



# PURPLELICIOUS NEWS

It's not a color. It's a newsletter.



## Principal's Message

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JOIN CLASSDOJO FOR DAILY  
CLASS AND SCHOOL NEWS.

### School Leadership

Dr. Rhonda Richetta, Principal  
Ms. Jenae Toulson, Asst. Principal  
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[JAJones@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:JAJones@bcps.k12.md.us)  
Mr. Rob Summers, Asst. Principal  
for Grades 4-8, 410-207-4625  
[RDSummers@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:RDSummers@bcps.k12.md.us)

OFFICE: (410) 396-9168

This month is National Bullying Prevention Month. We create a positive school culture where all students feel safe, supported, and respected, inspired by our daily values of kindness, empathy, and respect. In any community there are bound to be conflicts, so we teach our students to resolve conflicts in non-aggressive ways. Please join us in reminding students to choose kindness over meanness and to look out for each other by lifting each other up to create a safe and joyful place for all.

One of the things I enjoy about the fall season is sports. This year, in addition to our Eagles' football and soccer teams, for the first time, we have our Lady Eagles flag football team (pictured above). Come cheer on our Eagles; the sports schedule is at [citysprings.school/events](http://citysprings.school/events).

I invite all parents to come to Parent-Teacher Conferences, Thursday afternoon, October 17th. Together we are planting seeds that will grow forever, so please take advantage of this opportunity to discuss your child's academic progress with teachers. Hope to see you on the 17th!

Respectfully yours,  
Dr. Rhonda Richetta





## Class Spotlight: Kindergarten

By Mrs. Veney and Mrs. Bracey

An exciting learning moment from the past couple of weeks has been the students learning letter sounds. They are working on identifying sounds, sounding out words by blending and reading the fast way. To say that we are amazed and proud of the children is an understatement.

Remember what it was like being in Kindergarten and dealing with so many new things like meeting new friends and following routines and procedures while exploring new things? The joy on their faces (pictured above) during recess playing red light/green light is priceless! Thank you for entrusting your scholars to us. We are eager to watch them learn and grow.



## Peer Mediator Update

By Mr. Wade

City Springs has a robust Peer Mediation program that includes almost 40 students in the 8th, 7th, and 6th grades. All students were trained over the past two years and recently completed their “refresher” training. Multiple 8th and 7th graders have started mediations in late September, with 6th graders starting their first mediations soon. We will train about 10 new 5th grade Peer Mediators by the end of the school year. Thanks, Eagle Mediators, for your leadership!

Pictured above are two of our mediators being interviewed on camera by the Today Show (see more on p. 6).



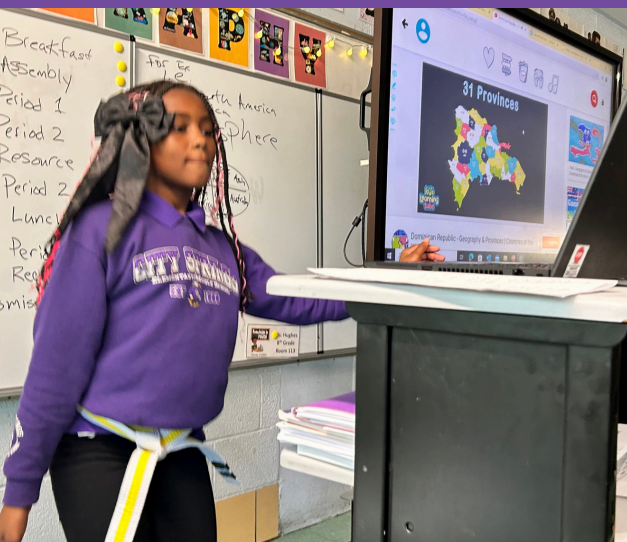


## Back-to-School Night

Thanks to all the parents and students who attended Back to School Night. We had a great night with parents touring classrooms and meeting teachers, capped by a pizza party.

## Hispanic Heritage Month

We're enjoying celebrating the Hispanic Heritage of many of our students, families, and staff. Pictured is a student in Ms. Hughes' 6th grade class sharing a presentation about Hispanic/Latin countries.



# Community School Coordinator Corner



**PTO Ballot**

By Mr. Trumino

Welcome to the Community School Corner for information about upcoming programming/resources to support our students and families. Info is also on ClassDojo.

**Join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)** and volunteer at City Springs to contribute to our community and share your voice and suggestions. If you are interested in volunteering, you must complete a background check through Baltimore City Public Schools. Please contact me (below).

**Next PTO Meeting/PTO Elections: 10/25, 9:15 AM**, Cafeteria. If you want to be added to the ballot for PTO President, Vice President, or Secretary, email me or scan the QR code above.

Do you or your student **need hygiene products** (toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, etc.) and feminine hygiene products? Thanks to generous donations from community partners, we have plenty to distribute. Please contact me.

