



PURPLELICIOUS NEWS

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



Message From the Principal

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As we enter the final days of the school year, I want to thank our students, families, teachers, and staff for another year of hard work, growth, and perseverance. Our teachers and students have worked diligently throughout the year. I am incredibly proud of our students' progress on the NWEA Measure of Academic Achievement (MAP) Assessment. We are sending home the Family Report for all

students. Please contact me this summer with any questions.

We will continue teaching, learning, and engaging students through the very last day of school on June 16. I encourage all families to ensure that students attend school every day up through the very last day.

I also extend my sincere best wishes to our incredible rising 9th graders. I am proud to see them moving on to high school but will miss seeing them every day at City Springs. I expect them to visit us and keep us updated on the great things they are doing.

Have a wonderful summer. We look forward to welcoming our students back on August 17 ready to learn, grow, and achieve even more. Thank you for a fantastic school year! We all should be swelling with City Springs Purple Pride.

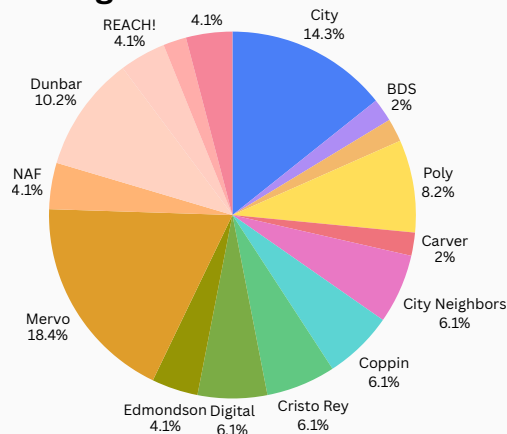
With gratitude, Dr. Rhonda L. Richetta, Principal

Soar, 8th Grade Eagles!

We look forward to celebrating our wonderful 8th Grade Scholars this month. The Keynote Speaker for the Closing Ceremony on June 8th is City Springs alum, Cortez Brown (see page 5).

This fall, our Scholars are attending:

Baltimore City College (City)
 Baltimore Design School (BDS)
 Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA)
 Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly)
 Carver Vocational-Technical H.S.
 City Neighbors H.S.
 Coppin Academy
 Cristo Rey Jesuit H.S.
 Digital Harbor H.S.
 Edmondson Westside
 Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical H.S.
 National Academy Foundation
 Paul Laurence Dunbar H.S.
 REACH ! Partnership School
 Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy



Most Popular High School Destinations
 for the Class of 2026:
 Mervo: 9 Students
 City College: 7 students

We wish them well for high school, college, and beyond. 8th grade, please return to see us. You always have a home at City Springs!



8th Grade Spirit Week

These events were JUST FOR 8th Grade students and teachers

- June 1: Pajama Day
- June 2: Jersey Day
- June 3: Cookout Day
- June 4: Throwback/Vintage Day
- June 5: Students Dress as Teachers/Teachers Dress as Students

Year-End Events

This is a busy time of year! **Please make sure these dates are in your calendar and watch Class Dojo for details about events.**

- June 2: 8th Grade Kids in Kayaks Field Trip
- June 3: Pre-K to 2nd Celebration of Learning
- June 4: Athletics Award Ceremony
- June 5: 8th Grade Breakfast and Closing Rehearsal (students only)
- June 8: 8th Grade Closing Celebration AND Early Release
- June 8: 3rd Grade Celebration of Learning
- June 9: 4th Grade Celebration of Learning
- June 10: 5th and 6th Grade Celebration of Learning
- June 11: 7th Grade Celebration of Learning
- June 11: Middle School Move Up Day (6th & 7th)
- June 12: Elementary School Move Up Day (Pre-K – 5th)
- June 12: 7th Grade Trip to Philadelphia
- June 16: Early Release and LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

IMPORTANT: PLEASE send your child to school every day, including the last day.

2026-2027 School Calendar

- August 15: Back-To-School Bash
- August 17: 1st Day of School
- Dec. 21-Jan. 4, 2027: Winter Break
- Feb. 16-19, 2027: Intersession Break
- March 26-April 2: Spring Break
- Thurs., June 10, 2027: Last Day of School, barring inclement weather weather



High School Readiness Reading Assignment

By Mr. Oroke, Ms. Ndubai, and Mr. Momayez

At the end of this academic year our 8th Grade Scholars engaged in activities to help them prepare for the big transition to high school. Our guidance counselor, Ms. Watkins, pushed in for a lesson around 9th Grade Readiness to help students understand everything from earning high school credits to best student practices.

