

November 4, 2014

# THE "MIDDLE" MEMO

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL / TUESDAY LETTER

Dear Community Partnership Middle School Families:

Parent Teacher Conferences are right around the corner.

Afternoon conference will be held on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-6pm.

Evening conferences will be held on Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30pm.

Attached to this week's Middle Memo are a few tips for preparing for parent teacher conferences.

Community Partnership Middle School has an assessment based grading policy. To familiarize yourself with our grading, please see below:

GRADE RANGE	COMMON CORE LEVEL	WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
0 - 69	1	Well Below Proficient in Standards
70 - 80	2	Below Proficient in Standards
81 - 94	3	Proficient in Standards for their grade
95 - 100	4	Excelling in Standards for their grade

Do not forget to sign up for Culture Night, Wednesday, November 19th! It promises to be a great evening.

So many of our families from different cultural backgrounds are a part of the CPCMS community and we proudly celebrate our cultural differences. We would like to invite everyone out for a night of entertainment, food tasting, and fun. Families will also be able to view scholar artwork. To help in this effort we would love to have your contributions. Is there a dish you would like to share with us? Please email me, [krattray@cpcsschool.org](mailto:krattray@cpcsschool.org). The evening will begin at 6:30pm.

For Our Kids,

Keisha Rattray  
Middle School Director



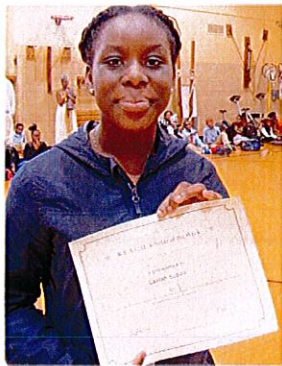
## SCHOLARS OF THE WEEK

5th Grade - Racquel McCormick

6th Grade - Autumn Knight

7th Grade - Laelah Subair

8th Grade - Tashaya Saunders



## Upcoming Events

Veteran's Day School Closed November 11th

CPEC Board Meeting, 6pm November 12th  
215 Heyward Street

5th Grade Parent Visiting Day, 8:30am - 10:00  
November 17th

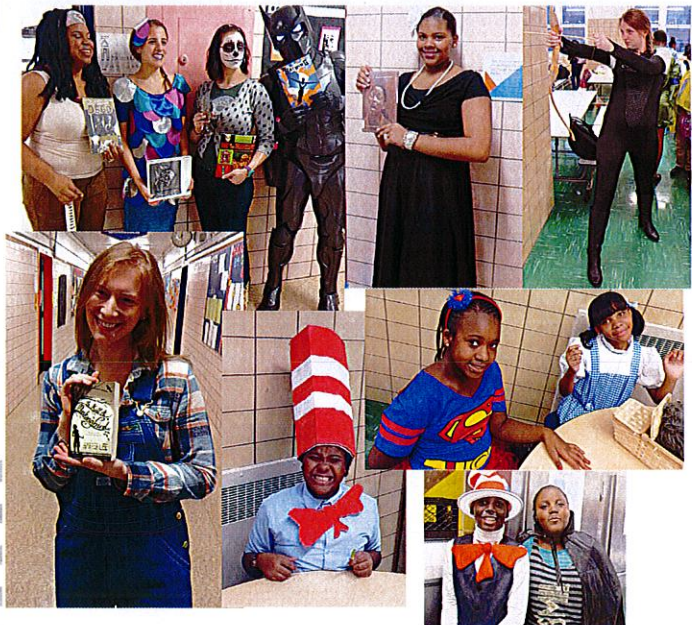
6th Grade Parent Visiting Day, 8:30am - 10:00  
November 18th

7th Grade Parent Visiting Day, 8:30 am - 10:00  
November 19th

Culture Night Celebration, 6:30pm  
November 19th

8th Grade Parent Visiting Day, 8:30 - 10:00  
November 20th

Data Day School Closed for Students  
November 21st



Last week, scholars and teachers channeled their love for books by dressing up as some of their favorite book characters.

Check out what's going on with the CPCS World Connect club! You can read our mission statement and watch student videos here: <http://www.worldconnect-us.org/kids-connect/community-partnership-charter-middle-school/>.



## 5TH GRADE

**ELA:** In Writing this week we have worked on our memoirs in a series of vignettes. Students are enjoying being immersed into this genre and learning who they are as writers.

In Reading this week we continued to work on monitoring for meaning, one strategy that we have worked on this week is to stop and check for understanding. Students are becoming fluent readers and many have mentioned how they find themselves understanding difficult text more easily.

**MATH:** In Math this week we learned how to add and subtract unlike fractions. Next Week, we're going to continue our unit on fractions by adding and subtracting mixed numbers then applying them to word problems.

**SCIENCE:** In science, we will be looking continue to look at how rocks undergo weathering. Also, the scholars will be beginning labs based on the earth science unit (mineral identification)

## 6TH GRADE

**Science:** In science the sixth graders are learning about the periodic table. How to label it, what certain things are called, and what kind of elements are on it too, like nonmetals, metals, and metalloids. The concept and how it works in my opinion is a little difficult, but for the most part it's simple. So far we are really focused on the atomic number and mass. We're also trying to find the number of neutrons by subtracting atomic number from the atomic mass.

**Book character day:** For book character day six grade scholars dressed up as characters from books they have read or are currently reading. Scholars dressed up as detectives, soldiers, pirates, kings, hospital patients, spies, and more! Some of these characters are really funny too like Luqman's two chains get-up. And some are really pretty like Kaylah's Billie Holiday costume. Other costumes are very scary like Willquedave's Nero costume. If you see me (Autumn) you'll probably think I'm some crazy lady who wandered into the school! Anyway, everyone's costumes are really cool and I just wanted to give Ms. Millerhughs Katniss Everdeen costume a shout out!

Written by Autumn Knight and Jada Johnson

**ELA:** Every assignment in ELA will be weighted the same, out of 100 points. So the following assignments will all be worth an equal amount towards the final grade -- individual notebook entries (5 per week in reading, 5 per week in writing), unit assessments, weekly assessments, projects, writing pieces, exit tickets, classwork assignments, homework assignments.

So essentially, each assignment completed in ELA will now be counted as an assessment. If scholars are putting forth the requisite effort for each assignment, then, big or small, that should reflect in their grades.

## 7TH GRADE

**Social Studies:** Last week, we simulated the Salem Witch Trials in class. It was so much fun to see how quickly we would throw each other under the bus and cry witch! This week, we're continuing our learning about life in the Northern Colonies.

**Science:** Students are studying the human excretory system and then the endocrine system. We are discussing the reasons behind the changes that happen in puberty. Next week we will be examining the function and structures of the human reproductive system.

## 8TH GRADE

**ELA:** This week we will be completing our Social Action unit in Reading and working on drafting, revising, and editing our social action essays in Writing.

**Social Studies:** This week, we're moving into the Roaring '20s! We've got jazz playing and Langston Hughes on our minds. Stay tuned for an upcoming Dress-Up Day.