### CONTACT MR. TRUMINO:

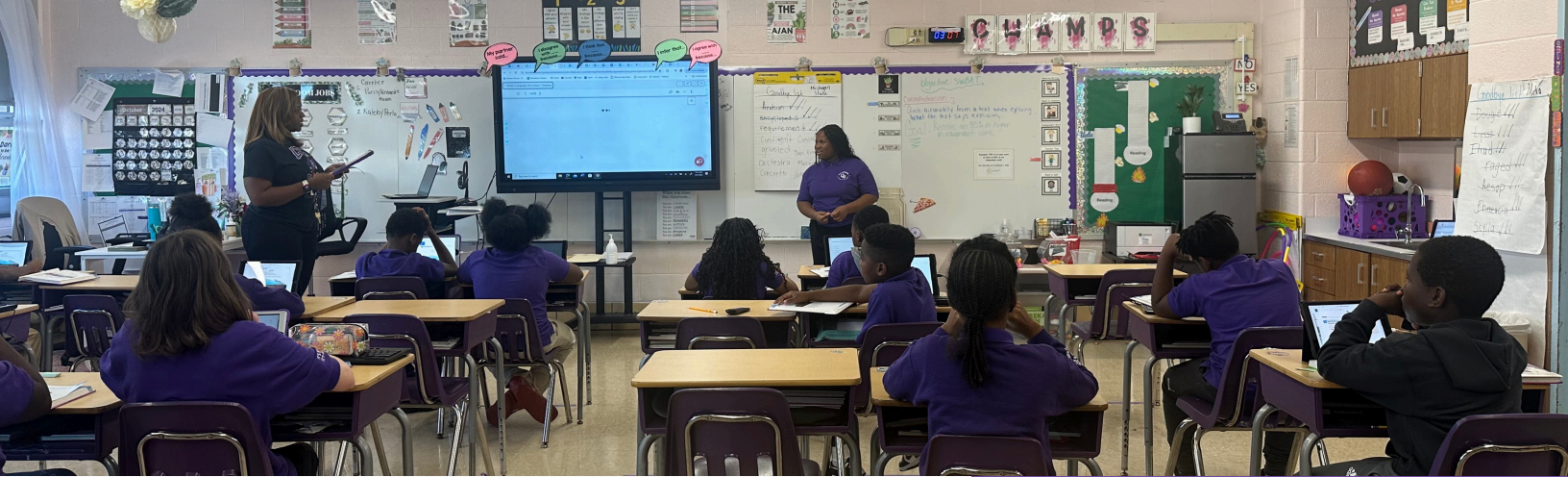
Email: [atrumino@elev8baltimore.org](mailto:atrumino@elev8baltimore.org)

Phone: 443-836-6019

Or ask for me at the Main Office

Please reach out with questions or other student/family needs. Along with our City Springs' community partner, Elev8 Baltimore, I am here to help!





## Attendance Matters!

By Dr. Richetta

I regret to share with you that we have a chronic absenteeism problem at City Springs. This has a very negative impact on our students' academic outcomes because we can't teach students if they are not in school.

In September, we had 105 students who were absent for 2-3 days. This may not seem like a lot to you, but it actually is!

This is unacceptable and cannot continue. If a student is absent 2 days each month, they are considered to be chronically absent. Last school year our chronic absenteeism rate was 68.9%. We must do better. Last month I shared with teachers that I am waging a war on chronic absenteeism.

**Our goal: Zero or 1 day absent per month.** Parents, PLEASE make sure that your children are not absent more than 1 time per month.

If there is an issue creating a challenge for you to be able to get your children to school every day, please reach out to me. I will do everything within my ability to remove the challenges you are experiencing.

We need our students to be in school every day. We will be so appreciative of our parents who make sure that your children are with us every school day. Thank you for being our partner in the education of our students!

## Did You Know?

Chronic absenteeism:

Can cause lower test scores and poor academic performance?

Makes developing social skills and friendships more difficult?

Can lead to poor health outcomes?

Can lead to students dropping out of high school and not graduating?





## Fall Fun at City Springs

Our fall sports are underway! Our Eagles are soaring on the football and soccer fields, including our first-ever girls' flag football team. Congrats to the girl's flag football team on their first win! Come cheer on the Eagles. Game schedule at [citysprings.school/events](https://citysprings.school/events).



## Halloween Celebration Details

On Thursday, Oct. 31, we continue our long-held tradition with the Halloween Parade for Pre-K, K, and 1st grade. It's a great day of fun for our early-learning Scholars.

To make this day safe and successful:

- Only students in grades PK, K, and 1st are allowed to bring costumes to school.
- Students should not wear their costumes to school. Teachers will help students change into their costumes just before the parade.
- No other grades should come to school in costumes or bring costumes to school.





# Upcoming Events

**Fun Fridays:** 10/11, 10/25

**Early Release Days:** Friday 10/11, 10/25, 10/29, 11/1; Thursday, 10/17

**Assembly: Black Leadership Hoodies/Polos:** 10/11

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Thursday, 10/17, early release at 12:45 PM; conferences in the afternoon

**NO SCHOOL:** Friday, 10/18

**My Name, My Name Raffle at Friday Assembly:** 10/25

**PTO Meeting/Elections:** 10/25, 9:15am, Cafeteria

**High School Choice Family Information Virtual Session:** 10/10, 6pm & 10/11, 10:30am

## Baltimore Curriculum Project



In late August, SNL star and Baltimore-born Ego Nwodim (below) returned to City Springs and Baltimore Curriculum Project (BCP) to continue her program to teach improv skills to enhance problem-solving and student interaction skills. She and the Baltimore Improv Group did two days of training for faculty and staff at each of the six BCP schools.

The Today Show was on hand to film her visit to City Springs. Go to [citysprings.school/resources](http://citysprings.school/resources) to watch the Today Show clip. You'll see our wonderful student Peer Mediators and teachers enjoying the training. City Springs students were the only BCP students to participate in the improv training so far. This school year, Ego will be doing monthly Zooms with BCP faculty for continued professional development.



## Check our NEW website: [citysprings.school](http://citysprings.school)

Our new website has lots of resources and photos event calendar, news, profiles of our graduates, and more!

Please also check Class Dojo daily for all the latest City Springs information and events.