

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fall 2022

Community CONNECTIONS

District News • Community Ed Offerings • and more!



OUR MISSION

Columbia Heights Public Schools
Creating worlds of opportunity for each and every learner
"All Belong, All Succeed"

Table of Contents

Publication Information.....	2	Child Care Adventure Club & Mini Adventures	12
Welcome to Columbia Heights Public Schools.....	3	Early Childhood Super Saturdays	12
Adult Enrichment.....	4	Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)	13
Adult Basic Education	6	ECFE for Multilingual Learners	13
Blooming Heights Edible Schoolyard & Outdoor Classroom.....	7	Early Childhood Drop-In Classes.....	14
Local #710 Teacher of the Year	7	EC Parent Seminars.....	14
CHPS 2022 Employee of the Year	7	Early Childhood Screening.....	14
Driver's Education.....	8	Early Childhood Advisory Council.....	15
Alumni of Distinction.....	8	School Census	15
Spring Activities Recap.....	9	One-to-One Visits.....	15
Locals Donate Over \$272,000 in Scholarships	10	PreK 3 and PreK 4.....	15
ENCORE.....	10	Registration Information	15
Spotlight Awards for Matilda	11	Find Us Online.....	16
Find and Follow Us Online	11	Your Future is BRIGHT in CHPS!	16

Community Connections is an official publication of Columbia Heights Public Schools written, edited and produced by the Communications Department.

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If you would like to join the Advisory Council or have any questions, contact Kristen Stuenkel at 763.528.4515.

Community Education Department

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The Community Education Office will be closed: Sept. 5, Oct. 21, Nov. 24-25, Dec. 24-25, Dec. 30

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Columbia Heights Public Schools At A Glance

At Columbia Heights Public Schools (CHPS), we pride ourselves on offering the best of both worlds - the close-knit sense of a small-town community along with all of the advantages that come with being a part of a major metropolitan area. We are a small, diverse district, with five schools, an early learning center, and approximately 3,400 PreK- Grade 12 learners.

Our District is large enough to offer a variety of unique educational and enrichment opportunities, yet small enough for administrators, staff, parents and students to know each other and share a sense of community. Above all, we are committed to providing outstanding academic, arts, athletic and service learning opportunities, so that all learners can develop to their full potential. We truly provide “Worlds of Opportunity for Each and Every Learner” where “All Belong, All Succeed.”

Points of Pride

- 65% of residents with an opinion gave CHPS a grade of A or B for the quality of our schools, compared to 49% in December 2019.
- 79% of residents believe our local schools are a critical part of our community and would support a property tax increase to keep them strong.
- 74% of residents trust the school district to do what’s best for students.
- 62% of residents are proud of the Columbia Heights Public Schools and would recommend them to others.

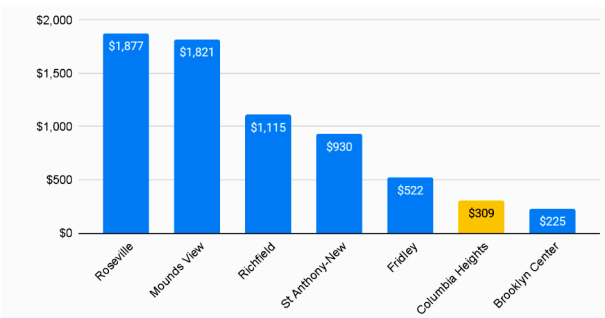
Planning for Our Students’ Future

We have a Strategic Plan to increase students’ academic achievement and career/college readiness, and effectively manage our human, financial and physical resources on behalf of our students, staff and community members. We are fortunate to have incredible staff, families and community members that support us as we do our best for each and every Columbia Heights Public Schools student.

Finance Facts

- The school district’s operating levy is nearly \$1,100 per student below the metro average, giving us less funding to support our students in their classrooms.
- For nearly two decades, state education funding has not kept pace with inflation. If it had, Columbia Heights Public Schools would receive nearly \$3 million more next year alone.
- We covered nearly \$4 million of our special education expenses this year from our general operating budget - expenses that are supposed to be covered by the state and federal governments. That’s \$4 million that can’t be used to cover other important needs for our students and our staff.
- Based on these and other financial pressures, we have cut more than \$6.5 million from our operating budget since 2015.

Voter-Approved Operating Levies, Per-Student (2022-2023)



Our school district has one of the lowest voter-approved operating levies of neighboring and comparable school districts, giving the district less funding for student & classroom needs.



Some classes are in-person and some are online. If you'd like to attend an online class, but are not able to use a computer, contact us and we will try to accommodate you with a private or class atmosphere with the online instructor. For full class descriptions and instructor bios, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/CommunityEd.

For virtual classes, Zoom links will be sent to all registered participants one week and again one day before the class takes place. Participants must register – even for FREE classes – to ensure the instructor can prepare appropriately and minimum enrollment is met.

