



Weekly Salmon Pages

December 7, 2009

www.cityneighborshamilton.org

Dates to Remember:

Tue	Dec	8:	New High School Meeting, 7 PM to 8 PM
Wed	Dec	9:	Parent-Teacher Conferences
Thu	Dec	10:	Early Dismissal, 1 PM, Parent-Teacher Conferences Board Meeting, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Fri	Dec	11:	Early Dismissal, 1 PM, Parent-Teacher Conferences
Wed	Dec	16:	Winter Arts Festival, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Flu Vaccination Update

H1N1 mists and injections will be administered on **Tuesday, December 8** to those students who have returned consent forms. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Henry in the Health Suite.

Early Dismissal!

Don't forget that CNH is dismissing at 1 PM on Wednesday, 12/9 (just like every Wednesday) but is also dismissing at 1 PM on Thursday, 12/10 and at 1 PM on Friday, 12/11 for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Aftercare will be available beginning at 1 PM on each of those days.

If you haven't yet done so, please be sure to set a time for one of the above dates to meet with your child's teacher and receive his/her report card. This is an incredibly valuable opportunity for parents and teachers to act as partners in support of your child. All parents must attend a conference in order to receive your child's report card.

Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser



Thanks to everyone who supported the school fundraiser and helped raise almost \$800 for CNH!

We expect delivery to the school on 12/15 and are planning on the sorted orders being ready for parent pickup on 12/16. We will keep you informed of any changes as the date approaches. If you can help sort orders on the morning of 12/15, please contact Fundraising Chair, Tanya Robinson, at trobinson@cityneighborshamilton.org.

Thank you for supporting CNH!

Don't forget CNH is dismissing early on 12/9, 12/10, and 12/11 for Parent-Teacher Conferences! Aftercare will be available.

Inclement Weather Policy

CNH follow Baltimore City Public Schools inclement weather policy for school closings, late openings, or early dismissals. If schools open late on a CNH scheduled half-day, CNH will still open at the appropriate delayed time. Please check your local radio or TV stations.

Committee Meetings

Diversity and Inclusion Committee:
Monday, 12/7 at 7 PM at Grind On Café,
5607 Harford Road.

Advocacy Committee:
Tuesday, 12/8 at 6 PM at Grind On Café,
5607 Harford Road.



Take a break from your holiday schedule and join CNH at Chik-fila-A in Parkville for a Spirit Night fundraiser on Monday, December 21st, from 5 to 8 PM. CNH will receive 20% of all revenue generated by CNH families. Bring family and friends and the attached flyer to the restaurant and be sure to sign-in before ordering. Feel free to make extra copies of the attached flyer and there will be extra copies available at the restaurant. Don't forget to order a large milkshake—or two or three—because CNH will receive \$1 for every one purchased by CNH families. See you then at Chik-fil-A, located at 2008 East Joppa Road. Questions? Contact Fundraising Chair, Tanya Robinson, at trobinson@cityneighborshamilton.org.

Morning/Afternoon Greeters and Carline Assistants

Thank you to everyone for making a concerted effort to be sensitive to our neighbors by not parking in front of their driveways or up on their curbs. We all appreciate it! In an ongoing effort to ensure smooth drop-offs and pick-ups, parent Terra Greene-Briggs (mother of first-grader, Quran), is enlisting help from volunteers. Terra comes to us experienced in carline management but she needs assistance! If you can spare fifteen minutes or so in the mornings before school and/or fifteen minutes or so in the afternoons at dismissal time, please contact Terra at 443-528-6052 or at misstcg66aol.com. Remember, this time counts toward those all-important volunteer hours! Thank you for making a difference!

Enrollment 2010-2011

December 1 officially began our enrollment season for 2010-2011. As you know, students are selected to attend CNH through lottery. Enrollment Applications will be accepted through February 24. The lottery draw will be held on Friday, February 26 at 1 PM. Applications and information can be found on our website: www.cityneighborshamilton.org. Open Houses for prospective families are scheduled for:

- ◆ Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 PM
- ◆ Friday, January 22 at 9 AM
- ◆ Friday, February 5 at 9 AM
- ◆ Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 PM

If you know anyone who may be interested in CNH, please pass the word along!

Our sister school, City Neighbors Charter School, follows the same enrollment procedure. Their Open House dates are different and can be found on their website: www.cityneighbors.org.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Stephanie in the school office.

Winter Arts Celebration

Our first Winter Arts Celebration will be held on Wednesday, December 16. Student performances will begin at 6:30 PM. Each class has been working all year on music, dance, and drumming and they are eager to perform all they have learned! After the performances, from 7:30 to 8:30 PM, our hallways will be open as a whole-school art gallery displaying inspired and creative student work, and beautiful displays by our teachers.

