

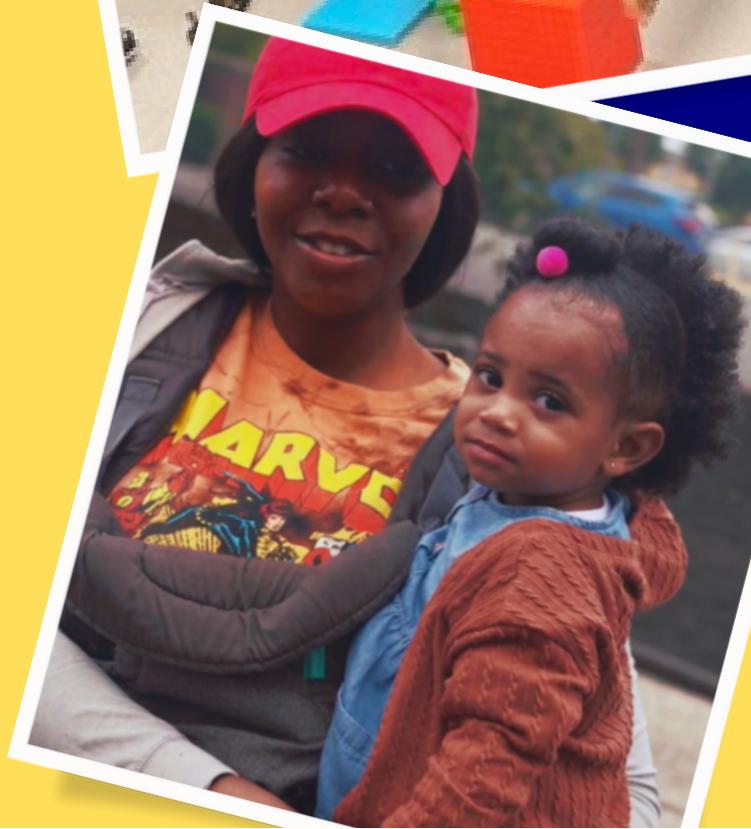
October 2023



MPTCS

PARENT UNIVERSITY

**Partnership
Advocacy
Resources
Engagement
Network
Training
Support**



Marion P Thomas
CHARTER SCHOOL

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Mission

The mission of Marion P. Thomas Charter School is to build culturally rich, transformative educational spaces that cultivate successful, lifelong innovators who use their passions, character, and intellect to better themselves, the greater Newark community, and the world beyond.



Vision

MPTCS Parent University (MPU) is designed to help parents and guardians become full partners in their child(ren)'s education. MPU partners with educational institutions, community agencies, and organizations to offer free courses, family events, and activities that will equip families with new or additional skills, knowledge, resources, and confidence.

The goal of Parent University is to increase parent involvement in our schools and empower parents to raise children who are successful in school, and in life. Research has shown that parents can increase a child's academic success through their involvement with schools and communities. Parental involvement improves student morale, attitudes, and academic achievement across all subject areas.



GET *Involved*



Toni Ince

*Parent Board
Representative*

Greetings MPTCS Village!

I am *Toni Ince*, your Parent Board Representative. I am responsible for bringing parent opinions and concerns to the attention of MPTCS' Board of Trustees or the Superintendent. As an active participant in the Village, I wanted to stress how vital parental involvement is to our scholars' performance. First and foremost, children emulate what they see. Hence, leadership starts from birth in the household. Parents, we have a strong influence on our children, it is stronger than that of teachers, friends, and media.

Research informs us that scholars whose parents stay involved in their school have better attendance, better behavior, and better grades. Additionally, scholars demonstrate better social skills and adapt better to their school environment. Parental involvement also securely sets scholars up to develop a lifelong love of learning, which is key to long-term success.

Besides promoting scholars' success, parental involvement in a child's education benefits the teacher-parent relationship. It builds a positive connection between scholars and school officials, which will promote an amazing educational experience.

Parents, please take advantage of the free resources offered as a part of Parent University. As I always say, "It takes a village," and the MPTCS Village is here to support you in your journey towards your child's success.

In closing, I would love to leave you with one of my favorite quotes: "An ounce of action is worth more than a ton of words." ~ *Carter G. Woodson, American Historian*. Parents commit to being active this month and plan to attend one or more events. I look forward to meeting many of you at an upcoming event.

Warm regards,

Toni Ince



Michele Griffin Managing Director

On behalf of our Village Leadership and the Parent University team, I wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the parents who joined us for our Parent University events in September. Your presence and active participation were truly appreciated, and it added immense value to our school community. From the enlightening Parent Math Night to the informative Back to School Nights and the engaging and fun Preschool Community Day, your enthusiasm and support were remarkable.