SENIOR

Walk Through the MN History Center

Saturday	Sept. 17	9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	\$30	MN History Center 345 W. Kellogg Blvd St. Paul, MN 55102
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Identity Theft and Financial Scams

Wednesday	Sept. 21	6-7:30 p.m.	FREE	FC Room 111
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Understanding Elder Abuse

Friday	Sept. 30	6-7:30 p.m.	FREE	FC Room 111
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Defensive Driving | 8-hour Class

Tuesday	Nov. 15 & 22	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	\$30	Virtual via Zoom
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Defensive Driving Refresher

Tuesday	Dec. 6	5:30-9:30 p.m.	\$30	Virtual via Zoom
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Understanding and Responding to Dementia Related Behavior

Monday	Dec. 12	6:30-7:30 p.m.	FREE	Virtual via Zoom
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Bell Museum Visit and Planetarium with Olive Garden Lunch

Our trip will begin with a delicious Italian lunch and great fellowship at the Olive Garden in Roseville. We will select from three tasty lunch options including: Fettucine Alfredo, Spaghetti and Meatballs or a Vegetarian option of Eggplant Parmesan. After our lunch, we will take a short bus ride to the new Bell Museum, located on the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus in Saint Paul. Explore the origins of the universe, the diversity of life on earth, and take a walk through the State of Minnesota, featuring our world famous wildlife dioramas. We will have time to explore the museum and enjoy a Planetarium performance. We will meet at the CHPS District Center at 10:45 a.m. Register by: Thursday, October 27 (Senior rate already applied) **Price includes meal and museum.**

Wednesday	Nov. 16	10:45 a.m.-4:50 p.m.	\$79	Meet at CHPS District Center
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WELLNESS

Yoga

Come explore the ancient exercise system that strengthens the body while calming and focusing the mind.

Tuesdays	Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27	5:30-6:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Tuesdays	Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25	5:30-6:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Tuesdays	Nov. 1, 15, 22, 29	5:30-6:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Tuesdays	Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27	5:30-6:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Wednesdays	Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28	4:30-5:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Wednesdays	Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26	4:30-5:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113
Wednesdays	Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	4:30-5:30 p.m.	\$45 (5 classes)	FC Room 113
Wednesdays	Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28	4:30-5:30 p.m.	\$36 (4 classes)	FC Room 113

*For Yoga: Drop in to any of these dates.
\$10 per class. Register separately.*



Reducing Stress and Anxiety Naturally

Is stress and anxiety high in your life creating burnout? Come to this class to learn simple tools to provide relief for yourself and your loved ones. There will be a presentation, discussion and time for reflection.

Tuesdays	Sept. 20 & Oct. 18	6:30-7:45 p.m.	\$12	FC Room 111
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Registration includes extensive recipe handout and link to class recording so you can re-watch at your convenience.

Air Fryer Advanced

Join Kirsten live online from her home kitchen as she demonstrates a variety of advanced air fryer cooking methods. Recipes include “Everything Bagel” Rolls with Holes, Sweet Potato Hash, Wild Rice & Kale-stuffed Chicken Thighs and Mini Pumpkin Pies.

Tuesday Sept. 13 & 20 6:30-8 p.m. \$40 (2 classes) Virtual via Zoom

Festive Appetizers From Your Air Fryer/Instant Pot

Join Kirsten live online from her home kitchen as she demonstrates Instant Pot Hot Crab & Shrimp Dip, Buffalo Cauliflower, Goat Cheese & Garlic Crostini, Jalapeño Rarebit Poppers and more.

Tuesday Oct. 18 6:30-8 p.m. \$22 (1 class) Virtual via Zoom

CopyCat Meals From Your Instant Pot

Join Kirsten live online from her home kitchen as she demonstrates Wisconsin Cheddar Fondue like The Melting Pot, Pasta e Fagioli like Olive Garden, Traditional Wings like Buffalo Wild Wings, Pumpkin Cheesecake like The Cheesecake Factory and more.

Tuesday Nov. 15 6:30-8 p.m. \$22 (1 class) Virtual via Zoom

Pantry Meals - When You Don't Feel Like Take-Out

Join Kirsten live online from her home kitchen as she demonstrates a variety of meals using cupboard, freezer, and/or other long-storing ingredients. Recipes include Olive Garden Shrimp Scampi, Curried Chickpea Salad Sandwiches, Thai Pumpkin Soup and more.

Tuesday Nov. 29 6:30-8 p.m. \$22 (1 class) Virtual via Zoom

Holiday Bake and Take Cookies

Get all your holiday baking finished in just one 4-hour class and take home a dozen each of 8 varieties of cookies - a perfect fit for your busy lifestyle. You'll be supplied with everything you need to make and decorate your holiday cookies. You will also have a chance for some sweet sampling! You'll take home 8 varieties of cookies! Grab your apron as participation is required and bring enough containers to hold 8 dozen cookies (hairnets and gloves will be provided). Please arrive on time and stay the full 4 hours. Children under 16 are not allowed. All supply costs included in tuition. Class meets in the high school cafeteria for a brief meeting before entering the kitchen. Limit 20.

Saturday Dec. 3 9 a.m.-1 p.m. \$36 (1 class) CHHS Cafeteria Kitchen

Birdwatching in Heights

Birdwatching is something anyone can do, and it can provide a great connection to the outdoors. Let's learn some of the basic elements of bird identification such as how to use shape, size and other cues. Handouts and resources to help you learn will be provided. We'll meet for a classroom session at the library, then for the second class, we will meet at a park in Heights to do some birdwatching and apply our new skills. Beginners welcome and encouraged.

