



## Cleveland Metro Remote School K8

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# March!

## Parent Ambassador Monthly Message.

### India Jones: Parent Ambassador

We are marching on and this school year is marching on with us! This school year is almost over. Can you believe it? The third marking period will be completed this month and then we are heading to the finish line. Spring Break is also this month. I don't have many announcements to make for this month but things are still happening.

This month's message will include a quick recap from our Black History Month Celebration last month. I also would like to talk about parent leadership organizations.

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### Parent Leadership Organizations in CMSD

## Parent Leadership Organizations

One of the best ways for us to support our children's success in school is to be engaged and participate in our school's community. One way that CMSD has that set up for us is through parent leadership organizations. Quoted directly from the FACE webpage, "Schools have the autonomy to determine which kind of organization meets the needs of its parents and educators to support academic learning and create a positive school culture." That means that our CMRS K8 leadership and the parent community have the choice and authority to choose what our parent leadership organization looks like. Part of my role as Parent Ambassador is not to be the "PTA President" but to help support and facilitate whatever organization we land on. I am here to provide information, be a participant in the organization and to help school administrators hear parent voices.

We have two choices, an SPO which stands for School Parent Organization and a PAC which stands for Parent Advisory Committee. An SPO is a more formal organization, with a president and several cabinet members that work together to support the academic achievement of our students. The SPO supports and encourages the engagement of all families and caregivers through workshops and programs that are aligned with the school's improvement goals and the Academic Achievement Plan. SPO members also assist the development of our school's family engagement policy. The SPO can also volunteer to help foster stronger two way communication between us and the school faculty, organize fundraising efforts and support students' events. The SPO is also encouraged to engage the community. All parents and caregivers are members of the SPO by virtue of their child's enrollment in a CMSD school. There are no fees or dues to be paid.

A PAC or parent advisory committee is less formal than an SPO, there are no officers or cabinet members. The PAC is a group of parents and caregivers that are providing advice, guidance and assistance to the school about the Academic Achievement Plan, programs, activities and resources. Many of the duties of the PAC are very similar to that of an SPO but it is less rigid and structured but PAC members are still expected to be engaged and encourage engagement.

Being our school's parent ambassador, I believe that one of these organizations is very important for our school community. It is also my job to share this information with you and to peak your interests. Please contact me for more information or if you are interested in discussing our options. We probably won't be able to have everything organized for this school year but take this time to think about what we can do for next school year. Also, here is a link to the SPO handbook.

<https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/cms/lib05/OH01915844/Centricity/Domain/16/SPO-HandbookWeb.pdf>

## Black History Month Celebration Recap

First, let's give a huge shout out to Ms. Dodson, Principal Wyland, AP Shepard and the rest of our CMRS K8 faculty that supported and helped plan the event. They all worked very hard to provide us with a quality event. The few families that attended had a wonderful experience and I hope they learned something about African American history that they may have not known before. Some of our John Adams family was in attendance as well so thank you to those students and faculty that attended. I would have loved to see way more families and caregivers and their students in attendance. Let's try to make a commitment as a school community to attend as many school programs that we possibly can attend.

The event took place in John Adams' cafeteria, where several stations were set up for crafts and games. Three of our students presented their research and hard work and provided the attendees with a living wax museum about influential Black Americans. Brother Olu provided a drum lesson for the kids and gave us music for the event and we had a tasting of African food. It was a joyous occasion and we will have another next year.

## Important Dates This Month:

**March 2nd, 2023:** Read Across America Day. Take this time to visit a library and read a book with your child!

**March 5th, 2023:** High School Choice Fair at May Hayes High School 10 am- 1 pm. Parents of 8th Grade scholars please don't miss out on this opportunity to learn more about what CMSD has to offer for high school students.

**March 11th, 2023:** High School Choice Fair at The East Professional Center 10 am- 1 pm.

**March 15th, 2023:** School Choice Fair K-8 at Max Hayes High School 5-7 pm.

**March 17th, 2023:** End of the Third Marking Period

**March 20th-24th, 2023:** Spring Break! No School for students and schools are closed.

**March 27th, 2023:** Start of the Fourth Marking Period

Thank you for reading this month's parent ambassador message.

[CMRS K8 Website](#)

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