



PURPLELICIOUS NEWS

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



Message From the Principal

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CLASSDOJO FOR DAILY NEWS

School Leadership

Dr. Rhonda L. Richetta, Principal

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Welcome to October! I am proud to share that our academic progress and attendance for the first quarter have been strong so far.

Thank you for sending your children to school every day, especially on Fridays. We do important work and activities on Fridays, and all students should be engaged in them.

Our attendance rate is up significantly from last year! As colder weather approaches, I am hopeful our attendance will remain strong in spite of the weather. Please help your children dress warmly and make the most of every school day. We can't teach them if they are not here, and every day in the classroom matters.

I am also excited to announce that our first PTO meeting will take place this month on Thursday, Oct. 22, 9-10:30 AM. I am looking forward to collaborating with a dedicated group of parents who share our commitment to student success. Your voice and involvement make our school stronger. Please join our PTO!

Thank you for your continued trust and support. I am grateful for all of you!

With Purple Pride,
Dr. Richetta

Helping Our 8th Graders Prepare For High School

The high school choice process is an exciting next step for our 8th graders. To help students and families make an informed decision, City Springs will welcome representatives from Baltimore City high schools to meet with our 8th grade students.

These visits will give students the opportunity to learn more about different schools, academic programs, extracurricular activities, and what they can expect in high school.

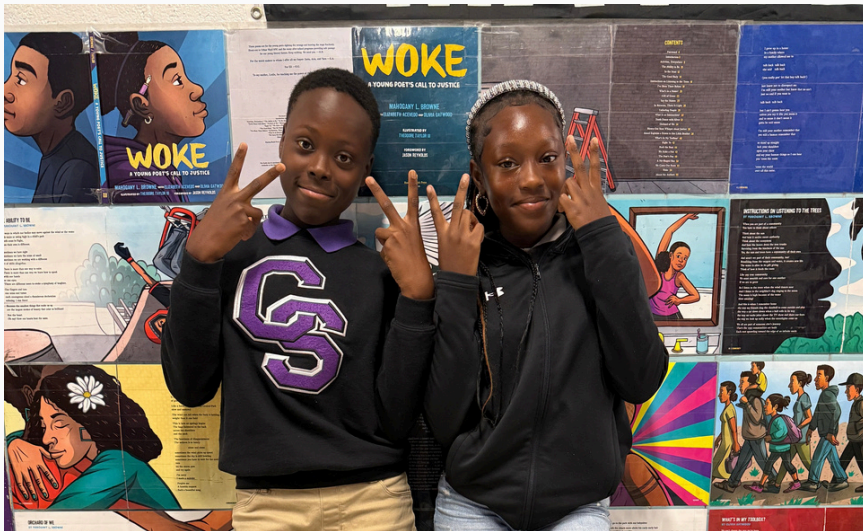
We encourage students to ask questions, explore their options, and think about what type of high school environment will be the best fit for their interests and goals. Our goal is to make sure every City Springs student feels prepared, informed, and confident as they begin the high school choice process.

- Baltimore Design School visit, Oct. 14
- National Academy Foundation, Oct. 19
- City College, Nov. 4

Fly High Eagles Broadcasting Team

We're excited to launch our fourth year of the Fly High Eagles Broadcast. This academic year we are thrilled to feature 12 different 8th grade broadcasters. Our broadcasting team provides a live morning broadcast on Monday to Thursday from 8:45 AM to 8:55 AM.

Overseen by Mr. Oroke, it's a great leadership experience for these young broadcasters who also work with the WJZ-TV team for mentoring and to see how Fly High Eagles can continue to grow and expand our work. Photo below: Da'monyae W. and Da'Nell M., two of the Fly High Eagles Broadcasting Team members.



Attendance Matters

We are off to a great start for attendance this year. Our attendance goal: By June 2027, average daily attendance will increase from 83% to at least 92%, as measured by district attendance data.

Back-to-School Night on Sept. 3 was an important step in increasing our attendance. Our partnership with our families is very important. Thank you for making the time to meet your child's teacher at Back-to-School Night.

Plan on continuing to communicate with your child's teacher throughout the year. We appreciate everything our families do to make sure their child is at school, on time, in uniform, and ready to learn, each and every day. Let the teacher or Front Office know if we may help should you have challenges getting your child to school.

Black Hoodies for Student Leaders

On Friday, Oct. 30, which is an Early Release Day at 12:45 PM, nominated Pre-K through 8th grade students may receive a black polo or hoodie in recognition of student leadership. Currently, teachers are teaching students about leadership skills and impact.