Monday Sept. 26 5:30-7 p.m. FREE CH Library Community Room
Wednesday Sept. 28 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE Sullivan Park

Tasting Blooming Heights

Edible Schoolyard is located behind the CHPS District Center, between the High School and the Family Center. Registration is required.

Thursday Sept. 29 6-7 p.m. \$2 each or \$5 per family Blooming Heights

Haunted Anoka (The Halloween Capital of the World)

Through a Power Point, your guide will take you on a virtual trip through forgotten Anoka to hear the stories of the people who once lived there and, according to some, are still hanging around. During this hour-long presentation, she will tell you of long ago Anoka—of the Jackson Hotel, now Billy's, the old Post Office, Colonial Hall, the Masonic Lodge, and some infamous residences, all haunted, of course.

Monday Oct. 24 7-8 p.m. \$12 (1 session) Virtual via Zoom

How To Publish Your Book Without Going Broke

So, you've written a book. Now what? Whether you've written the great American novel and want to share it with the world; or your memoirs to pass on to family and friends - this class is for you. In the first session you will learn how to prepare your manuscript for publishing; the business of selling your books; and some tips on marketing and promotion. The second session will be a hands-on learning experience of preparing your manuscript and cover in Microsoft Word, setting up a Kindle Direct Publishing account, uploading your files and publishing your book on Amazon.

Mondays Nov. 7 & 14 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$40 (2 classes) Virtual via Zoom

Sewing Machine Maintenance

This is not a place for your machine to be fixed but rather you will learn how to open and maintain your machine.

Tuesday Nov. 15 6:30-8 p.m. \$10 (1 class) FC Room 111

“Christmas in Krakow” (Poland)

During our hour-long armchair journey to the Old World, we will partake of the wonders of the medieval Market Square alive with Christmas and Santa Claus, and visit the open-air cloth market filled with wondrous gifts. We'll view a 1,100 year-old church that has sunk up to the 2nd floor, and the Church of the Virgin Mary that was the scene of a deadly competition between two brothers as they vied to build the tallest tower. And no visit to Krakow would be complete without a visit to Wawel Castle where we will encounter the fire-breathing statue of Smok, the Polish dragon, that lived in a cave underneath the castle.

As part of our Christmas adventure, we will join a gala VIP event, attend a New Year's Eve concert, and sample the cuisine in one of Krakow's historic restaurants. And throughout our virtual armchair tour of a Krakow Christmas, we will be exploring some of the history and legends that make up the rich tapestry of Polish culture.

Monday Dec. 12 7-8 p.m. \$12 (1 session) Virtual via Zoom

Touring the MN African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

Get ready for a fun-filled day trip to the Mn History Center! Satisfy your curiosity in their award-winning museum that's all about Minnesota. Learn about Exhibits, music, crafts and lectures. We can take a peek in the library along with other amazing rooms. Bring your own money for shopping and food if desired. We will meet at the Columbia Heights Family Center at 1440 49th Ave NE Columbia Heights MN 55421. The bus will leave the Family Center parking lot at 9:30 a.m. We should arrive at the museum around 10 a.m. The bus will pick up at 1 p.m. and we should arrive back at the family center by 1:30 p.m. Masks are required. REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Sept. 26, 2022 to determine if the minimum number of participants is met. (This trip does not qualify for the senior discount.)

Saturday Oct. 1 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$25 1256 Penn Ave. N Minneapolis, MN

Eureka Recycling

Join us for a popular tour of Eureka Recycling, a nonprofit zero waste organization and social enterprise recycler based in Minneapolis, MN. They are one of only a handful of nonprofit recyclers in the US and have provided recycling services and zero waste education to the Twin Cities metro since 2001. The main focus of the tour will be to see their Materials Recycling Facility and how they separate single sort recycling cart material i.e. plastics, paper, metal, etc. Transportation will be provided with a max of 13 participants. We will meet at the Murzyn Hall parking lot next to City Hall and the van will leave at 12:30, please arrive early so you do not miss the van departure at 12:30.

Thursday Nov. 3 1-4 p.m. FREE 2828 Kennedy St. NE Minneapolis, MN

TEACH A CLASS ★

Do you have knowledge, ideas or passions you'd like to share with others? Consider teaching a Community Education class! For more information, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/AdultEnrichment or contact Adult Enrichment/Senior Program Manager Melissa King at 763.528.4591 or KingM@colheights.k12.mn.us.

Metro North Adult Basic Education

Reading, Writing, Math, GED Preparation

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 6-8 p.m.

English as a Second (or other) Language (ESL) | Levels 1-3

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 6-8:30 p.m.

Advanced ESL

Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 6-8:30 p.m.



Adult Education Center — Columbia Heights/Fridley
4111 Central Ave. NE, Suite 100
Columbia Heights, MN

How to Register

To register for classes, call 763.706.3833 or complete the online interest form available at metronorthabe.org and someone will contact you.

Class times may vary.

Classes are ONLINE!

Columbia Heights Public Schools is one of Minnesota's only school districts with an outdoor classroom and living laboratory used by educators and students. Blooming Heights is a great place to learn hands-on gardening skills, and to use math, science, literacy, art and nutrition.

Learn more at colheights.k12.mn.us/BloomingHeights.

