



Virtual  
Welcome  
Meeting for  
families  
August, 2021

**WELCOME TO  
A NEW YEAR!**

**INFO & UPDATES  
SY 2021-22**



# INTRODUCTIONS

*WE'RE HERE TO HELP WITH WHAT YOU NEED!*

**Traci Mathena, Principal**

**Marisa Canino, Executive Director**

**Stephen Peterson, Assistant Principal**

**Crystal Worrell, School Secretary**

**Ms. Yarborough, School Nurse**

**Ms. Judd – Health & Safety Coordinator**

**Mariska Lee, Community School Coordinator**

**Kendra Nelson, Enrollment Coordinator**

**Vandria Moffatt, Out-of-School Time (OST) Coordinator**

# GRADES K, 1, 2 INSTRUCTORS

## KINDERGARTEN

Mr. Appel & Ms. Griffin

Ms. Meyer-Seymour & Ms. Harrington

## FIRST GRADE

Ms. Gilmore & Mr. Patterson

Ms. Mehta & Ms. Claxton

## SECOND GRADE

Ms. Reid & Ms. Curry

Ms. Williams & Ms. Curry

Ms. Carver & Ms. Curry

# GRADES 3, 4, 5 INSTRUCTORS

## THIRD GRADE

Ms. Brown & Ms. Henry  
Ms. Jones & Ms. Henry  
Ms. Tenia Thompson & Ms. Henry

## FOURTH GRADE

Mr. Graham & Ms. Sears  
Ms. Pincus & Ms. Sears  
Ms. Aliyah Thompson & Ms. Sears

## FIFTH GRADE

Mr. Davis & Ms. Mitchell  
Ms. Spencer & Ms. Mitchell  
Ms. Sandra Thompson & Ms. Mitchell

# GRADES "A-TEAM" INSTRUCTORS

## VISUAL ART

Ms. Badford

Mx. Steele

## MUSIC

Mr. Soto

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Maselas

# STUDENT SUPPORTS

## RE-ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT TEAM (ReST)

Mr. Barry Norman  
Mr. Darrius Pugh  
Ms. Andrea McMillan

## SOCIAL WORKER

Ms. O'Connell

## GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Ms. Tucker

## SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Mr. Shya

## SPEECH PATHOLOGIST

Ms. Nemani

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Ms. Katzenstein

# WHO WE ARE

**We are a community.**

**We connect with each other, our environment, our neighborhood, and our world.**

**We care.**

**We question.**

**We collaborate.**

**We create.**

# WHO WE ARE

## ***Mission***

Creative City Public Charter School uses Baltimore City's natural and built environments and communities as a learning foundation. Our elementary school, where teachers, students, and parents share governance and cooperate on curriculum and community decisions, builds on the inquisitive nature of children to drive the project-based, arts-integrated curriculum, developing self-directed critical thinkers.

## ***Vision***

Young people will be collaborative learners and creative thinkers who become leaders, active citizens, effective communicators, and good stewards of their environment.



# WHO WE ARE

## *Equity Statement*

We believe all children have unlimited capacity. We challenge ourselves and each other to confront the historical and ongoing effects of structural racism. We commit to grounding every action and decision in equity and justice.

