

Cougar Families,

I cannot believe February is coming to a close. We will be taking a "March to PAWsitivity" this coming month. March will be very busy not only as we recognize Woman's History, but also we will be promoting a push for 99% attendance and have a keen eye on math with Pi Day approaching! The month finishes with Spring Break the final week so mark your calendars!

Here are a few reminders:

**IBSE Inquiry Team:** Dr. Keenan, Chief of ODLSS sent out a message to inform us that Chicago Public Schools is participating in an ISBE Inquiry process. The ISBE Inquiry Team has been meeting with families and have offered a venue for parents to share their experiences. The ISBE Inquiry Team will be having 3 sessions next week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at various locations throughout the city. I have posted the flyer on our website under the "News and Announcements" tab.

**Black History Celebrations:** Huge thank you to our Vision students and the Brewer Family for putting together a wonderful performance on the 21<sup>st</sup>! This week student performances will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>. All classrooms will in attendance for these performances on their designated days. Throughout the entire school year, classrooms have been involved in the learning of our American history and the significance for African American innovators and heroes. This month provided another opportunity for teachers to celebrate the achievements by Black Americans while recognizing and acknowledging the central role of African Americans in our history.

**Cougar Calls:** Please continue to send in the forms! We are not at 100% yet and I know many of our scholars would love another out of uniform day for sending in the form!

**Full School Celebration:** As part of our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) our school celebration will begin on Friday! Students can anticipate what's listed below.

Dress-Up Day

- Students should be in uniform or wearing their "Sunday Best". (No halters, spaghetti straps, crop-topped, pencil dresses, heels, jeans, t-shirts)
- Class Pictures: Classrooms will take the red carpet walk for their class picture.
- Halls Decorated with Kindness
- Lunch Treat
- Full School Dance

**Morning Entry and Dismissal:** Please remember to be courteous. I have been getting many calls and visits from our neighbors along 110th place and 110th Street about parents blocking driveways during these congested times.

- The adjusted K/1 dismissal at 2:40 PM seems to be helping a little with the congestion. The hope is that as we continue to make adjustments the flow will only get smoother. We realize with sibling pick up this doesn't change, but we will attempt to be on time each day. Our 4th-8th-grade homeroom teachers will continue to escort classes out to the blacktop daily.

**Safety:** Do not drive past student crossing guards! This is simply dangerous and unacceptable, please be patient.

- For the first time ever, February 14- March 14th has been proclaimed Crossing Guard Appreciation Month by the City of Chicago, and the city is kicking off the “Stay Alert, Don’t Get Hurt” campaign on March 1st to remind motorists to practice safe driving habits and to be especially cautious around schools. Please help us honor and thank crossing guards who work hard every day to ensure the safety of your students by inviting your school community to participate in the campaign.

**Visitors:** Please make sure all visitors are signing in at the security desk. Parents and/or community members, as much as we love each of you should not be moving throughout the building without a visitor's pass.

**LSC:** If you would like to join the LSC applications are due in the main office by 3/2.

**PTA:** We are getting close to the time to select new executive officers. We know we have an incredible parent base, if you are interested, please reach out to the current PTA Executive Board for more details about the roles. This has been a tremendous team and we look forward to this continued success under the direction of new leadership.

**Celebrating Clissold Creativity:** Mark your calendars for our annual celebration of creativity event at the Beverly Art Center on March 2nd! All K-5th-grade students are invited to perform this evening as part of their weekly music sessions with Mr. Boyd and Orian's University. The Glee Club, band students and Visionaries from our after school program will be performing. Along with a visual arts display in the atrium of the Beverly Art Center courtesy of all of our students through Ms. Guerrero's Art class.

We are a Montessori and IB Middle Years educational community who believes in the gift of every child to inspire and empower the future of our humanity.

Dates:

2/26: PTA/ LSC

2/28: Black History Celebration @ 12:45 4-8th grades

3/1: Black History Celebration @ 9:15 K-3rd grades, CARE Team meeting

3/2: Full School Celebration, Celebrating Clissold Creativity

3/5: PARCC Assessment begins

Kindly,  
Mr. McNichols