Local #710 Teacher of the Year | Anne Knutson

The Local #710 Teacher of the Year Committee is proud to announce this year's teacher of the year, Anne Knutson. Anne teaches Physical Education and Health at Columbia Heights High School and has been teaching for 14 years.

In her application essay, Anne writes,

"Teaching health and physical education is a huge privilege and responsibility. I teach with the long game in mind, a legacy philosophy. I teach directly to those within the four walls of my classroom and if done right they will not only carry it with them for a lifetime but will also pass it on to others. My classroom holds the future and together we learn we can change the world."

CHPS held a faculty celebration for Anne in May to recognize her award of Teacher of the Year and representatives of the Local #710 were there to present her with her plaque.



2022 CHPS Employee of the Year | Angela Jacobson

Columbia Heights High School's Psychologist Angela Jacobson has been named the 2022 Employee of the Year. Jacobson is the thirteenth recipient of the award.

"We are very fortunate to have Angela Jacobson on staff at CHHS," said CHHS Principal Todd Wynne. "Her approach to students, staff and community is very thoughtful, kind and responsive. She is a hard worker who truly serves others. Angela has a great sense of humor and sees the positive in all. Jacobson is very humble and goes way above and beyond to support Heights."

In her role as the CHHS School Psychologist, Jacobson conducts psychological assessments, provides psychological counseling, provides mental health strategies, evaluates the effectiveness of academic and behavioral management programs being used, is a resource to students, staff and families and so much more. She has been with CHPS since 2011 and has helped numerous students find success in their time at CHHS.



"Angela is loved by students and staff alike, and is a model employee at Heights. In a moment when we needed mental health support more than ever, Angela has not shied from the challenge," said a nominator. "Instead, she has risen up to support all of us."

"Ms. Jacobson is one of the most dedicated people I have ever met," stated CHHS 2022 Graduate Amara Thompson. "She puts her whole heart into what she does whether it's talking with students, improving school support, or just being the kind person that she is. Being able to work with her in Change to Chill and having her support has made this year so much easier and better."

Driver's Education

Students will receive a total of 30 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel instruction. The classroom portion consists of ten, three-hour classes and the behind-the-wheel portion is three, two-hour private lessons. Pre-registration is required with a \$205 down payment payable to CH Community Education. Classes offered through Safeway Driving School. The additional \$170 is payable to the instructor. For more information, contact Safeway at 651.351.9150 or visit safewaydrivingschool.com.

Parents/guardians will be required to complete Safeway's Account Verification. Safeway will send out an email before class begins that gives detailed information about how to login to the student's Safeway account to verify and complete contact information and to review and acknowledge our Service Agreement.



Sessions take place at CHHS in room 115

Session 1

Monday-Thursday Sept. 12-27 3:15-6:15 p.m.

Session 2

Monday-Thursday Nov. 28-Dec. 13 3:15-6:15 p.m.

The following **MUST** be provided during registration:

- Student full legal name (first, middle and last)
- Home address
- Parent email addresses
- Student date of birth
- Student email address
- Parent phone numbers

Alumni of Distinction | Jim Scalise

As a student at Columbia Heights High School, Jim was a member of the wrestling and football teams. Jim made many friends at school, a majority of whom remain some of his closest friends today. When Jim reflects on his time in school, his fondest memories are with these friends who played a major role in his life and have had a significant impact on shaping who he is today. After graduating from Columbia Heights High School with the Class of 1973, Jim and his brother Peter started Diamond Fencing based out of Columbia Heights. Jim and Peter worked successfully in the fencing industry for several years.



Upon exiting the fencing industry, Jim was introduced to the printing industry by one of his CHHS classmates, Wayne Kwatera. Jim began in the industry in the print shop, working his way up to pressmen, and then into a sales position with a printing company called KolorPress. After several years working for print companies, Jim pursued an opportunity to join the founding team at a startup printing company called Synergy Graphics. Jim helped successfully build Synergy Graphics, before moving to Daily Print where he recently retired from his printing career.

In addition to a thriving career in printing, Jim also led the Italian American Club Foundation (IACF) as its President for 35 years. The Italian American Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating Italian American heritage and supporting educational causes. Jim's involvement in the Italian American Club has given him an opportunity to celebrate his roots, and has also had a significant, positive impact on his life. In his spare time, Jim enjoys spending time with his family. Jim married his high school sweetheart, Barb Meyer, who graduated with the Class of 1974 from CHHS. Jim and Barb share two daughters, Amy and Maggie, and five grandchildren. When Jim isn't busy playing with his grandkids or attending their hockey, football, baseball or soccer games, he spends time with his lifelong friends from Columbia Heights.

Jim believes a lot of his biggest successes have come from working hard, seizing opportunities and never giving up.

ENROLL NOW in Columbia Heights Public Schools
¡INSCRIBETE AHORA en las Escuelas Públicas de Columbia Heights!

Columbia Heights Public Schools is a small, diverse school district providing students with the skills, knowledge, tools and support they need to excel both in and out of the classroom. We are committed to providing outstanding educational opportunities, so all learners can develop to their full potential.

Become a Hylander today!