Please remember to bring a gently used coat to donate to the coat drive sponsored by our Diversity and Inclusion committee.

The Fundraising committee will be selling school spirit items: CNH mugs, sweatshirts, t-shirts, and car decals. These make great holiday gifts! There may be selling some extra cinnamon rolls, as well!

The Organized Parent Group will be sponsoring a snack table, so feel free to bring any desserts that work well as finger food.

Don't forget that your attendance counts toward your volunteer hours! Don't forget to include the hours on your volunteer form!



Policy Review: Celebrations

The following is excerpted from the CNH School Handbook:

"Birthdays are special occasions for young children. Please check with your child's teacher if you would like to bring in a special snack to share with the class.

If you plan on distributing invitations to a celebration, please make sure that everyone receives an invitation. If you are planning to distribute invitations selectively, please do so outside of school grounds—through the mail, email, etc

Please consider donating a book to the CNH library in celebration of your child's birthday. How it works: 1) A list of books is available each year for you to select to buy in honor of your child; 2) A special nameplate is placed on the inside cover of the library book acknowledging your child's birthday donation; 3) your child is the first person to check out the book!

City Neighbors Hamilton does not generally celebrate holidays in any formal way, although discussion of special cultural and family traditions in class is encouraged. Some classes may share in celebration activities, but each teacher makes these decisions independently. Check with your child's teacher."

We realize there has been some confusion about this policy. As a new school, we are working hard to establish traditions and standards that resonate with our deeply held beliefs in the CNH mission and vision for what our school strives to be. We appreciate your patience as we work through this process together, and we ask for your forgiveness for the times we have been unclear or ambiguous in communicating with you in regard to this policy.

Recently, the staff met and reviewed the above-stated policy, and we all feel strongly that this is the right policy for our school. It honors and celebrates who we are, as well respecting our differences. It also respects parents rights to make choices in how special occasions are celebrated at home.

If you have missed the opportunity to acknowledge your child's birthday at school and you would like to do so, please consult with your child's teacher so you can set up a time and date to do so. Likewise, If your child has a summer birthday and you would like to acknowledge it with classmates while school is still in session, consult with your child's teacher to set up an appropriate date and time.

If you have any questions about this policy or any other policy included in the School Handbook, please feel free to set up a time to speak with me about it.

As always, thank you for your support and cooperation.

Some Changes in the Classrooms

We wish to welcome Tamara Tyrell (first-grader, Akil's Mom) to our staff. Tamara is joining us as an assistant, and we are so pleased to have her support as we ramp up our staffing model this first year of our school. Currently she is helping in the 1st and 3rd grade classrooms.

We also happy to announce that Roberta Harden, our assistant in first grade, has moved over to the second grade classroom full time for the rest of this year. Ms. Harden has many years of teaching experience, and we are so pleased she is on our team.

We are currently interviewing for another classroom assistant. If you have teaching experience and are interested, please let me know and send in your resume!

CNH Caring and Sharing Week, 12/14 thru 12/18



ONE WARM COAT®

The Diversity and Inclusion committee is coordinating a coat drive in service to children, women, and men who are in need of a warm coat this winter.

Included in this mailer is an activity that we hope you take the opportunity to do with your children. It is not only simple and fun, but it is a great way to begin a conversation about sharing and caring for others by participating in the upcoming coat drive. Please remember to dig deep into your closets and bring your clean, gently-used coats and jackets to the cafeteria when you drop off your child any morning beginning Monday, 12/14 through Friday, 12/18. Donations will also be accepted at the Winter Arts Celebration, 12/16 at 6:30 PM. Questions? Contact Ekua Kendall at ekendall@cityneighborshamilton.org or Laura Greene-Lee at glee.laura@gmail.com.

December at a Glance

Tuesday, December 8	City Neighbors High School Meeting, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Library
Wednesday, December 9	EARLY DISMISSAL: 1:00: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, December 10	EARLY DISMISSAL: 1:00: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, December 10	CNH Board Meeting 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM in Library
Friday, December 11	EARLY DISMISSAL: 1:00: Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, December 16	Winter Arts Festival 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Friday, December 18	Second-grade Field Trip (details to follow)
Monday, December 21	First-grade Field Trip (see details attached)
Wednesday, December 23	Last Day of School before Winter Break– NO AFTERCARE
Thursday, December 24 thru Friday, January 1:	Winter Break
Monday, January 4:	Classes resume