



City Neighbors Hamilton

## WEEKLY SALMON PAGES

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FEBRUARY 13, 2017

### The Week Ahead

Monday 2/13	Tuesday 2/14	Wednesday 2/15	Thursday 2/16	Friday 2/17	Saturday 2/18
		Parent Info Night: How do we learn to read at City Neighbors? 6:30 - 7:30 PM Registration required (see below)	Enrollment Lottery 1 PM, Library Board Meeting 6:30 PM	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b> Staff Professional Development	

### Parent Information Night: How Do We Learn To Read at City Neighbors?

Please join us on **Wednesday, February 15** from 6:30-7:30 PM at the City Neighbors Hamilton for our third Parent Information Night of the year - "How Do We Learn to Read at City Neighbors?" Facilitated by Kate Seidl, Principal of City Neighbors Charter School, and Nadiyah Herrera, Literacy Specialist at City Neighbors Charter School, you will get insight into how children learn to read, how we approach reading instruction, and how you can best support your children, whether they are brand-new readers or working to be better readers. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-do-we-learn-to-read-at-city-neighbors-tickets-31754769370>. Childcare available for school-aged children.

### Join Us for the Rally in Annapolis for Full Funding

Governor Hogan has introduced a budget that includes a \$42 million funding cut to Baltimore City Public Schools. This funding cut will have a DIRECT impact on City Neighbors. The \$42 million funding cut is on top of the BCPSS budget deficit of \$130 million. We need to restore that funding! City Neighbors will join the Baltimore Education Coalition in Annapolis to advocate for the restoration of the \$42 million to Baltimore City Public Schools. To win this battle we must turn out in force. Please join us on **Thursday, February 23**. Buses will leave from CNH at 5 PM and return at 8:30 PM. Parents, kids, friends, and neighbors are all invited and encouraged to attend. Our goal is to have more than 50 people from City Neighbors joining 1,000 Baltimoreans taking a stand for our students. Sign up at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/city-neighbors-hamilton-advocacy-team-12821289148>. Registration deadline is February 15.

### Staffing Update

As we prepare for third-grade teacher Ms. Marilyn's maternity leave, we are excited to announce Rebecca Clark as our long-term substitute teacher. Ms. Clark comes highly recommended from another and quickly impressed those of us who interviewed her. She has a Master's in Elementary Education from JHU and a Bachelor's in Sociology from Tulane and has taught both elementary education and special education here in the US and abroad, teaching special education in grades 2 and 3 at KIPP Harmony. She will be joining us during the week of March 6, with some planned overlap time with Ms. Marilyn in the 3rd grade classroom.

### Looking Ahead

**Monday, 2/20**  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**  
Presidents Day

**Thursday, 2/23**  
Education Rally in Annapolis

**Friday, 2/24**  
CNH Book Club  
6:30 PM  
Café

**Friday, 2/24**  
Deadline to Submit School  
Climate Survey

**Saturday, 3/4**  
Paint Night Fundraiser  
Details TBA

**Friday, 3/10**  
Report Cards Mailed

**Tuesday, 3/14**  
Board Meeting  
6:30 PM

**Wednesday, 3/15**  
City Neighbors Founders Day

**Friday, 3/17**  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**  
Staff Professional Development

**Saturday, 3/25**  
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser  
6 - 8 PM  
Café

**CNH Climate Survey: Let Your Voice be Heard!** Baltimore City Public Schools wants to know how you feel about your child's school. Please take a few minutes to tell them what you think by completing this anonymous survey. You can take the survey online! The parent survey is now mobile device compatible: [www.k12insight.com/SchoolSurveyParent/SY1617](http://www.k12insight.com/SchoolSurveyParent/SY1617). If you prefer something more low-tech, a paper copy of the survey has been sent home with students. Just complete the form and drop in the mail in the prepaid postage envelope. Your opinion is important! In order to get a more complete picture, students and staff will be submitting surveys designed for them. The deadline for submitting your survey is **Friday, February 24**. If you have survey questions, please contact Survey Coordinator, Clara Walter, at [cwalter@cityneighborshamilton.org](mailto:cwalter@cityneighborshamilton.org). Thank you for your time and participation!

## Fundraising Notes



- The Fundraising Committee is recruiting help for the Spaghetti Dinner on March 25. Come out, lend a hand, have a blast, and get in some volunteering hours! Contact Fundraising Chair, Liz Spann, at [lspann@cityneighborshamilton.org](mailto:lspann@cityneighborshamilton.org) or Paul Anderson at [paulanderson@gmail.com](mailto:paulanderson@gmail.com) for more details!



- Mark your calendars for the next Fundraising Committee meeting on **Wednesday, March 1** at 6 PM in the café.



Generosity was exemplified this past Saturday at our 4th Annual DIY Bake Sale! This event was a delicious success due to all of our family and friends who gave their time, support, smiles, and donations. A special thanks to Lori Smutek, Kim Lane, Liz Spann and all of you who attended for making this event possible.



**CNH Book Club: All American Boys** City Neighbors Hamilton Committee Relations Committee will be hosting their next book club event on **Friday, February 24** at 6:30 PM in the café. This year, we'll be discussing All American Boys, the 2016 *One Maryland, One Book* selection by local authors, Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. This young-adult book is for ages 12 and up, so we'd love to have some middle-school students join us in the discussion!

You can read more about the book and the authors, and even listen to the beginning of the book at this site: <https://www.mdhumanities.org/programs/one-maryland-one-book/2016-one-maryland-one-book/>

The book is available at libraries and bookstores, and we have a limited number to give away. If you need a copy of the book, please contact Community Relations Chair, Erika Coughlin, at [ecoughlin@cityneighborshamilton.org](mailto:ecoughlin@cityneighborshamilton.org). Please RSVP your attendance to her at that address, as well. We look forward to seeing you there!