Teachers are nominating one student to receive a exclusive black polo or hoodie for demonstrating excellent leadership through academics, character building, behavior, and/or classroom culture.

We look forward to announcing the honorees next month.



House Team Sorting

On Sept. 18, we sorted our new students in their Houses in a fun and loud celebration of community and Purple Pride! Our House System connects students across grades by placing them into one of eight Houses, each connected to a City Springs Attribute such as Integrity, Cooperation, Focus, Empathy, Respect, Pride, Discipline, or Resilience. Students earn House points by demonstrating positive behavior, academic achievement, leadership, and our City Springs Attributes. Points are awarded during everyday school activities, events, and friendly competitions and tracked on a House scoreboard.



Hispanic Heritage Month

We are excited to celebrate the history, culture, and contributions during Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. Our 6th graders have researched and presented about a different Hispanic country each day during the morning broadcast. Presentations include information about the geography, economics, government, population, language, and other fun facts. Images are from 6th grader Eric Dumas' presentation on Chile.

The population of Chile
Is about 19.9-20.3 million people
That is really small compared to
The US which is 300+ million people

The cost of living in Chile is way lower than in the US about 40% to 60% lower
An example of that is the cost of white rice compared in the US than Chile
The cost in Chile is \$0.73 which is way lower than the US which is \$2.08

La Serena is a very popular city in Chile.
It is popular because it is known for its historic architecture and many beaches.
Here are some photos

A famous landmark in Chile
A famous landmark in Chile is Easter Island (Rapa Nui)
Here are some photos

Eagles Excel: Green Student Team

Every Friday, our Green Student Team collects classroom and office recycling. This is part of a schoolwide commitment to being a more earth-friendly school. Last spring, City Springs became an official Maryland Green School, a program sponsored by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education.

Our Green Student Team, through the Middle School's Leadership Academy, helped to revamp the school's recycling program and participates in other school sustainability efforts. Thank you, environmental warriors, for leading the charge, inspiring us to be better caretakers of our planet, and to RECYCLE!



National Principals Month!

We're excited to celebrate our Principal, Dr. Rhonda Richetta, this month and every month! Did you know that she has been Principal at City Springs for 21 years and is the longest tenured school leader in City Schools. She has worked for City Schools for 39 years. Read more about this and her reflections at baltimorecp.org/news.

My Name, My Name! Raffle

Once a month, we hold a My Name, My Name! Raffle at our Morning Assembly. Students who are a CHAMP each day throughout the month have their name entered in the drawing. Prizes include sporting equipment, LEGOs, dolls, books, and more. The My Name, My Name! Raffle is on the last Friday of every month.



Happy Halloween at City Springs!

On Friday, Oct. 30, we will celebrate Halloween with our traditional Halloween Parade for Pre-K, K, 1st, and 2nd grades. Only these grades may participate in the parade

- Our Pre-K, K, 1st, and 2nd grade should 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.



National Bullying Prevention Month

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. How we treat each other, as adults and students, is so important, now more than ever. Kindness for all is a quality that we value every day at City Springs. Here are some tips to encourage kindness and prevent bullying behaviors in your child:

- When you see them doing an act of kindness, compliment them.
- Model kindness in deed and language.
- Talk with your children about how to be kind to others.
- Encourage them not to judge others.
- Learn and respect other cultures and backgrounds.
- Talk with your children about the City Springs' Habits and Attributes and how you live them in your life (see page 8 for this month's Habit and Attribute).



Classroom Spotlight: Kindergarten

By Mrs. Bracey and Mrs. Veney

Our scholars have adapted beautifully to the new school year and are already showing CHAMP status! They demonstrate discipline, integrity, and responsibility each day. These important qualities not only enhance their learning experience but also help them grow into well-rounded, socially responsible scholars.

We work hard and play hard! As a result, our scholars enjoyed creating special crafts to spread joy and love to their grandparents and special people. Their creativity and thoughtfulness truly brought smiles to our classroom. We are so excited to continue watching all of our Syracuse and Clemson scholars learn, grow, and soar throughout the school year. Together, we are building a strong foundation for success!

New Partnership with the National Aquarium

We are thrilled to announce the National Aquarium-City Springs Partnership, which we launched at the start of this school year. During opening week, the National Aquarium staff hosted the City Springs faculty and staff for a professional development day of learning and exploration about the Aquarium's programs, exhibits, and resources. The entire City Springs received a training certification, which allows for each teacher to take a group of Scholars to the Aquarium for a field trip for free.