# WHO WE ARE

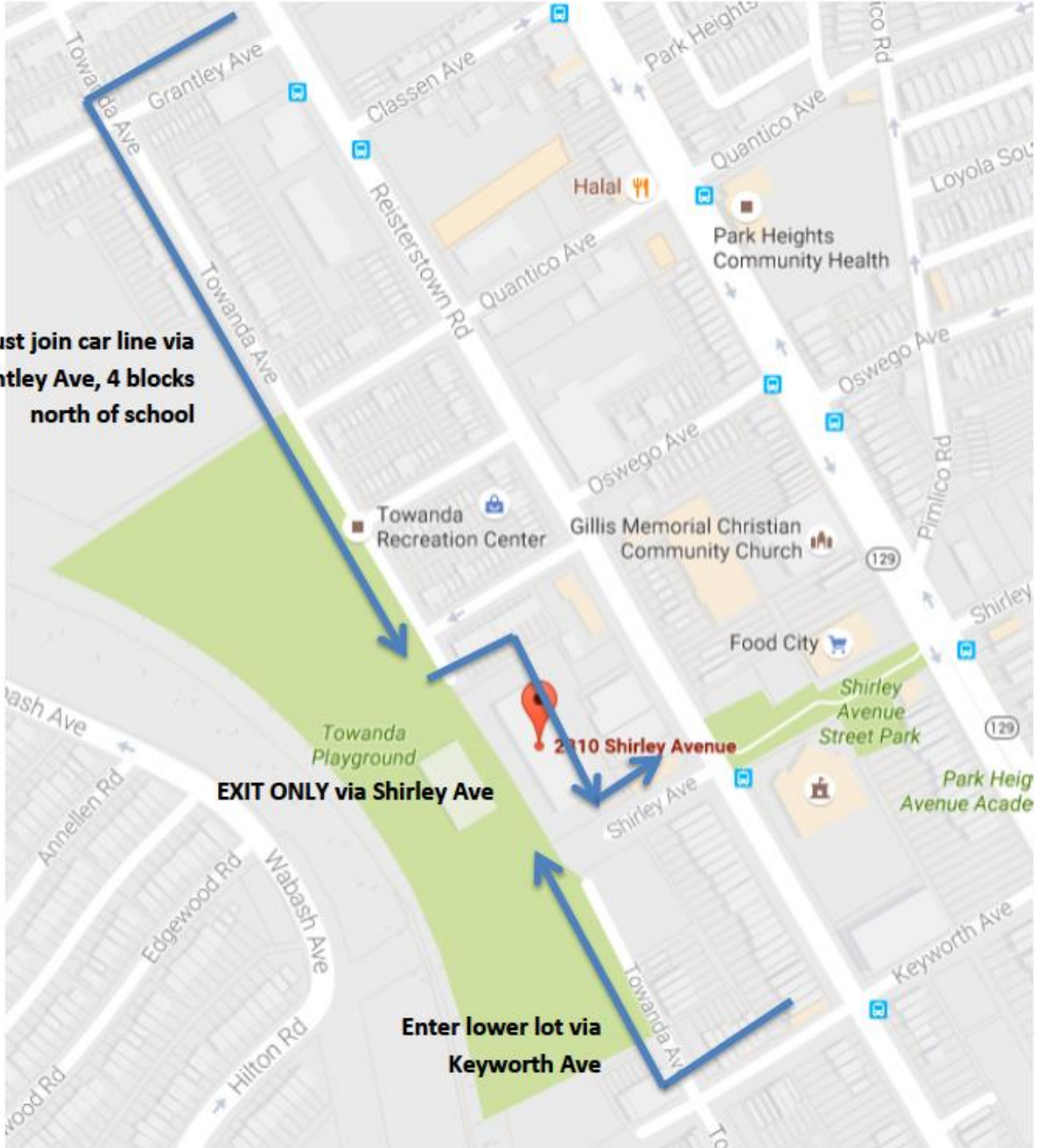
- Play based Kindergarten
- Place based learning
- Project based instruction
- Arts Integration
- Cooperative Community

# SCHOOL LOGISTICS

## COMING AND GOING

- **Doors Open 7:45 am**
  - All students should arrive at the back of the building (cafeteria)
  - Students will be directed to their grade-level entry door.
  - Breakfast available 7:45am to 8:15am and will be eaten in classrooms
  
- **Dismissal begins at 2:30pm**
  - **EARLY DISMISSAL WEDNESDAYS** dismiss at 12:30pm
  - Car line – your child will be guided to meet you at the car
  - Walk ups – your child will meet you at the assigned side door (facing Towanda Park)
  - Students allowed to walk home alone need a written note of permission
  - Dismissal must be completed by 2:45pm (12:45pm on Wednesdays)

**Cars must join car line via Grantley Ave, 4 blocks north of school**



**EXIT ONLY via Shirley Ave**

**Enter lower lot via Keyworth Ave**

# SCHOOL LOGISTICS

## NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

- Parents are not able to walk students into the building at this time due to COVID-19 concerns
- Students are late beginning at 8:15am and should enter through Side Door B if they arrive late between 8:15 - 8:45am.
- Early dismissals should have advance notice and complete by 2:15pm. No early dismissals between 2:15 - 2:30 (or, 12:15 - 12:30 on Wednesdays). Early dismissals will occur at the front door.
- Parents who are driving, please enter car line via Grantley Ave north of school, or park in a legal parking spot to walk up to the side door

# SCHOOL LOGISTICS

## Sample Student Schedule

7:45am	Doors open, breakfast available
8:00am	School officially begins
8:05am	Schoolwide morning Announcements
8:15am	Classroom morning meetings begin

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Instructional blocks include Math, ELA, Sci/SS/Health  
Every student has art, music, and PE at least once weekly

Lunch in cafeteria

Recess every day

“W.I.N.” block daily (intervention / acceleration)

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2:10pm	Classroom closing circles
2:25pm	Schoolwide afternoon announcements
2:30pm	Dismissal begins
2:45pm	Dismissal must be completed, after-school activities begin

# SCHOOL LOGISTICS

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN

Is it about the classroom? **TALK TO YOUR TEACHER FIRST**

If not resolved, or not about instruction – **CONTACT THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

If an instructional issue is still not resolved – **CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL**

If still not resolved or not regarding the academic program – **CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**ADDRESS SMALL PROBLEMS QUICKLY SO THEY DON'T BECOME BIG.**

**Suspect Bullying? REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY.** There is a bullying report form in our office, on our web site, and on Baltimore City schools web site.

# BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

## BREAKING NEWS!

We have experienced a change and UEC will no longer be able to provide child care at our school. DO NOT WORRY – WE’VE GOT YOU COVERED.

Complete our survey so we can quickly understand the need for before- and after-care at our school. Please have grace with us while we get our new program up and running.

<https://forms.gle/c6xhLyncrT6vve5EA>



# **“WIN” WITH WHAT I NEEDED**

**Our approach this year recognizes that students may have a variety of unique academic, social, and emotional needs after 18 months of virtual school. Our WIN strategy will provide:**

- **Individualized, small group instruction for academic acceleration in specific skills for all students DAILY**
- **Priority support in reading and math for students who need it most from our new Reading and Math Interventionists**
- **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) support from our 3-person Re-Engagement Support Team (ReST)**
- **Support from our NEW guidance counsellor**

# WIN WITH WHAT I NEEDED

- A student support team including a full-time social worker, and part-time School Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, and School Nurse
- A partnership with Catholic Charities for student mental health services
- Community School supports such as our food pantry, Share Baby partnership, parent programs, and more
- At least one co-teacher assigned to every grade level, with one in each classroom for Grades K and 1
- Departmentalized instruction in Grades 3-5
- Emerging plans for a very robust and no-cost after-school program

# COVID HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Masks must be worn by all students, staff, and guests every day
- Distancing will be implemented in all indoor areas, with at least 3 feet of distance wherever possible
- Hand sanitizer, hand soap, and alcohol wipes are plentiful
- Pooled asymptomatic COVID testing will occur weekly (nasal swab test)
  - Vaccinated students and adults may opt out of testing
  - All families must complete a COVID Health and Safety consent form
- Thorough cleaning and sanitizing every evening
- Visitor health screening prior to entry
- Families are expected to self-screen for COVID symptoms before attending school each day (questions on next slide)

# COVID HEALTH AND SAFETY

## SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Do you feel sick or have any of these symptoms:

- ✓ fever of 100.4 or higher,
- ✓ sore throat,
- ✓ cough,
- ✓ difficulty breathing,
- ✓ diarrhea or vomiting,
- ✓ new onset of severe headache,
- ✓ or new loss of taste or smell?

*For persons with chronic conditions such as asthma, the symptoms should represent a change from baseline.*

2. Have you been tested due to COVID-19 symptoms and are waiting on test results?
3. Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not completed isolation?
4. If you are not vaccinated, have you had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 or suspected of having COVID-19 and not completed quarantine?

# COVID HEALTH AND SAFETY

## MEAL TIMES

Rather than have Community Breakfast as a full school in the cafeteria, breakfast will be available for any students who wants it in the classroom. Morning announcements will be shared via zoom in the classroom

Lunch will be in the cafeteria.

- Tape will mark the cafeteria benches to demonstrate how to keep three feet of distance at minimum.
- Table-top shields will be employed when available.
- Students will have masks off while eating but will be masked at any time when not eating during the lunch period.

# COVID HEALTH AND SAFETY

## Air Filtration

Every classroom as well as the cafeteria has HVAC units equipped with "hospital-grade" MERV-13 filters. These are changed quarterly and were just changed this past Monday in advance of the school year.

Every classroom, office, and small group space has a HEPA-equipped air purifier that is sized appropriately for the room. These filters are also changed quarterly and will be changed this week before school starts.

The school district requires EITHER a MERV-13 filter or HEPA-based air filtration. We have opted to provide both whenever possible.

# DIVE RIGHT IN!

## UPCOMING DATES

WED 8/25, 5:30 - 6:30pm - Virtual Family Welcome Session - *on zoom*

THU 8/26, 3pm - 6pm - Art with Administration - open to all  
*help us paint a mural in our Outdoor Classroom!*

FRI 8/27, 9am - 11:15am - Take a Peek At Your Seat - Grades 2-5

SAT 8/28, noon - 2pm (in shifts) - "Cozy Opening" for Grades K-1

SAT 8/28, 1pm - 4pm, Back to School BBQ - **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

TUE 9/14, 6pm - Back to School Night - 6:00pm, *in person*

MON 9/20, 6pm - Board of Directors meeting - *via zoom - all are welcome!*

*Masks are required at all indoor school events. All events will be a chance to ask questions, confirm classroom teacher assignment, drop off donated school supplies, or buy t-shirts (while supplies last)*

# QUESTIONS?

ASK NOW OR CALL US AT 443-642-3600 WITH QUESTIONS THAT COME UP LATER.

MS. MATHENA – [TMATHENA@BCPS.K12.MD.US](mailto:TMATHENA@BCPS.K12.MD.US)

MS. CANINO – [MCANINO@BCPS.K12.MD.US](mailto:MCANINO@BCPS.K12.MD.US)

MR. PETERSON – [SSPETERSON@BCPS.K12.MD.US](mailto:SSPETERSON@BCPS.K12.MD.US)