Additionally, our 8th graders engage in an English unit called the "High School Readiness Assignment." For this assignment the 8th Grade English teacher, Mr. O, connects with every high school our Scholars are going to identify a book they want their rising 9th graders to read over the summer. One of our community partners, Phi Sigma Sigma, helped purchase the books for the scholars. Books this year have included *Romeo and Juliet*, *Animal Farm*, *All American Boys*, *The House on Mango Street*, *The Book Thief*, *I Am Malala*, and *Lord of the Flies*. Our Scholars explored these books with individual assignments to help them prepare for their 9th grade year so they can start off strong. See more photos on page 5.

Finishing Strong

We've had a good year for attendance. So far, our average attendance rate is 89% for all classes. Be sure that your student comes to school every day, on time, in uniform, and ready to learn. We have a lot of material to cover and community celebrations where our Scholars will be recognized.

On May 19, students in grades 3-8 with perfect attendance for March and/or April enjoyed video games with the Game Truck. On June 11, Pre-K through 2nd grade students with perfect attendance for March, April, and/or May will enjoy snow cones from the Kona Ice truck.



Avoid Summer Slide

Summer slide is the learning loss that can happen to your student during summer break. Research shows that students may forget some of what they learned during the school year, especially in reading and math.

It is crucial that you keep your student engaged with fun learning activities:

Read for at least 20 minutes every day. Choose books, magazines, or articles that match your interests.

Sign up for the free summer reading program through the Enoch Pratt Free Library. It runs June 15 through August 15 with fun games and prizes.

Practice everyday math skills through cooking, shopping, or planning a trip.

Encourage your student to keep a journal and write to relatives to stay sharp with writing skills.

Limit screen time and balance it with active learning activities.

Read together and work on creative projects.

Set one small learning goal each week and celebrate progress.

Keep a regular routine that includes time for reading, learning, play, and rest.

Summer Resources

Does your student and/or family need resources during the summer? Please reach out to Mr. T. (page 6) for assistance.

8th Grade Trip to New York City

Our 8th graders celebrated the end of their time at City Springs with our annual end-of-year trip to New York City. They explored Times Square, shopped along 5th Avenue, and played soccer and football at the historic Sheep Meadow in Central Park (below). Taven Williams won a basketball competition at the Nike Store on 5th Avenue, earning himself a free pair of Nike shoes. The trip was a terrific way to cap off the end to what has been an amazing year for our 8th graders.



To the 8th Grade:

*“Be courageous, adventurous.
Give us a tomorrow, more than we
deserve.” – Maya Angelou*

Cortez Brown, Keynote Speaker

The Keynote Speaker for the Closing Ceremony is Cortez Brown, a proud City Springs alumnus from the Class of 2022.

Following his time at City Springs, he attended The REACH! Partnership School, where he excelled both academically and athletically. Cortez graduated with an outstanding 4.7 GPA as a member of the Class of 2026 and has been recognized by the Mayor for his achievements as an exceptional scholar-athlete.

Throughout high school, Cortez demonstrated leadership and school spirit, serving as Class Vice President and earning the honor of Prom King. His dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence have made him a role model for his peers and younger students alike.

This fall, Cortez will attend Bowie State University on a full academic scholarship, where he will continue his track and field career while majoring in Sports Medicine. As a former City Springs scholar who has turned hard work into success, Cortez is excited to return to inspire the next generation of leaders, scholars, and changemakers.

City Springs is a GREEN School!

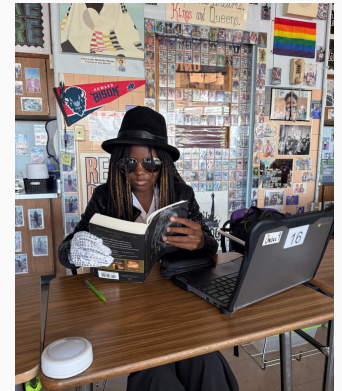
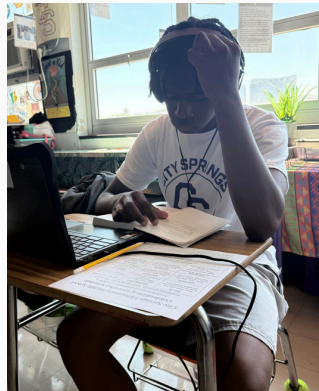
City Springs was recently designated a Green School through The Maryland Green Schools program. The program empowers educators to incorporate meaningful environmental literacy into their curriculum, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for the places we live, learn, and play.

The program teaches future generations to evaluate the impact of human choices, develop real-world solutions, and take meaningful action to reduce environmental harm. The Green Schools designation also means that a school is part of a larger network of sustainability partners who are committed to creating deeper connections between students, the community, and Maryland's unique environmental ecosystems.