Each grade level has worked to plan these field trips during the opening months of the academic year. 3rd grade visited on Oct. 1, 4th grade on Oct. 7, and 7th grade is taking its field trip on Nov. 2. Other grades are still planning their field trip to the Aquarium. Stay tuned!



Community School Coordinator Corner

Vision To Learn Update

Thanks, Vision To Learn, for a great, free vision screening for our students. The students' free glasses will be delivered to City Springs the third week of October.



PTO Meeting: Oct. 22

We are hosting our first Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) of the year on Thursday, Oct. 22, 9-10:30 AM. We will be holding elections for President, Vice President, and Secretary.

All parents and guardians are invited to join us. The meeting will be in person. This is an important way to share your voice and add to our wonderful community.

St. V's in the Classroom



One of our most generous and dedicated community partners, St. Vincent de Paul Church (St. V's as we call it) in our neighborhood, assists City Springs in many ways. Several St. V's volunteers are in our classrooms each day, assisting with reading, math, and small groups of students.

We have named our St. V's volunteer group, our "Phenomenal Volunteers" for the exceptional care and help they provide our Scholars. We are excited to continue this wonderful tradition this year. Welcome back, Phenomenal Volunteers, to another great school year!

Weekend Backpacks

We are excited to resume the Weekend Backpacks program through sponsor, Weekend Backpacks Baltimore.

This program provides free food every Friday. Families must sign up for the program by scanning the QR code:



Need Assistance?

Reach out to Ms. Davis,
Community School Coordinator

tdavis@elev8baltimore.org
Phone: 443-836-6019





Go, Eagles!

We have kicked off the 2026-27 sports season with Elementary Flag Football, Middle School Girls Flag Football, and Middle School Girls Volleyball.

Elementary School Flag Football

Coach Rawlings

Games: Oct. 12 and 19, 4:30 PM and 5 PM

Swann Park, 299 McComas St., all games on Field 1

Middle School Girls Flag Football

Coach Bowie

Oct. 13, 4:30 PM (Field 1) and 5 PM (Field 2)

Oct. 20, 4:30 PM (Field 3) and 5 PM (Field 1)

Swann Park, 299 McComas St.

Middle School Girls Volleyball

Coach Jenkins

Practice is underway! Game details coming soon.

Please note that the Girls on the Run running club will resume in the spring.

WEEK 2 RANKINGS 2/2

1 CITY SPRINGS	3-1	5 BEECHFIELD	1-2-1
2 SEED	3-1	6 CALVIN RODWELL	0-3-1
3 WINDSORMILL	2-2		
4 JAMES MCHENRY	2-2		

GIRLS MIDDLE

Cheer on the Eagles!

Schedules of games for the fall sports will be on Class Dojo and on our website at citysprings.school/events.



Upcoming Events

- Fun Fridays: Oct. 9,23,30
- No School/PD Day: Oct 16
- PTO Meeting: Oct. 22, 9-10:30 AM
- Halloween Parade, Pre-K, K, 1st, and 2nd ONLY: Oct. 30
- SCHOOL CLOSED, Election Day: Nov. 3 BE SURE TO VOTE!

Be sure to visit our website for our schedule: citysprings.school/events

Baltimore Curriculum Project



Announcing the BCP Alumni Scholarship!

BCP is excited to launch the BCP Alumni Scholarship, offering up to three graduating high school seniors \$2,500 each to support their postsecondary journey. We are excited to invest in the future of our BCP alumni and continue supporting the students who have been such an important part of our community.

To be eligible, students must have attended a BCP elementary or middle school for at least three years, including their school's final grade (5th or 8th grade), and plan to pursue a postsecondary education, training, military service, or career pathway after graduation.

Applications open October 1, 2026, and are due March 15, 2027.

Know a BCP alum? Share this opportunity with them and encourage them to stay connected with BCP!

Learn more: <https://baltimoreecp.org/about-bcp/bcp-alum/bcp-alum-scholarship/>



Habit of the Month: Begin with the End in Mind
Attribute of the Month: Focused
Exemplar Leader of the Month: Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama (b. 1964) is a lawyer, author, and former First Lady of the United States. She graduated from Princeton University and Harvard Law School and met her future husband, President Barack Obama, at the Chicago law firm where she worked. As First Lady, she worked to help children live healthier lives, improve school lunches, and encourage young people to stay active. After leaving the White House in 2017, she writes, speaks, and works on projects to help others. She wrote a bestselling memoir called Becoming.