ENROLL NOW >



colheights.k12.mn.us | 763.528.4426



Activities & Athletics Recap



Follow along with Hylander
Activities and Athletics
@hylanderactivities on
Instagram

Spring Highlights Provided by the CHPS Activities Department

April

CHHS Concert Band received an Excellent rating at the MSHSL Band Large Group Contest

Adriana Cardoso Hilguera is named CHPS's 2022 Athena Award Winner

Coach Braziel, Coach Jenkins, Terrence Brown, Muja Burton and Donnavin Hinz were selected for the MSHSL All-Star Basketball Series

Amara Thompson 3rd place finish in Creative Expression at the AA State Speech Tournament

CHHS received the 1st Team Safe Sports School Award from NATA (National Athletic Trainers' Association)

May

The following CHHS Visual Arts students on their accomplishments in the 2022 MSHSL Visual Arts Section 5AA Competition:

- Superior Rating to: Gina Llapa Chunchi, Bella Skaja, Thanhtruc Mai, Nelson Soriano Cortes and Ava Gregorich
- Excellent Rating to: Simon Graves and Hannah Severson

CHHS Envirothon Team on their 4th place finish at the Metro Area Envirothon

CHPS Hosts their 2022 Expressions Showcase at Silverwood Park

Zach Severson is names CHPS's 2022 Oscar Eng Award Winner

Heights Herald- Gold Medallion awards from the MN High School Press Association:

- Jasmin Dominguez - 1st Place in Newspaper/Newsmagazine/Online Editorial Cartoon
- Lidya Kennedy - 2nd Place in Newspaper/Newsmagazine/Online Editorial Cartoon
- Nesma Abu Ammo - 2nd Place in Photojournalism/News Photo
- Alex Druley, Lidya Kennedy, Haley Vogel, Adrian Hemmick and Mae Skaja - 5th Place in Photojournalism/News Photo
- Renee DeMars Dehn - 1st Place in Social Media/Promotion

CHHS's Synchronized Swimming Team hosts their 2022 "Synchro Night Live" Show

CHHS Theater receives Spotlight Awards (see page 11)

CHPS celebrates senior athletes who are continuing their athletic careers:

- Chase Oates, Ben Olson and Jonathon Hackett, who will be attending Southwestern Community College for Track & Field
- Andrew Scoggins, who will be attending Southwestern Community College for Basketball
- Donnavin Hinz, who will be attending North Dakota State College of Science for Basketball
- Spencer Alvarez, who will be attending University of Minnesota for Football

CHHS Synchronized Swimming Team makes it to the MSHSL State Tournament

June

CHHS Track and Field Team members make it to the MSHSL State Tournament

- Aaliyah Dumoulin- High Jump
- Danchau Le- Long Jump
- Ben Olson - High Jump and Long Jump
- Boys 4x800 Relay Team of Kaleb Lewis, Jonathan Hackett, Chase Oates, Linus Lee, Griffin Hogg and Ben Olson

The cast of Matilda performed at the Spotlight Showcase at the State Theatre

Ben Olson- 2nd at State Track Meet in Long Jump, 9th in High Jump



Locals Donate Over \$272,000 in Scholarships to High School Seniors

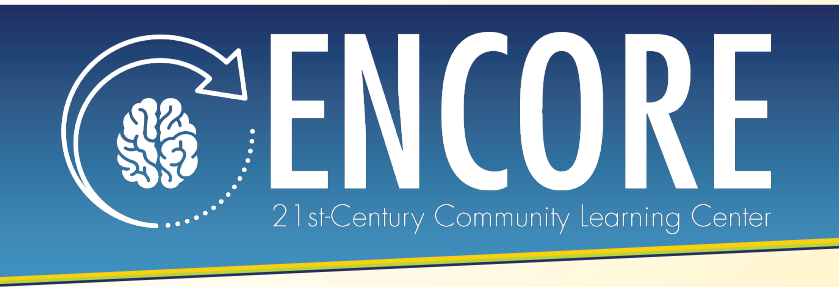
Community members, along with local donors – representing foundations, businesses, memorials, individuals and others – donated over \$272,000 in scholarships to 58 Columbia Heights High School (CHHS) seniors at the school's Academic Awards Ceremony in May.

A total of 18 students were recognized as Honor Ranking Graduates.

Seniors Brook Desta, Yasmin Morad, Faduma Omar, Godwin Kasongoma and Paul Calderon were awarded scholarships from Wallin Education Partners. Wallin Education Partners is more than a scholarship, it is a proven college-completion program for high-potential students with financial needs. The organization has been awarding scholarships for 30 years and have helped more than 6,000 students attend and graduate college. They partner with 65 donors who share a passion to make college graduation a reality. Students awarded a Wallin scholarship receive up to \$16,000 over four years.

Seniors Drake Pham, Amara Thompson, Donnavin Hinsz, Jessica Perez, Ava Gregorich, Zachary Sirvio, Lulu Mohamed, Jonathon Heveron, Oscar Carpio and Adriana Cordoso Hilguera were involved in CHHS athletics during their time in high school, and received the CH Athletic Boosters Scholarships of \$1000 towards furthering their education at the ceremony.

