



December 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As the calendar year winds down and people around the world celebrate holidays and the upcoming New Year, it is a good time to reflect on the issues that unite us in a spirit of peace and good will. All parents around the world want what is best for our children so that our children might have a better life than our own. The best gift we can give our children is a good education because it is truly one gift that never stops giving. Education cannot be taken away and it opens many doors of opportunity to our children that are not available to those less fortunate. As teachers and staff at Stevenson, we thank you for entrusting your children to us 180 school days a year—less than half the available 365 calendar days. In that short time each year, our teachers see the growth and success in your children and we thank you for your support in making sure that they are here on time ready to learn on those precious few school days. At the end of the month, we will have a two-week break to recharge our batteries and connect with family and friends. During this time, we wish you joy, happiness, and health going into the new year. We encourage you to continue to make reading part of your child’s day throughout the break and we look forward to seeing you in January.

Congratulations to the 5/6th grade Stevenson Volleyball team who won the 2018 CPS Score Girl’s Volleyball Division Championship! The girls worked hard during the season and won all of their games! Congratulations to: **Annais Gallegos, Christina Padilla, Daniela Amador, Emily Villa, Karen Aleman, Sofia Aleman, Makayla Hernandez, Valeria Mahaffey, Mia Hernandez, Ashley Lopez, and Coach Wisniewska!**

Metropolitan Family Services after-school programs is hosting a coat drive for new to gently used coats. They are collecting till December 14th. The collection box will be located in the foyer at the main building.

Here are the CPS Weather Guidelines for Recess:

The seasons are changing, but that doesn’t mean you should stay inside! As a reminder, the cold weather guidelines are:

- Above 32 °F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held outdoors.
- Between 31 °F and 15 °F with or without wind chill: Principal discretion.
 - Precipitation: Snowy and icy conditions should be evaluated for student safety and attire.
 - Student preparedness: Students should have appropriate outdoor attire to stay warm and dry during recess.
 - Playground safety: The playground equipment and surface (i.e., icy conditions) should be evaluated to determine whether students can safely play outdoors.
- Below 15 °F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held indoors.

Although the CPS guidelines are 15°F as the low end cut-off, I generally cut it off at 20° F wind chill. Sometimes the temperature will warm up during the day and the primary rooms which have earlier recess will stay in, while the older students who have later recess will go out. Students should come with adequate outer attire for outdoor recess every day.

Dates to Remember

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| Thursday, December 6 | First Grade Winter Assembly, Main Gym, 2:30 p.m. International Choir & Guitar Club Annual Winter Concert, Main Gym, 6:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, December 11 | Local School Council Meeting, Multi-Purpose Room, 9:00 a.m. |
| Wednesday, December 12 | Science Fair, Branch |
| Thursday, December 13 | PAC Meeting, Parent Room, 8:45 a.m. BAC Meeting, Parent Room, 9:15 a.m. |
| Friday, December 14 December 17 – 21 | Healthy Student Market, Main Cafeteria, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Tropical Optical Eye Exams, Multi-Purpose Room |
| Tuesday, December 18 | Franklin Middle School Choir visits to practice with International Choir Sustainable Community Schools Grant Leadership Team Meeting, 3:45 pm. |
| Friday, December 21 | Healthy Student Market, Main Cafeteria, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. |
| December 24 – January 4 | Winter Break |
| Monday, January 7, 2019 | School Resumes |