**Mindfulness Seminar** The Northeast Schools Alliance, a partnership of City Neighbors, Hamilton Elementary Middle School, and St Francis of Assisi School, is holding a Mindfulness Seminar on **Wednesday, February 22** from 6:30 - 8 PM at The Strand Theatre at 5426 Harford Road in Hamilton. This is the second in a speaker series for the families of Northeast Baltimore brought to you by the Northeast Schools Alliance through a grant from the Goldseker Foundation. Please join us! Register at <http://bit.ly/2kyoPmD>. See the attached flyer for more information.

**CNH Atelier Photo Blog** Atelerista, Hannah Cohen, is happy to share that the atelier blog has had a makeover! Check out our new photo blog website to see the great work that your students are diving into in the atelier. Photos are uploaded weekly. Bookmark, save, and share the link below:

The easy to remember NEW web address: [www.tinyurl.com/atelierphotoblog](http://www.tinyurl.com/atelierphotoblog)

**Coaching Opportunity: City Neighbors Soccer Club, Spring 2017** Coach Chambers is unable to lead our girls' soccer team this spring, and we are now in need of a coach by February 21 in order to field our next team. This is a paid opportunity through the Parks and People Foundation that pays \$15/hour; coaches are expected to meet with students four days per week (three times for practices, and one game weekly). If you are interested in making this enrichment opportunity possible for our girls, kindly contact me at [ookobi@cityneighborshamilton.org](mailto:ookobi@cityneighborshamilton.org).

**Volunteer Opportunity: Scholastic Books Chair/s** After three years, parent volunteer, Shannon Van Hook, is stepping down as our Scholastic Books coordinator. Many thanks to Shannon (and her mom!) for enriching the reading lives of our students. At this time, we are in need of (ideally) two volunteers to help coordinate our monthly Scholastic subscriptions, as well as our upcoming Spring Book Fair in late April. If you are available and interested in learning more about this important aspect of community life, please contact me at [ookobi@cityneighborshamilton.org](mailto:ookobi@cityneighborshamilton.org).

**A Word on Valentine's Day from Obi** Tomorrow, classes will take time to share cards and small treats to share their appreciation for one another in community. In the spirit of inclusion, students who choose to share Valentine's Day cards should have a card for every class member. To this end, most teachers have distributed class lists to help ensure that all children are included in the exchange. Lastly, any treats that are shared will not be eaten during the school day.

**Principal Hiring Committee Update** The CNH Principal Hiring Committee met for the second time last week. At the meeting, we further solidified search criteria, with input from many of you who responded to the request. The criteria is wide-ranging and includes demonstrated commitment and experience in progressive education practices, teaching and learning practices, a holistic approach to children and child development, community-building, diversity and inclusion, and social justice and activism. It also includes a significant increase of leadership attitudes and qualities that include an approach of servant leadership, a strong growth mindset, a warm and caring presence, the ability to move processes, strategies, and initiatives forward, integrity, emotional maturity, and a sense of humor. This criteria will be used as the committee considers applicants at decision points along the process.

The CNH Principal Hiring Committee also structured a search process that will be thorough and involve all constituencies. The process will include a vetting interview, a first interview with the full committee, a half/full day visit, and a two-day visit. Components include holding meetings with teachers, parents, and students; providing workshops for parents, teachers, and students; three separate interviews with the committee; a tour of the school and classroom observations; and a set of performance-related tasks. The overall hiring experience is designed for us to get to know the person as well as possible, and for that person to get to know us equally well.

At this point, we have received over 20 resumes. We have vetted ten candidates, with three more vetting interviews in the coming days. Six of those candidates will begin the full interview process with the CNH Principal Hiring Committee starting Monday night. We will continue first interviews over the next three weeks; at that point, we will be inviting strong candidates to visit and spend the day with us. As we prepare for those day-long visits, we will let you know who is coming and when.

We will continue to keep you updated as the process unfolds. Please email Mike Chalupa, Academic Director, at [mchalupa@cityneighbors.org](mailto:mchalupa@cityneighbors.org) if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas.



**City Neighbors Children Summer Program** Beginning last week, we included in the Monday Mailer applications for the CN summer camp for rising 1st through 4th graders. This summer will be our third summer session at the City Neighbors Hamilton campus. Campers ages 6-10 will enjoy general day camp activities like singing, reading, writing, crafts, and outdoor play as well as dynamic outdoor physical challenges such as bike riding, hiking, new games, riding scooters, and gardening. Nutritious, fresh snacks and lunches will be provided daily to all campers. Visiting artists will lead children in investigations of percussion, puppetry, watercolor painting, and clay sculpture. Children will have weekly field trips to explore Baltimore's cultural and natural resources.

Program Director, Nadiyah Herrera, will lead a staff of caring and committed professional educators from City Neighbors. Their exciting programming will challenge children to learn physically and academically. We look forward to summer adventures with you!

CN Summer Camp will run Monday through Friday from July 10 through August 4, 9 AM - 3 PM. Before and aftercare will be available onsite for a reasonable fee from 8 - 9 AM and 3- 5:30 PM.

An information session will be held at the CNH campus in March. Stay tuned! For any specific questions about City Neighbors Summer Camp, contact Program Director, Nadiyah Herrera, at [nherrera@cityneighbors.org](mailto:nherrera@cityneighbors.org).

**Enrollment 2017-2018** Last Friday at 3 PM was the deadline to submit 2017-18 applications and we received a record number this year: 482, nearly 100 more than last year. Thank you to everyone who helped get the word out to the community.

The lottery drawing will be held on Thursday, February 16 at 1 PM in the school library. Interested applicants are welcome to attend, as are well supervised children.