

NEWSLETTER

The Mathematics, Civics and Sciences Charter School of Philadelphia, Inc.

Veronica J. Joyner, M. Ed., Founder and Chief Administrative Officer

You're invited to
Our Annual African-American History
Showcase in observance of Black History Month

HIGHLIGHTING THE PAST AND PRESENT

February 21, 2018

**Community College of Philadelphia - Bonnell Building
17th & Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA
5:30 p.m.**

EDUCATORS



Mary McLeod Bethune
July 10, 1875 - May 18, 1955
Founded Bethune-Cookman
University



Veronica J. Joyner, M. Ed.
Founder/Chief Administrative Officer
The Mathematics, Civics and Sciences
Charter School of Philadelphia, Inc.

LAWYERS



Thurgood Marshall, Esq.
July 2, 1908 - January 24, 1993
Won Brown vs. Board of
Education court case



**Former President
Barack Obama**
First Black President of the
United States of America
Served two terms

PHYSICIANS



Dr. Charles Drew
June 3, 1904 - April 1, 1950
Discovered a way to store blood leading to
blood transfusions



Mae C. Jemison
Physician and NASA
Astronaut

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968
I Have a Dream Speech to thousands
in Washington, DC.



Andrew Young
Civil Rights Icon and
former Mayor of Atlanta

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I have submitted my application to serve on the Board of Education for The School District of Philadelphia. I am requesting your support by nominating me. I will remain at the school while I serve as a volunteer on the Board. The **deadline to nominate me has been extended to Wednesday, February 7, 2018**. Please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school or send it with your child. We will mail the nomination form for you. You may also mail it to **Educational Nominating Panel, c/o Mayor's Office, City Hall, Room 204 Philadelphia, PA 19107**.

The mission of MCSCS is to graduate students prepared to enter college, trade schools, and today's workforce. Our school has over 1,000 students in grades first through twelfth. We have a 100% graduation rate, and 97-98% of our graduates are accepted to college, many with full scholarships.

According to a School District of Philadelphia report, MCSCS is classified as the top high school in Philadelphia, which includes all public and public charter high schools for graduation and college placement. MCSCS is classified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as 1 out of 132 public and public charter schools in academic progress. MCSCS is classified by the School District of Philadelphia as "Model" for school climate. According to a School District Report, ninety-six percent of our students live in poverty and are graduating and going to college.

For over 40 years, I served as an educator and parent advocate. I have been a life-long advocate for children and parents in Philadelphia. I am the founder and president of Parents United for Better Schools, Inc. (PUBS). The PUBS program was founded in 1984. A year later the tutoring program began for public school students in the city of Philadelphia.

I have been instrumental in making positive policy changes affecting thousands of Philadelphia public school children. I was instrumental in establishing "Marking Guidelines", which resulted in equitable grading practices in Philadelphia public schools affecting over 200,000 public school students. I advocated for the reinstatement of a hot lunch program in 15 Philadelphia public schools, affecting over 30,000 high school students. I am responsible for implementing a book hotline to provide textbooks to Philadelphia public school students. I advocated for free transportation for public school students and provided free school tokens to families. I organized parents at Martin Luther King High School after three youth stabbing to stop the violence. The violence dropped lower than any high school in Philadelphia during that period. I worked with parents at Germantown High School and Pickett Middle School to reduce violence in school and during dismissal.

I met with every Philadelphia Superintendent during my 40 years as a representative of the Philadelphia community to foster a partnership and community involvement. I served on the Executive Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Philadelphia chapter for the past 15 years, and I am also the NAACP Education Chair.

It would be an honor to serve on the school board. I believe my over 40 years of experience in the field of education, parent advocacy, and community involvement will be an asset to the Philadelphia School Board.

Again, the deadline to nominate me is this **Wednesday, February 7, 2018**. Please fill out the nomination form included in this newsletter.

Please feel free to call Mrs. Joyner at 215-923-4880 or 215-313-9195 if you have any questions.

Some MCSCS College Graduates



Oberon Wackwitz
MCSCS - 2013
University of the Sciences -
2018
BS in Physics



Lloyd Wing
MCSCS - 2008
University of Louisiana Lafayette - 2015
BA in Finance
Clarke Atlanta University - 2017
MBA



Anthony Long
MCSCS - 2011
Temple University - 2017
BS in Strategic
Communication



Jacob Thomas
MCSCS - 2009
Edward Waters College - 2017

Some MCSCS Activities

1. The Mighty Elephants, MCSCS boys varsity basketball team, won the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Class A State Championship in 2011. The team also won Division E for the three consecutive years. The team advanced to the 2014 PIAA Class A state championship game. They are the 2014 Class A Runner-Up, and the 2015 PIAA State semi-finalist, 2016 PIAA state runner up, 2017 PIAA state semi finalist and public league semi finalist.
2. 2017 - 2018 Stock Market Game - Our students are in first place
3. Annually, MCSCS staff and students participate in a Can Drive to feed the homeless. Thousands of can foods are donated to shelters in Philadelphia.
4. MCSCS students and staff donated water to help citizens in Puerto Rico who were affected by Hurricane Maria.
5. Our school will donated school supplies, composition books, pencils, pens, notebooks, and paper to school children living in Africa.
6. MCSCS is supporting Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Pennies for Patients Drive sponsored by Olive Garden. Through penny donations, our MCSCS students raise money to continue vital research related to cancer. Donations are also given to the American Red Cross.