I encourage you to continue taking advantage of the free opportunities and resources that Parent University will offer in October. We have a wide range of exciting activities lined up, including events that focus on Hispanic Heritage Month, the MPTCS Villagers Breast Cancer Walk, NJ Public Charter School's Parent Advocacy Summit, the Fall in Love with Literacy event, and much more. These events not only provide valuable insights but also foster a sense of community and togetherness.

Your presence and engagement make a significant difference in the lives of your children, and we are excited to see what the future holds as we work together to ensure a bright and successful academic journey for each scholar.

I am also delighted to announce that **Mr. Sanni, a PAC & High School parent**, is the winner of our monthly parent drawing, receiving a \$250 gift card for being an active participant in our September events.

Congratulations, Mr. Sanni! Don't forget, all parents who attend parent university events during October will be entered into a monthly drawing. The winner will be announced at our monthly board meeting (which will take place on October 25th).

Parents, thank you once again for your unwavering support, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Warm regards,

Michele Griffin

What: K-8 Parent Math Series, Part 2

When: Thursday, Oct. 5th

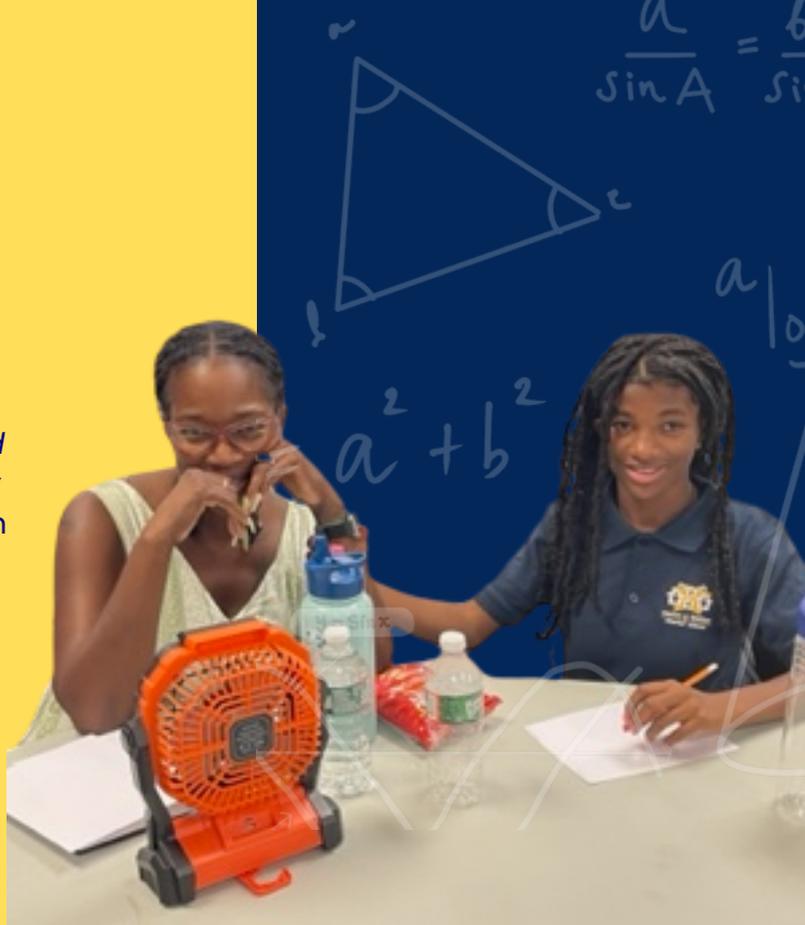
Where: MPTCS STEAM Academy
370 S. 7th St., Newark

Time: 5:30 PM - Food Served
6:00-7:30 PM - Workshop

Next Event: Community STEAM Night - 11/20

"Our workshop teacher made math so relatable and fun, it was the first time I truly understood these new math concepts," exclaimed a parent at our first Math Series Workshop. Our partner, Fraser's Mathematics Solutions, will return for Part 2 of our Math Series. Join us for another interactive and fun workshop for parents! This month's topics include:

- Grades K-2: Addition & Subtraction, Part 2
- Grades 3-5: Addition & Subtraction
- Grades 6-7: Independent/Dependent Variable
- Grade 8: Exponents



Workshops & Meetings



What: Title I Annual Parent Meeting

When: Tuesday, Oct. 10th

Where: [ZOOM link](#)

Time: 7:00-8:00 PM

The Every Student Succeeds Act requires every Title 1 school to host an annual Parent Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to inform parents of MPTCS' participation in Title 1; explain the requirements of Title 1 and review and obtain feedback regarding Title 1 programs.

