

November 2023



**MPTCS**  
PARENT UNIVERSITY



# Partnership Advocacy Resources Engagement Network Training Support

Marquise Martin accompanies his young cousin, Pre-K scholar Teigan, to school for *Father Figures Walk Your Scholar to PAC Academy Day*.



**Marion P. Thomas**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

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**MPTCS**  
PARENT UNIVERSITY

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**Lawana Powell**  
**PAC Academy**  
**Family & Community**  
**Engagement Specialist**



Greetings Families,

Can you believe it is almost November? The holiday season is rapidly approaching and this is the perfect time to share quality moments with your families. What better way to do this than to take advantage of the valuable workshops and events that are taking place here at the Village? In November, parents of PreK to 4th-grade students can join us for our Fall in Love with Literacy event on Wednesday, Nov. 1st. I promise you it will be LIT! On Wednesday, Nov. 8th, the entire family is invited to bounce, rock, roll, and skate with us at Family Skate Night, and back by popular demand we are hosting Community STEM Night on Monday, Nov. 20th. Make every effort to join us for this exciting evening of science, math, food, and fun!

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the parents who joined us for our October events. It was so great to walk alongside you at the Making Strides Against Cancer Breast Cancer Walk; our entire Village was thrilled to see all the men during our Father Figures Walk Your Scholar to PAC Day, and we were elated to see so many of you at our Parent Math Series event held at STEAM. While space does not allow me to list all our October events, if you joined us for an event or virtual meeting, we are extremely grateful! Our aim is to get all of our families to Platinum Status. Every event you attend makes your status go up and the more rewards you'll obtain. Two of our parents won \$250 gift cards for participating in our September and October events, the next time it could be YOU!

We look forward to bringing you more informative workshops and fun events to keep you and your family engaged.

Regards,

*Lawana Powell*



Join our Village!  
**MPTCS.ORG**  
Teach ~ Work ~ Enroll

**Why we  
do what  
we do...**

## **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 works 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 MPU is to increase parent involvement in our schools and empower parents to raise children who are successful in school, and in life.

# YOUR PARTICIPATION, YOUR REWARDS

We want to recognize your commitment to your child's educational journey and honor your dedication with exciting incentives. Every parent event you attend qualifies you to receive an array of prizes and recognition.



## Platinum Level

10 events or more

- Achievement plaque
- Recognition at our Village Awards Ceremony
- MPTCS Swag Bag (including T-shirt)
- Entry into monthly raffle prize drawings
- Entry into year-end GRAND PRIZE raffle drawing



## Gold Level

7-9 events

- Certificate of Achievement
- Recognition at our Village Awards Ceremony
- MPTCS Swag Bag (including T-shirt)
- Entry into monthly raffle prize drawings



## Silver Level

5-6 events

- Certificate of Achievement
- MPTCS T-shirt
- Entry into monthly raffle prize drawings