Established in 1999, the Maryland Green Schools Program is a nationally acclaimed initiative dedicated to fostering sustainability within schools. The program was strengthened with passage of the Maryland Green Schools Act of 2019. This legislation was passed with bipartisan support in the House and the Senate and promotes the vision of Maryland's environmental literacy requirement and the sustainable schools goal set forth in the Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

Specifically, at City Springs, we focused on science education in every grade, as well as healthy habits like eating fruit and vegetables, turning off lights, recycling paper, and encouraging walking places.

Celebrating Our 8th Grade Scholars



8th Grade Scholars reading for the High School Readiness Program.

Community School Coordinator Corner

Elev8 Summer Family Engagement Events

This summer, City Springs' lead community partner, Elev8, is offering several family engagement opportunities for our community.

Be on the lookout for dates, times, locations, and details for the following events:

- Partner-Led Family Workshops
- Family Learning Engagements
- Fun Community Events

We look forward to seeing you this summer!

NO June PTO Meeting!

Save the Date: Back to School Bash, August 15

We kick off the new school year on Saturday, August 15 for our annual Back to School Bash at City Springs. This wonderful event brings our school community and wonderful community partners together for a day of great fun and resources to get ready for the new school year.

Be sure to bring the family! Details coming soon!

Summer Resources

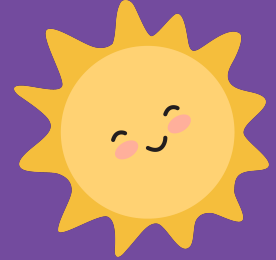
If you and your family need services this summer, please reach out to Mr. T. As a community school, our mission is to serve the needs of our families in and out of the classroom.

Mr. T. may be reached throughout the summer (see right) to assist our community.

Weekend Backpacks

Weekend Backpacks will continue weekly on Thursdays from 1:45-2:15 PM.

Please see Mr. T. for information.



Questions? Need Assistance?

Reach out to Mr. Trumino. He and our lead agency, Elev8, are here to help!

**MR. TRUMINO
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
COORDINATOR:**
atrumino@elev8baltimore.org
Phone: 443-836-6019





Go, Eagles!

It's been a great year for Eagle athletics! Thank you to our coaches for all you've done to instruct, inspire, encourage, and lead, regardless of the final score. This fall, our sports program returns with football, flag football (girls), and Girls on the Run. Remember to stay active this summer and always be a good sport!

Thank You, Coaches!

We are very grateful to our wonderful coaches for our sports this current school year. Your time and talents helped our Scholars grow athletically and personally.

Fall 2025

Tackle football - Coach Pullen
Girl's Flag football - Coach Momayez
Elem. Flag football - Coach Harleston
Soccer - Coach Wade

Spring 2026

Elem. flag football - Coach Pullen
Soccer - Coach Wade & Coach Momayez
Bocce - Coach McGee

Winter 2026

Cheer - Coach Oroke
Middle School Girls basketball - Coach Hart
Middle School Boys basketball - Coach Brown
Elem. basketball - Coach Pullen

Spring Soccer Scrimmages



This spring, we played in two soccer scrimmages against Pimlico Elementary/Middle School. On May 21, our Eagles beat the Pimlico Stallions, 8-4. On June 2, we played them again, winning in a narrow victory, 8-7. Thanks to Coaches Wade and Momayez for coaching and supporting the players.

Upcoming Events

SEE PAGE 2 for the full list of all June events or visit citysprings.school/events.

June 9 and 16: Early Release Days

June 16: Last Day of School and Early Release

June 24-26: Report Card Distribution

Baltimore Curriculum Project



The Baltimore Curriculum Project (BCP) celebrated its 30th anniversary with a milestone “Are You Smarter Than a BCP Student?” Gala on April 30th at the Maryland Science Center. The game-show-style fundraiser brought together a record crowd of supporters, educators, families, and community leaders for an evening that highlighted three decades of impact in Baltimore schools.

City Springs’ Kortni Wragg, 8th, proudly represented our school. Both student rounds ended in ties, showcasing the impressive knowledge and confidence of BCP students.



Kortni, 2nd from left, with the 8th Grade team and Principals of BCP Middle Schools.

Special anniversary moments at the Gala:

- BCP’s first-ever [Impact Report](#),
- The premiere of a [new documentary](#) celebrating BCP’s history and future, and
- Presentation of BCP Awards honoring long-serving Board members.

For more on the Gala and photos, [click here](#).



City Springs Habit of the Month: The Real Celebration!
Reflection on the Change in Ourselves as Leaders
Attribute of the Month: Reflection
Exemplar Event of the Month: Juneteenth

Celebrated on June 19th, Juneteenth is a national holiday recognizing the end of slavery in the U.S. On June 19, 1865, enslaved people in Texas were finally told they were free, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Today, people celebrate Juneteenth with parades, music, food, and events that honor African American history and freedom.