Title 1 provides all students with a significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps. Title I provides financial assistance to local schools with high percentages of under-resourced families to help ensure that all children meet challenging, State academic standards.

To ensure your voice is heard and suggestions are considered, please [click here](#) to register for this important meeting.



What: Chit Chat with STEAM Administrators

When: Wednesday, Oct. 18th

Where: ZOOM

Meeting ID: 876 7007 1442

Passcode: STEAM

Time: 9:00 AM

To foster open communication and collaboration between families and school leadership, the STEAM team is excited to invite you to "Chit Chat with Administrators."

This meeting will provide you with a unique opportunity to engage with school leaders, learn about upcoming events and initiatives, and most importantly, have your questions answered and voice your concerns and accolades.



Erick Silvestre
STEAM Academy Principal

Workshops & Meetings

Charter Parent Advocacy Summit

Join the New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association to meet with legislators, share your stories and learn how parents can be the most powerful advocates for New Jersey's public charter school students!

WHO	Public charter school parents from across NJ
WHAT	Charter Parent Advocacy Summit—network, advocate and learn among other parents, education advocates and legislators
WHEN	Saturday, October 14th, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
WHERE	Roseville Community Charter School 540 Orange St, Newark, NJ
HOW	Register for FREE here by Friday, September 29th, 2023

FREE food, beverages and entry gifts will be provided!

If you have questions, please contact: aulaj@njcharters.org



What: Charter Parent Advocacy Summit

When: Saturday, October 14th

Where: 540 Orange St., Newark

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Join the New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association for a day of advocacy and learning at the **Charter Parent Advocacy Summit** on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Meet your local legislators and discover how parents can become strong advocates for charter school students. Food and beverages will be served and entry gifts will be provided.

Don't forget to email aulaj@njcharters.org to register for this FREE event.

What: Facetime with PAC Academy's FACE (Family & Community Engagement Specialist)

When: Thursday, Oct. 19th

Where: [Zoom Link](#)

Time: 5:00 PM

Lawana Powell, PAC Academy's Family & Community Engagement Specialist, will host a FACE to FACE meeting on Zoom for PAC parents.

This meeting will provide you with an opportunity to share accolades, and concerns or ask questions. Ms. Powell will relay updates about school initiatives, updates, and upcoming programs.

To register for this meeting, [click here](#).



Lawana Powell
PAC Academy's
Family & Community Engagement Specialist

Workshops & Meetings



What: Parent & Family Advisory Council Meeting

When: Monday, Oct. 30th

Where: [ZOOM link](#)

Time: 6:30 PM

Interested in becoming a Parent Representative for your school? Join us to hear more about the Parent & Family Advisory Council (PFAC). The role of PFAC is to gather the views, feedback, and concerns of the wider parent body in order to advise the Parent Board Representative, Ms. Toni Ince. Ms. Ince will be responsible for sharing the news with the appropriate person(s), whether it is Superintendent Mincy or members of the Board of Trustees..

PFAC will play a key role in bringing home and school together and ensuring parents' voices are heard.

To register for the meeting, please [click here](#).



CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the unique voices and experiences of Hispanic/Latino Americans and recognize their history, journeys, and achievements.

What: Viva! El Festival Hispano

When: Thursday, October 12th

Where: STEAM Academy

Time: 5:00–7:00 PM

This event will feature a variety of student performances and tributes to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

What: Viva! El Festival Hispano

When: Jueves, 12 de Octubre, 2023

Where: STEAM Academy

En el Gimnasio de STEAM

Time: 5:00–7:00 PM

Venga y sea testigo de la magnifica presentacion que los estudiantes han preparado para celebrar el Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

Admision gratuita, no se lo pierda!



MPTCS STEAM ACADEMY presents

VIVA

EL FESTIVAL HISPANO

HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Come and witness student performances and tributes

Admission is FREE. Do not miss it!

Thursday, October 12th
5:00-7:00 PM

STEAM Academy
Gymnasium
370 S. 7th St.
Newark



Events & Activities

Walking for a Cause

What:

Making Strides Against
Breast Cancer

When:

Sunday, Oct. 15th

Where:

Mulberry Commons, Newark

Meeting Time:

9:00 AM

Register Today!