## Bronze Level

3-4 events

- Certificate of Achievement
- Entry into monthly raffle prize drawings

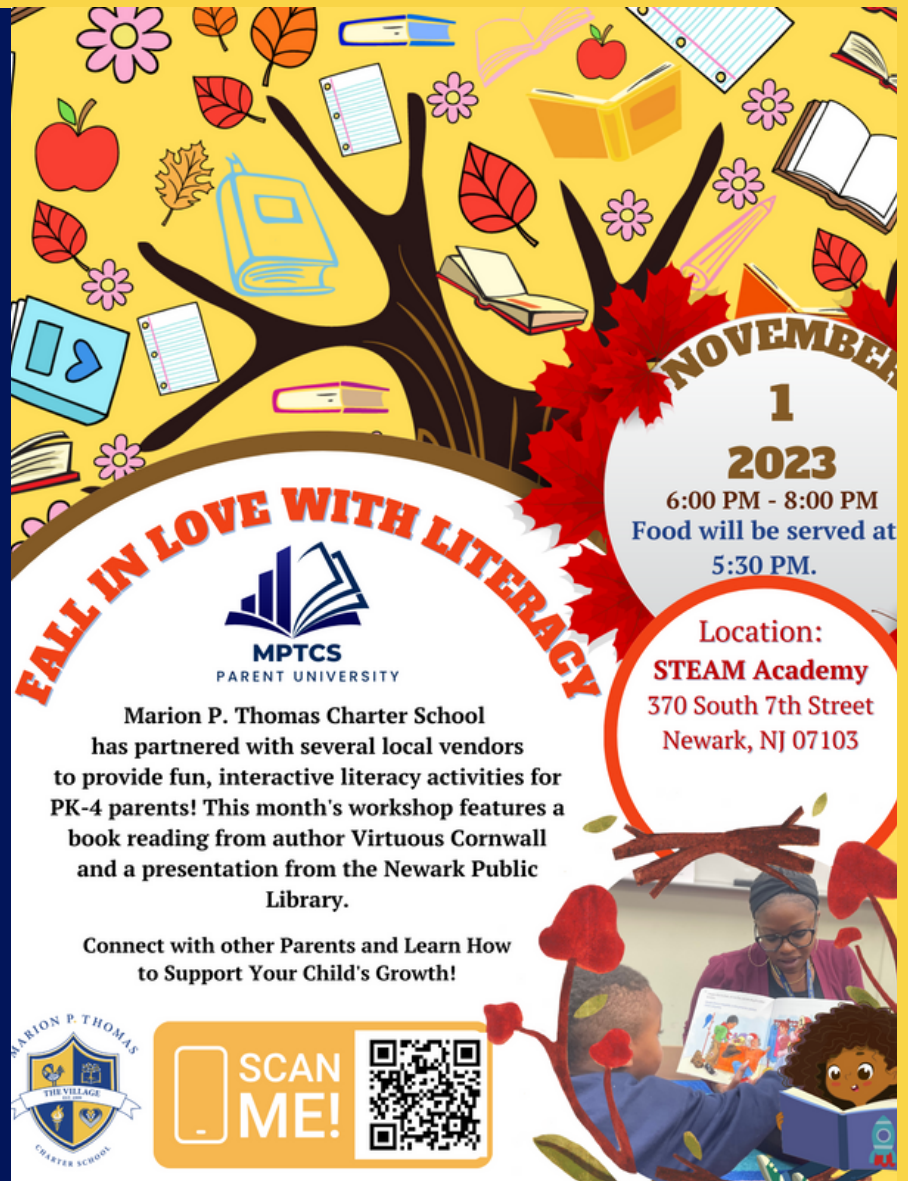
# Special Events & Activities

**What:** PreK-4 Literacy Fun  
**When:** Wednesday, Nov. 1st  
**Where:** STEAM Academy  
370 S. 7th St., Newark  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
*Food Served*  
6:00 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-4 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!

**NOVEMBER 1 2023**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Food will be served at 5:30 PM.

Location:  
**STEAM Academy**  
370 South 7th Street  
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 November 1st.

-Tiffany Wilson, Director of K-8 Humanities

# Special Events & Activities

**What:** Family Skate Night  
**When:** Wednesday, Nov. 8th  
**Where:** Branch Brook Park Skating Rink  
**Time:** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Bounce, rock, skate, roll! Parents, bring your family for a night of fun at our 1st Family Skate Night.

For the reasonable cost of \$10, up to five family members will receive skate rentals, pizza, and a drink.

Use the QR code or [click here](#) to pay via credit or debit card, or see your Family & Community Engagement Specialist to pay via cash.

**HURRY, space is limited.**

## FAMILY SKATE NIGHT



Ready to roll into a long weekend? Lace up your skates and join us for a night of family, food and fun at our 1st Family Skate Night!

**WEDNESDAY  
NOV. 8, 2023**

BRANCH BROOK PARK  
SKATING RINK

From  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**\$10  
PER FAMILY**  
(MAXIMUM OF 5 FAMILY  
MEMBERS PER FEE)



To purchase tickets please contact your Family & Community Engagement Specialist or scan the QR code to pay via credit card. Admission includes skate rentals, 2 slices of pizza, and one drink. **NOTE: Parents must accompany their children. This event is intended for MPTCS parents, students, staff, and their families.**

“

My team and I are looking forward to spending time with families for a fun event. As we build a positive climate and culture at our schools, it is important that we get to know each other and cultivate community. Looking forward to seeing you at the rink!

-Anthony Williams,  
Managing Director of Climate, Culture & Safety



# Special Events & Activities



**MPTCS PARENT UNIVERSITY**

Please Join us for

**Community STEM Night**

Hosted by

**Liberty Science Center & Frasier Math Solutions**

**November 20, 2023**  
**5:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

**MPTCS High School**  
**125 Sussex Ave**  
**Newark, NJ**

**What: Community STEM Night**  
**When: Monday, Nov. 20th**  
**Where: MPTCHS**  
**125 Sussex Ave.**  
**Time: 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM**

Back by popular demand, Community STEM Night returns to the Village.

All scholars, PreK to 12th grade, and their parents are invited to join us for an evening of science, technology, engineering, and math!

