, I will need a note stating that, as well. If I do not receive a note, your child will be expected to participate in class. If your child has any health information that you feel would be vital for me to know for physical activities, please reach out to me with any information about them.

By working together and keeping in good contact, I am confident that this will be an exciting and successful year.

~ Andrew Chambers~

Boxtops for Education

Dear CNH Parents: It's time to have a frank talk about a very serious subject: Boxtops for Education. The two most common arguments I hear from folks about why they don't collect Boxtops are:

Argument #1: It is ridiculous that we are funding our public schools with Boxtops.

I couldn't agree more. It IS absolutely ridiculous! But until our state government decides that our children and schools are worthy of more funding, we can supplement City Neighbor Hamilton's library budget by collecting Boxtops. Last year a school in Nebraska earned \$20,000 for their kids. Now I imagine that it was a much bigger school than CNH but if we can collect 20 Boxtops per student it would be \$500! That's a lot of Lemony Snickett and American Girl Doll books.

Argument #2: We don't eat that food.

Fine. We aren't encouraging you to feed your family a diet of high fructose corn syrup and bleached flour. But Boxtops come a variety of sources, including broccoli and celery—even toilet paper and underwear. Visit the Boxtops website for a complete list of participating products: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products>. And talk to your network. Surely there is a Nana, Pop Pop, auntie, or co-worker in your circle that could help you collect 20 Boxtops. For every 20 Boxtops you submit, award yourself one service hour. CNH gets grant money for our volunteer hours and so now your 20 Boxtops have contributed to a second revenue stream. Good job!

Go! Have a great year and thank you for collecting those Boxtops for Education!

~ Dawn Guevara, Boxtops for Education Coordinator~