[Click here](#)



Rallying Together to Fight Against Breast Cancer

So many have been touched by Breast Cancer in our Village, from mothers to grandmothers, aunts, cousins and/or daughters. This is our opportunity to come together to stand with victims and families that have been impacted by this dreaded disease. " ~ T. Bray, Walk Coordinator

This is the 2nd year that the Village will rally together to support this worthwhile cause.

All families are invited to participate, as we do our part to fight Breast Cancer. Let's see which campus will have the most participants in attendance! Register your family today to participate in the walk and/or purchase a t-shirt. Please register today!

Support our Cause

Unable to attend? You can still join the fight by donating to the American Cancer Society. Visit our [team website](#) to make a donation.





Walk Your Scholar to PAC Day

What: Male role models are invited to walk a scholar to PAC Academy

When: Thursday, Oct. 19th

Where: PAC Academy

Time: 7:45 AM – 8:00 AM



Events & Activities

Calling all Dads, Uncles, Big Brothers and Grandfathers! This is an opportunity for the father figures in our scholars' lives to escort them to school. Please stop by the PreK nook (playground on Burnet St.) to meet PAC Academy's Family & Community Engagement Specialist, Ms. Powell, for a quick Grab and Go breakfast treat. All male figures are invited to participate.



Calling all Father Figures

"One of the major goals of 'Father Figures' walk your student to PAC Day is to squash stereotypes that place men simply as providers and to show they can be caregivers and nurturers with positive involvement in a child's life.

Research proves that a positive and active father figure can help make a difference in a child's education and emotional well-being."