Our education partners, Liberty Science Center, and Frasier Math Solutions will be on-site to conduct interactive workshops and activities.

Please [click here](#) to register for this FREE event.



SCAN ME

Learn what's fun in STEM  
See demonstrations & experiments  
Participate in hands-on activities  
Light dinner will be served  
All Grades PreK-12 are invited



**What: STEAM Parent & Family Advisory Council Meeting**

**When: Wednesday, Nov. 1st**

**Where: [ZOOM link](#)**

**Time: 5:00 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](#).



## Workshops, Meetings & School Events

**Early Childhood Advisory Council**  
**Interest Meeting**



**For PAC & STEAM**  
**November 2, 2023 5:00 pm via Zoom**  
**Meeting ID 889 8360 5098 Password: ECAC**



**PreK-3rd Grade**

**Teachers & Community Partners**

**and YOU!!!!**

**What: PAC & STEAM Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting**

**When: Thursday, Nov. 2nd**

**Where: [ZOOM link](#)**

**Time: 5:00 PM**

Parents of PreK to 3rd grade scholars are invited to join us for an Early Childhood Advisory Council meeting. Learn more about our Early Childhood Education program and how you can become an advocate for our school and scholars.

As a parent, your voice matters. Please consider becoming a part of ECAC.



**What: Chit Chat with STEAM Administrators**

**When: Wednesday, Nov. 8th**

**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 & School Events

### Family Community Engagement



**What: FACE time with PAC Academy's FACE Specialist**

**When: Monday, Nov. 13th**

**Where: Via Zoom**

**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](#).





**What: Preschool Parent Series**

**When: Friday, Nov. 17th**

**Where: [Zoom Link](#)**

**Time: 5:00 PM**

Join us for our 2nd workshop focusing on social-emotional learning (SEL). During the session, we'll provide Insights on how we incorporate SEL into our curriculum and the positive impact it has on your child's growth. Our preschool leaders will also discuss ways you can reinforce these concepts in your child's daily life.



## Workshops, Meetings & School Events



**What: Parents/Guardians Walk Your Scholar to STEAM Day**

**When: Tuesday, Nov. 21st**

**Where: STEAM Academy**

**Time: 7:45 AM - 8:00 AM**

Calling moms, dads, uncles, aunts, grandparents, cousins! This is an opportunity for family members to celebrate their scholar by escorting them to school. After you walk your scholar to school, please join us for a quick morning treat with the STEAM leadership team.



**What:** Principal's Corner  
**When:** Tuesday, Nov. 28th  
**Where:** [ZOOM link](#)  
**Time:** 5:00 PM

To foster open communication and collaboration between families and school leadership, PAC's Principal, NaTasha Nickerson, is excited to invite parents to join her for the Principal's Corner.

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



**NaTasha  
Nickerson**  
PAC Principal

## Workshops, Meetings & School Events



Happy  
Thanksgiving

**Wishing all our families a Happy Thanksgiving! In celebration of this holiday, students will have a half day on Wednesday, Nov. 22nd and all schools will be closed on Thursday & Friday, Nov. 23rd & 24th. Enjoy your time off with family and friends. School will resume on Monday, Nov. 27th.**



# Thanksgiving

Community Basket Giveaway  
Registration deadline Nov. 10th

November  
20th

## Donations & Volunteers needed

- Turkey/Chicken
- Stuffing
- Gravy mix
- Cake mix w/icing
- Cornbread mix
- Canned string beans, collards, yams, and cranberry sauce

For more info call  
973-622-4547 - Dcns. Alycia



## *Thanksgiving*

### **Free Community Dinner**

JOIN US FOR A FREE  
THANKSGIVING DINNER

### **Thanksgiving Day**

**November 23rd, 11am - 1pm**

THE NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH  
106 SUSSEX AVE, NEWARK, NJ  
07102

# Invite Someone To Join Our Village!

## ATTENTION FAMILIES!

Do you know someone  
who may be interested?

GRADES  
PREK - 9TH!

**Apply Today!**

[www.newarkcommonapp.org](http://www.newarkcommonapp.org)

**We have limited seats available!**



## Get In Touch!

- ✉ [measter@mptcs.org](mailto:measter@mptcs.org)
- ☎ 973-621-0060 ext 2002
- 📍 125 Sussex Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07104

*We have limited seats available!*



***Michele Griffin***  
***Parent University***  
***Managing Director***

**Have an idea for a parent event or activity? Want to share feedback regarding a program or initiative? Please contact us with your ideas, suggestions, and opinions.**

**PHONE**

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**MAIL**

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**WEBSITE**

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**ADDRESS**

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