



**COLUMBUS
CITY SCHOOLS**

Columbus Africentric Early College PreK-12 (CAEC)

Sherri C. Williams, Director

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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

September 6, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

Welcome back to our third week of school. The beginning of the school year brings excitement and anticipation. I hope all students have adjusted to their new schedules for the 2022-23 school year. Our teachers and staff's collective talents and dedication are bound to positively impact your child's educational experiences as we strive for academic excellence at Columbus Africentric Early College.

The school doors open for breakfast from 7:00 am- 7:25 am. Students remain outside until breakfast begins. The school day for middle and high school students is 7:30 am-2:30 pm. Students must be in their classrooms ready for instruction by 7:35 am; otherwise, they are tardy.

I would like to take this time to introduce myself to some and reintroduce myself to others. I am the new director and high school principal of Columbus Africentric Early College. We are three schools on one campus. The previous director, Dr. Todd Walker, is now the Chief of curriculum for the district. I have devoted most of my 29 years of educational experiences to Columbus City Schools, serving as an elementary and middle school teacher, Assistant Principal, or Principal in an elementary, middle, or high school in various buildings throughout the district. Mr. Warren is the new middle school principal of Africentric, Dr. John Stegall is the new high school assistant principal, and Carmen Turner is our elementary principal. Together, we will serve the students of CAEC.

Although job titles have changed, we look forward to parental collaboration and community support as we build upon the continuum that provides a safe, clean, engaging, stimulating, and motivating environment that sets the standard for learning.

We expect ALL students to wear dress code. Middle school students will continue to wear purple collar shirts (long or short sleeves) with khaki pants (NO SAGGING), dresses, skirts, or jumpers. Legwear (tights) or socks are restricted to **solid, purple, black, or white**. The same pertains to high school students except for black collared shirts. Please refer to the district guide on dress/skirt and short lengths. Students also have the option to purchase school embroidered sweaters and sweatshirts from our vendor, School Closet. The school will also have some sweatshirts available to sell. We will accept no other layered options for students to wear during the school day. **The dress code is strictly enforced.** Cell phones will have classroom restrictions, and students must place backpacks, outerwear, coats, etc., in their secured, assigned locker. Unsecured items are at risk for theft and vandalism, for which the school is not liable.

Please explore Africentric's website for updates and videos of our students.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- School pictures September 15, 2022- Students must come in their uniform
- Senior Night Football game Thursday- September 15, 2022, CAEC VS Walnut Ridge
- Homecoming Game-Thursday, September 29, 2022, CAEC VS West
- Homecoming Dance grades 9-12th Friday, September 30, 2022, 7:00 pm-10:00 pm. Students must attend school for half the day and be inside the Homecoming doors by 7:30 pm for admission. During Homecoming, students are not permitted to leave and return. Tickets are \$15.00 each. Absolutely no refunds unless the school has to cancel for unforeseen circumstances.
- Possibility of some seniors traveling to Africa during Spring Break-more details forthcoming.

TITLE 1 INFORMATION

Columbus Africentric Early College is a Title 1 school. Based on our student academic growth below the state minimum requirements and overall school student poverty level, we receive Federal money for students, teachers, and family support:

Teacher Professional Development

Funds to purchase specified student materials to support Reading and Math Achievement

Instructional Coaches

Funds to support additional after-school tutoring for students

Parent engagement activities

I am anxiously optimistic about this upcoming school year and look forward the serving the students of Columbus Africentric Early College **#NEXT LEVEL!!!**

Yours in Education,

Sherri C. Williams