Another scholarship that benefitted many students was the Columbia Heights-Fridley Rotary Club STRIVE Scholarship. Seniors Oscar Carpio, Ka'Mya Crutchfield, Hamda Hassan, Sofia Hernandez, Hanan Hussein, Jihan Jama, Suleman Mahamud, Anas Mohamed, Yasmin Morad, Quartez Murdo, Princessa Quezada Miranda, Adhel Ring lual, Amath Ring lual, Leslie Villa Salgado and Ajaraye Winkelman were the recipients of this Scholarship. The purpose of the Fridley-Columbia Heights Rotary STRIVE program is to motivate eligible Columbia Heights High School seniors to discover their own strengths and talents so as to increase their personal and academic achievement. Further incentives are offered through scholarships for a college education at Anoka Ramsey Community College, North Hennepin Community College and Hennepin Technical College. STRIVE challenges students to improve their work, gain self-confidence and discover the satisfaction of achievement. This is a scholarship program that recognizes and rewards students in the lower range of class standing who show the greatest improvement in grades in their senior year.



ENCORE offers extended learning opportunities focused on technology, arts, environmental studies, health/fitness and academic support. All class offerings are designed to provide students with the skills they will use to be successful in college and careers.

ENCORE is available to students in grades 1-12 who attend CHPS or live within District boundaries. Columbia Heights Recreation and the Columbia Heights Library are partners in offering ENCORE programming after school, on non-school days and in the summer.

For more information, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/ENCORE.



Columbia Heights High School Theater Department Earns Spotlight Recognition for “Matilda the Musical”

The Columbia Heights High School (CHHS) Theater Department was recognized for their accomplishment in musical theater by Hennepin Theatre Trust as a participant in the Spotlight Education program for their production of Matilda the Musical. As the Trust’s premier education program, Spotlight Education supports and honors Minnesota high school students and programs focused on musical theater. 30 students participated in the schools’ production and earned a total of 15 recognitions. “Outstanding” recognition is the high honor, followed by “Honorable Mention.” With these honors, the cast of Matilda was one of 20 schools who got to participate and perform at the Spotlight Showcase at the State Theatre in downtown Minneapolis in June.

Overall Production | Outstanding
Overall Performance | Honorable Mention
Achievement in Musical Theater | Honorable Mention
Ensemble Performance | Honorable Mention
Acting Performance | Honorable Mention
Vocal Performance | Honorable Mention
Dance Performance | Honorable Mention
Run Crew | Honorable Mention
Light and Sound Crew | Outstanding
Overall Technical Team | Outstanding
Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role | Sophie Kuether as Matilda Wormwood
Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role | Yuli Cordova-Quizphi as Miss Honey
Honorable Mention in a Supporting Role | Catherine Loper as Mrs. Phelps
Outstanding in Technical Leadership | Renee DeMars Dehn Sound Board Operator
Honorable Mention in Technical Leadership | James Vazquez Celis as Light Board Operator

“We are proud of all of the honors our cast and crew have received for our show Matilda,” said CHHS Choir Teacher Nicholas Hollermann, who was the Vocal Director for the production, “The students have invested so much time and energy into making the musical a success and have shown tremendous growth throughout the process.”



Find and Follow Us Online!



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Child Care

Adventure Club | PreK 4-Grade 5

Adventure Club programming facilitates a variety of activities to promote learning beyond the classroom including arts & crafts, guided group time, themed activities, dramatic play, cooking, games, outdoor play, science and more!

Hours, Dates, Locations & Fees

2:20-6 p.m. Regular School Days | 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Non-School Days
Programming is available at Highland, North Park and Valley View Elementary Schools.
Open most school vacations and non-school days.



Program Fees* Per Child	Registration Fee	After School	Non-School Day	Drop-In
	\$25	\$21	\$47	\$24

*Fee assistance may be available through Anoka, Ramsey or Hennepin County Child Care Assistance Programs. Contact your county for details.

Learn More

For more information including fees or to register visit colheights.k12.mn.us/ACregister or call 763.528.4517.

Mini Adventures | 36 Months-5 Years Old

Mini Adventures is a four-star Parent Aware child care program for children 36 months to 5 years old. In Mini Adventures, your child will participate in a variety of activities including mathematics, guided group time, literacy, dramatic play, music, games, outdoor play, arts & crafts, movement and more! Early Childhood Screening is required for all participants. Independent toileting is required for children before participating.



Hours, Dates, Location & Fees

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, year-round at the Family Center.



Weekly Program Fees* Per Child	5 Days	4 Days	3 Days	2 Days	1 Day
	\$302	\$255	\$201	\$142	\$72

*Breakfast, lunch and snack included in weekly fee. We accept County Child Care Assistance and Pathways I scholarships. Pathways II scholarships may be available for those who qualify.

Learn More

For more information, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/Mini or call 763.528.4517.

Enroll your child in PreK 3 or PreK 4 for an essential educational experience!

Early Childhood

For more information about Early Childhood offerings, or to register, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/CommunityEd. ECCE Classes located in the FC.

Multilingual Learners

ECCE for Multilingual Learners with Transportation (Spanish Only) | Birth to 5 years as of Sept. 1

This class is designed to teach child development and basic English to both children and their parents through play and discussion. Families will enjoy learning and playing together through activities and group time with songs and stories. Parents will meet with our parent educator to learn about child development, ask questions, and receive parenting support, while learning basic English. For families with home language of Spanish.

Tuesdays	Sept. 13-May 30	12-2 p.m.
OR		
Thursdays	Sept. 15-June 1	9-11 a.m.