-NaTasha Nickerson, PAC Academy Principal



Events & Activities

What: PreK-4 Literacy Fun

When: Thursday, Oct. 26th

Where: MPTCHS
125 Sussex Ave.,
Newark

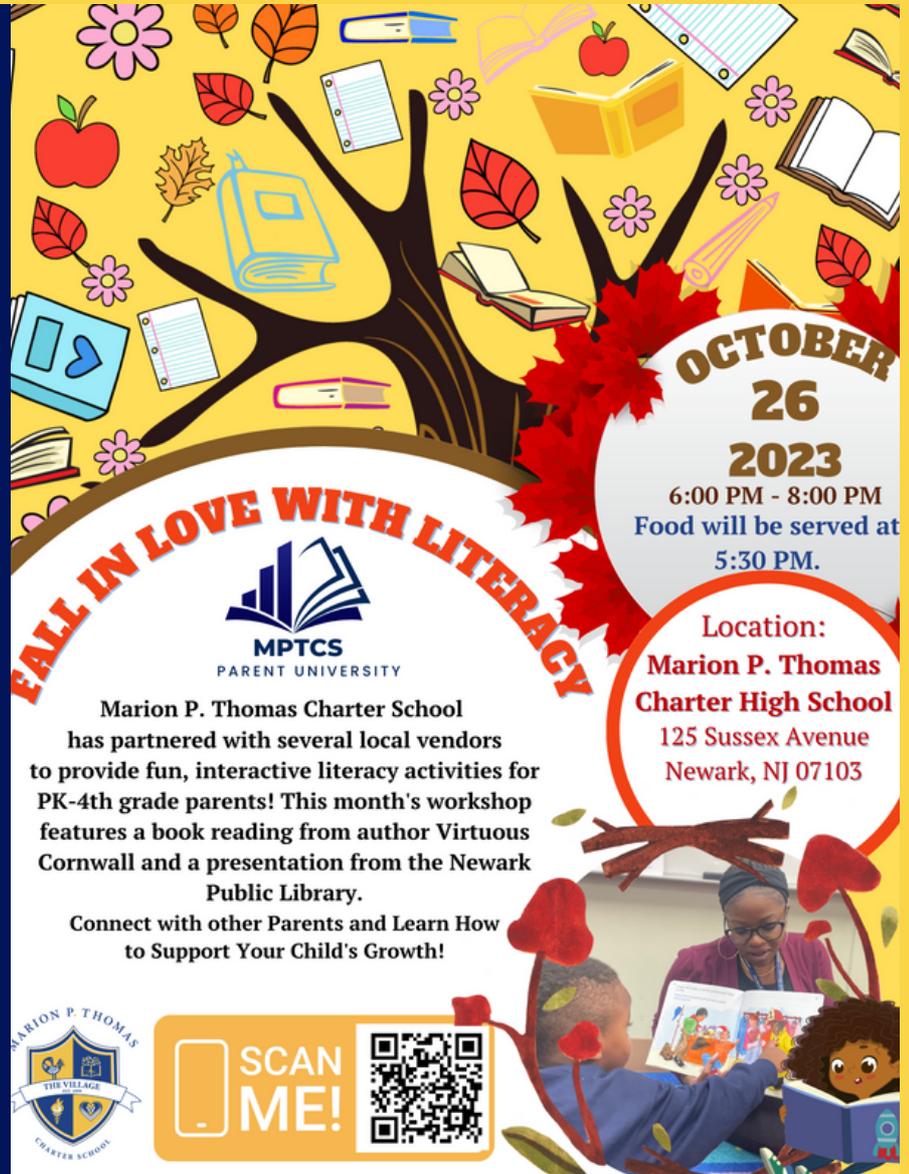
Time: 5:30 PM - Food
served

6:00-8:00 PM -
Program begins

Parents, and scholars in PreK through 4th grade, are invited to an evening of Reading, Books, and Fun!

We'll have a special guest appearance by the author Virtuous Cornwall, interactive activities, book giveaways, and more!

To register for this free event [click here](#)



FALL IN LOVE WITH LITERACY

MPTCS
PARENT UNIVERSITY

Marion P. Thomas Charter School has partnered with several local vendors to provide fun, interactive literacy activities for PK-4th grade parents! This month's workshop features a book reading from author Virtuous Cornwall and a presentation from the Newark Public Library.

Connect with other Parents and Learn How to Support Your Child's Growth!

OCTOBER 26 2023
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Food will be served at 5:30 PM.

Location:
Marion P. Thomas Charter High School
125 Sussex Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103

SCAN ME!



Fun with Reading

We are hosting the Fall in Love with Literacy event for PK - Grade 4 students and families because we believe that literacy is essential for success in school and in life. Reading and writing open up a world of possibilities, and we want to help all children develop a love of learning. This event will offer a fun and engaging way to promote literacy among young children and parents. There will be a variety of activities for children including:

- Storytime with author Virtuous Cornwall and book giveaways
- Presentation from Newark Public Library and Excite Reading
- Culturally-Relevant books for purchase from Source of Knowledge bookstore
- Hands-on literacy activities
- A chance to meet other families who are passionate about reading

We will also provide families with resources and tips on how to support children's literacy development at home. I look forward to seeing everyone on October 26th.

-Tiffany Wilson, Director of K-8 Humanities



A Year-At-A-Glance

November events

**STEAM Parent & Family Advisory
Council Meeting**

November 1st, 5 PM

Zoom Meeting



Family Skate Night

November 8th, 5-8 PM

Branch Brook Park Skating Rink

Chopped Cooking Competition

November 11th, 10 AM - 1 PM

Marion P. Thomas Charter High School



Chit Chat with STEAM Principal

November 14, 9:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

Facetime with FACE | PAC

November 16th, 5:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting



A Year-At-A-Glance

November & December events

Parent Teacher Conferences

November 16th, 1:30-7:00 PM

All Schools



Preschool Parent Series

November 17th, 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

Community STEAM Night

November 20th, 5:30-7:30 PM

Marion P. Thomas Charter High School



Facetime with FACE | PAC

November 21, 5:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting

Early Childhood Advisory Council
Meeting (PreK - 3rd grade parents)

December 4 - 5:00 PM

STEAM Academy



A Year-At-A-Glance

December & January events

**STEAM Parent & Family Advisory
Council Meeting**
December 6 - 5:00 PM
STEAM Academy



Parent Paint & Sip
December 14, 9:00 AM
Marion P. Thomas Charter High School

Chit Chat with STEAM Principal
January 16, 9:00 AM
Zoom Meeting



Preschool Parent Series
January 18th

Family Game Night
January 25, 6:00 PM
STEAM Academy



A Year-At-A-Glance

March & April events

Ladies Brunch
March 8th - 10:00 AM
STEAM Academy



Chit Chat with STEAM Principal
March 19th , 9:00 AM
Zoom Meeting

Preschool Parent Series
March 21st



STEAM Parent & Family Advisory
Council Meeting
April 9th, 5:00 PM
STEAM Academy

Chit Chat with STEAM Principal
April 16, 9:00 AM
Zoom Meeting



A Year-At-A-Glance

April & May events



Parent Teacher Conferences
April 25th, 1:30 - 7:00 PM
All Schools

Preschool Parent Series
May 23rd



Events are subject to change. Updates will be listed monthly.

Have an idea for a parent event or activity?
Please contact us with your ideas and suggestions:

Email:
mgriffin@mptcs.org

Phone:
(973) 621-0060, ext. 1010

Text:
(973) 847-4716