

THE CONNECTION

DECEMBER 2022

PRINCIPAL'S PEN

As I write this entry for the newsletter, I truly can't believe we have already completed the first semester of learning! Weren't we just on the front lawn welcoming everyone back with our Block Party?! We have had an amazing first half of the year. While we have daily Wins and WOW's, some of our greatest highlights of this semester have included:

- EVERY student giving an oral presentation of learning in front of a review panel at the end of the first quarter.
- The entire school was off campus and out into the field authentically learning from real world experiences.
- We have been awarded three different grants totaling over \$502,000!
- Our students had the chance to work with 15 Grammy nominated and award-winning music producers from all over the country.
- Our football, basketball and soccer teams have had their best seasons in our history.

Great things happen each day at Howard Connect Academy. We are looking forward to what is yet to come in 2023!

BENCHMARK TESTING

December 5-9th we will be taking our second quarter benchmark exams. Students will need their school issued computers each day. Please be sure your child fully charges his/her device each evening.

OFF CAMPUS LEARNING

It's time for Howard Connect to go in motion! On Friday, December 9th the entire student body will be off campus as we take our learning into the field. Students will bring home their permission slips on Monday, December 5th and must be returned by Thursday, December 8th. Please be on the lookout for the form and get it signed and ready to return!

SEEKING THE NEXT GENERATION



Applications for 23-24 are now open and close January 31st. We have 150 seats open for our rising 6th graders, 10 seats for 7th graders and 5 seats for 8th graders. We are inviting families to come for a tour throughout this recruiting season. Click on the link to register for a tour: <https://forms.gle/FAX6XW5cWSQ3XP857>

PRIORITY: We do give priority to siblings of current Connectors. Please let us know of the sibling's name and interest in attending so we can communicate his/her priority once he/she completes the School Choice application. Link to communicate sibling interest: <https://forms.gle/AgXMxbMkiAjeUDJe8>



SCHOOL SAFETY

Each newsletter we want to inform our community of the attention we are giving to school safety. In November we practiced a full lockdown. Our school community executed the drill flawlessly!

May your days be
merry
AND *bright*

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF LEARNING...YOU'RE INVITED:

You are invited to join us for our 2nd Quarter Public Display of Learning evening. On Thursday, December 15th from 5:30-6:30 pm all student projects will be on display for our community to come and see all the learning that has happened at Howard Connect in the second quarter!

COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Bring your questions, wonders, thoughts, and ideas and join Mrs. Miller for a cup of coffee and conversation on Tuesday, December 13th from 8:00-9:00 am. Whatever is on your mind, please bring it to share with Mrs. Miller.

DESIGNER SPOTLIGHTS FOR DECEMBER

CHRIS CUMMINGS-8th Grade ELA



I'm originally from southeastern Massachusetts and this is my 11th year teaching. I studied English Lit. before teaching and pursued Masters in Secondary Ed. and Ed. Leadership since being the classroom. I have taught middle school ELA for most of my career, but I spent the last two years as an instructional tech coach. Howard Connect is my third school after teaching in a small public district in Norton, MA and a private international school in San Jose, Costa Rica. I am thrilled to join the team at Howard Connect and look forward to working with our community towards empowerment and curiosity!

JOEL GARVERICK-6th Grade Social Studies



I am the 6th grade SS designer and am in my first year at Howard Connect. I just moved to Cleveland, TN this summer from Marion, IN, where I've lived for 15 years. I have taught Biology, Government, Economics, as well as AP and dual credit classes at Oak Hill High School where I taught for 5 years. I love teaching because I love having a positive impact on students and helping them to grow and learn. I am looking forward to being a part of something incredible at HCA!

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School will be closed December 17 through January 3rd for WINTER HOLIDAYS! Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you January 4th!