The Mathematics, Civics and Sciences Charter School Scholars & Athletic Leaders Congratulations 2017 - 2018 Mock Trial Students



*Unays Jones, Jazer Willis, Ciani Ragin, L'tajh Carter, Nagiah Ferrell, Jabriel Vernon, Carrie Crespina
DoriAnn Stewart, Armoni Billa, Mia Bennett, Sakinah Abdullah Billa, Amani King*

On January 13th and January 14th, the MCSCS Mock Trial Team competed against the top twenty five schools in the state of Pennsylvania in La Salle University's Blue and Gold Invitational Tournament. Over the two day weekend, the students competed in four separate trials, where they accumulated three wins and just one loss. MCSCS' success in this tournament propels the MCSCS mock trial team to a statewide ranking of 8th.

The Mathematics, Civics and Sciences Charter School of Philadelphia, Inc.

SCHOOL POLICIES

The Mathematics, Civics and Sciences Charter School of Philadelphia, Inc. Board of Trustees has approved the following school policies:

Board meetings are held every first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the school conference room

Uniform Policy

- All students are required to wear the school uniform every day. The uniform consists of the following:
Boys: navy blue dress slacks, white oxford dress shirt, navy blue tie, navy blue blazer (grades 6-12), and black dress shoes. **Girls:** Navy blue skirt with only two pleats in the front and back at least two inches below the knee, white oxford dress shirt, navy blue stockings, black dress shoes, navy blue crisscross tie, and navy blue school blazer (grades 6-12).
- Students **cannot** wear Dickie pants with cargo pockets, oversized belt buckles, sneakers, clogs, boots, ballerina shoes, high heeled shoes, jewelry, bangle bracelets, oversized earrings, or sheer stockings.
- The following grooming styles are considered outlandish and unacceptable: High curly tops, curly high-top fade, Mohawks, rattails, patterns or symbols in the hair, spikes, or words cut into the hair. Unconventional colored or multi-colored hair is not permitted (i.e. colors other than natural hair colors, outlandish hairstyles, red, blond, green, blue, purple, and or a mixture of the above). No tattoos and No body piercing. Muslim students are asked to wear navy blue or black garb. Navy blue is our school color.

Violation of the Uniform Policy:

1st Offense- A warning will be issued to the student and the parent will be contacted by phone.

2nd Offense - The parent will be contacted and a letter may be mailed home.

3rd Offense - A suspension will be issued and a reinstatement conference will be held with the parent and student.

Attendance Policy - Good attendance is mandatory for academic success. Children have the opportunity to learn more when they have good attendance. Excessive absences and lateness will result in a meeting with our Board of Trustees and may result in a transfer to the student's neighborhood school. **All students are expected to attend school daily and to be on time.**

Discipline Policy - In order to maintain the order necessary to run a school program, MCSCS, in conjunction with the Philadelphia School District has established a **Code of Student Conduct**, which students must obey. No bullying, profanity, threats, fighting on or off school property, disrespect of teachers, staff or fellow students, vandalism of the school building or school property, stealing, horse playing, drugs or alcohol on or off school property, or weapons on or off school property, State and Federal laws require automatic expulsion for any student with a gun or knife or any instrument that could inflict bodily harm, according to ACT 26.

The Student Handbook and Code of Conduct are available at the school.

2017 - 2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The calendar is subject to change during the course of the school year due to snow and bad weather.

February 12, 2018	Parent/Teacher Conference - Grades 1st - 5th - (4:00 - 6:00 PM)
February 13, 2018	Report Cards Issued to Students - Grades 6th - 12th
February 19, 2018	President's Day - Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
February 21, 2018	African-American History Showcase, Community College of Philadelphia 5:30 PM
March 29 - April 2, 2018	Spring Recess - Schools Closed
April 9 - May 4, 2018	PSSA Assessments (Math, ELA & Science) and Make-up Days
April 18, 2018	Parent/Teacher Conference - Grades 6th - 12th - (4:00 - 6:00 PM)
May 14 - 25, 2018	Keystone Exams
May 15, 2018	Staff Only - Professional Development Day - Schools Closed
May 28, 2018	Memorial Day - Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
June 12, 2018 (subject to change)	Last Day for Students - Reports Cards issued to all students
June 13, 2018 (subject to change)	Last Day for Staff - Long range planning day