ECCE para estudiantes multilingües con transporte (solo en español) | nacimiento hasta los 5 años a partir del 1 de septiembre

Esta clase está diseñada para enseñar el desarrollo infantil y el inglés básico tanto a los niños como a sus padres a través del juego y la discusión. Las familias disfrutarán aprendiendo y jugando juntas a través de actividades y tiempo en grupo con canciones e historias. Los padres se reunirán con nuestro educador de padres para aprender sobre el desarrollo infantil, hacer preguntas y recibir apoyo para padres, mientras aprenden inglés básico. Para familias cuyo idioma materno es el español.

Martes	13 de septiembre al 30 de mayo	12-2 p.m.
O		
Jueves	15 de septiembre al 1 de junio	9-11 a.m.

\$24 (\$0-18,999)	\$66 (\$19,000-29,999)	\$106 (\$30,000-49,999)	\$148 (\$50,000+)
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Terrific Toddlers, Grow with Me and Play & Learn classes have the same sliding fee scale and are held in the same location (FC Rooms 102-104). Rates are for the entire year and will be prorated based upon start date.

\$24 (\$0-18,999)	\$66 (\$19,000-29,999)	\$106 (\$30,000-49,999)	\$148 (\$50,000+)
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Terrific Toddlers | 12-35 months as of Sept. 1

Toddlers are curious and busy! Spend time with your child, exploring and engaging in activities, songs, and stories in the classroom for part of the morning. Engage in discussion with other parents/caregivers in an educator-led discussion, while your child interacts with peers and fun activities.

Tuesdays Sept. 13-May 30 9-11 a.m.

Play & Learn | Birth to 5 years as of Sept. 1

Play & Learn is a great way to connect with your child(ren) after a long day! Join other families for fun activities and group time, followed by an educator-led discussion for part of the class, while your children enjoy connecting with peers and activities.

Tuesdays Sept. 13-May 30 4-5:30 p.m.

Grow With Me | Birth to 5 years as of Sept. 1

This class is a time to enjoy learning and playing together through activities designed for you and your child(ren). Boost your parenting/caregiving skills through an educator-led discussion for part of the class, while your child(ren) enjoy interacting with their peers.

Wednesdays Sept. 14-May 31 9-11 a.m.

***NEW* Birth to 18 Months (Age based on the start of each session) | *Non-separating Classes - 3 Sessions**

As your young child grows, you encounter milestones and new experiences together! Start your afternoon by connecting with other families, who are experiencing similar joys and challenges of infants and young toddlers. Enjoy engaging activities and group time with your child and an educator-led discussion with other parents/caregivers for part of the class time. FC Rooms 102-104.

Wednesdays Sept. 14-Nov. 30 | Dec. 7-Mar. 1 | Mar. 8-May 31 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$8 (\$0-18,999)	\$22 (\$19,000-29,999)	\$35 (\$30,000-49,999)	\$49 (\$50,000+)
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***NEW* Nature-Based ECCE | 1 to 5 years as of Sept. 1**

Learn about nature and explore different activities outdoors! Enjoy interacting with other families and participating in group time with your child. Parents will separate for part of the class for educator-led discussion about ways to support and engage their child in nature. There will be another session available in the spring of 2023.

Mondays Sept. 12-Nov.21 9-11 a.m.

\$8 (\$0-18,999)	\$22 (\$19,000-29,999)	\$35 (\$30,000-49,999)	\$49 (\$50,000+)
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***NEW* ECCE Short Sessions | 1 to 5 as of Sept. 1 | Study Science**

In these mini sessions, engage in theme-based activities and group time with your child each week and engage in parent discussion on how to create and support your child's learning in the areas of art and science. There will be another session called Create Art, in the spring of 2023.

Mondays Nov. 28-Dec. 19 9-10:30 a.m.

\$4 (\$0-18,999)	\$11 (\$19,000-29,999)	\$18 (\$30,000-49,999)	\$25 (\$50,000+)
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Early Childhood Drop-In Pass

Purchase a Drop-In Pass for the 2022-2023 school year and attend any drop-in class requiring payment at no additional cost.

Drop-In Pass Valid September 2022-May 2023 **Fee:** \$75



Drop-In Classes Located in the CHPS Family Center

Drop-In & Play | Birth to 5 years as of Sept. 1

Looking for something fun to do with your child? Drop in with your child to play and learn in a classroom rich with materials to explore. Enjoy activities including art creations, songs and stories with our Early Childhood staff.

Mon & Thurs Sept. 12-May 25

Not in session: Oct. 20, 31, Nov. 24, Dec. 22, 26, 29

11 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$5 per family collected at door

OR EC Drop-In Pass

Mindful Movement One Day Sessions | Birth to 5 years as of Sept. 1

Enjoy calming movements with your child. Mindful Movement engages the heart, mind, and body through integration of physical yoga, mindfulness activities, and social emotional learning.

Mondays

Jan. 9 & 23, Feb. 6 & 13, March 27

9-10 a.m.

\$5 per family collected at door

OR EC Drop-In Pass

Super Saturdays | 2 to 5 years as of Sept. 1

Join us for Saturday morning fun once per month! Children and families enjoy activities and stories together based on the theme. \$5 per child per session.

Saturdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. Family Center

Sept. 17	Art Creations
Oct. 15	Fall Festival
Nov. 12	Dynamic Dinosaurs
Dec. 10	Winter Wonderland

Early Childhood 
Columbia Heights Public Schools
PreK 3 • ECFE • Early Childhood Screening • Home Visits

Parenting Seminars

Join us for these FREE adult educational opportunities! Gain information and learn about strategies to support children. Share experiences with other parents/caregivers and ask questions of our licensed Parent Educator. Spanish interpreter is available. *Hay intérprete de español disponible.* Limited child care is available, pre-registration required by calling 763.528.4517 the previous Friday by 12pm. For seminar details, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/ECFE.

Mondays 6-7 p.m. Family Center

Sept. 19	Developing Routines in the Home (Focus Age: 10 years and under)
Oct. 17	GOLD Assessment in PreK Families (Focus Age: 3-5 years, for families in PreK 3, PreK 4 and Mini Adventures)
Nov. 21	Developing Productive Discipline (Focus Age: 10 and under)
Dec. 12	Setting Limits and Boundaries: Establishing Success for Children at School/Child Care (Focus Age: 10 and under)

Early Childhood Screening

Promote positive health and developmental outcomes and Kindergarten readiness starting at the age of three (3) years. During screening your child's speech, motor and cognitive skills are reviewed. Your child will have their height, weight, vision and hearing checked. You will participate in a summary interview to review the screening process, social and emotional skills, and discuss any concerns you may have. Screenings last approximately 60 minutes and are held at the Family Center. To schedule an appointment, call 763.528.4517.

Tuesday Sept. 6 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Friday Nov. 4 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Wednesday Sept. 7 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Monday Nov. 7 12:30-7 p.m.
Monday Sept. 27 12:30-7 p.m.	Friday Dec. 2 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Friday Oct. 7 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Monday Dec. 5 12:30-7 p.m.
Monday Oct. 10 12:30-7 p.m.	

Join the Early Childhood Advisory Council

Join the Early Childhood Advisory Council! Our council is comprised of parents and guardians involved in early childhood education and care programs. Benefits include: FREE Early Childhood Drop-In Pass, providing input and feedback, developing leadership skills, creating new friendships and support from other members and having FUN!

Our council meets monthly to provide input and feedback about programming and community needs, plan events and raise funding for classroom materials. For more information, or to join, call 763.528.4518.

School Census

Are you in the school census? Being in the census ensures that you will receive Early Childhood mailings, receive notification of Early Childhood Screening, and receive PreK and Kindergarten information when your child is eligible to attend. If you've recently had a baby, moved or did not receive this catalog in the mail, contact Nicole Geffre in the District Office at 763.528.4420.

One-to-One Visits

Columbia Heights Public Schools offers free one-to-one visits after the birth or adoption of a new child or for parents/caregivers who simply have questions about their child's development. During these visits, our licensed parent educator will provide developmental, behavioral and social emotional support to all families in person, by email, or by phone day and evening. Call 763.528.4546 for more information.

PreK

Register now!
Space available in PreK 3 and PreK 4 for the 2022-2023 school year!

PreK 3 | 3 years old by Sept. 1

PreK 3 prepares children for lifelong success! PreK 3 curriculum and assessment is aligned with PreK 4 and Minnesota Early Learning Standards. Classes are taught by licensed early childhood education teachers. Early Childhood Screening is required for all PreK 3 students. Transportation is not available. For more information, or to register, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/PreK3.
Monthly tuition is based on a sliding fee scale. Financial assistance is available to families who qualify.



Mon/Wed/Fri	\$22 (\$0-11,000)	\$42 (\$11,001-20,000)	\$62 (\$20,001-30,000)	\$84 (\$30,001-40,000)	\$105 (\$40,001-50,000)	\$135 (\$50,001+)
Tues/Thurs	\$14 (\$0-11,000)	\$28 (\$11,001-20,000)	\$42 (\$20,001-30,000)	\$56 (\$30,001-40,000)	\$70 (\$40,001-50,000)	\$90 (\$50,001+)
Mon/Wed/Fri	8:00-10:30 a.m.	FC Room 112	Tues/Thurs	8:00-10:30 a.m.	FC Room 112	
	11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	FC Room 112		11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	FC Room 112	

PreK 4 | 4 years old by Sept. 1

PreK 4 is a FREE program that provides an engaging and educational environment to prepare your child for Kindergarten. PreK 4 curriculum and assessment is aligned with Kindergarten and the Minnesota Early Learning Standards. Classes are taught by licensed early childhood education teachers. Early Childhood Screening is required for all PreK 4 students. Busing is provided for PreK 4 families who live within the District boundaries. Classes are held Monday-Friday at Highland Elementary, North Park School for Innovation and Valley View Elementary.

Mornings 7:55-10:25 a.m. **Afternoons** 11:45 a.m.-2:15 p.m. **Full Day** 7:55 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

To register your student for PreK 4, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/Enroll or visit the Placement Center.

Registration Information

For more information on Community Education Registration, including class eligibility and policies, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/CommunityEd or call 763.528.4517. To register for Mini Adventures, call 763.528.4517. To register for PreK 4, visit the Placement Center or call 763.528.4426.



SUBSCRIBE
To receive CHPS news by email, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/Subscribe.



Columbia Heights Public School District #13
1440 49th Ave. NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421-1939

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