



Columbus Downtown High School
364 S. 4th Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Ph. 614.365.2283
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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.

August 8, 2023

Dear CDHS Families:

It is with great pleasure to welcome you the 23-24 school at Columbus Downtown High School! I hope everyone had a great summer and are now prepared for a successful and productive school year. Last year was a great year at CDHS and we are expecting even bigger accomplishments this school year.

- The Class of 2023 had a 100% graduation rate and 97% completed their CTE Program.
- The Public Safety Program continued their partnership with the Columbus Police and the Franklin County Sheriff's Departments, and the students performed several Color Guards for various organizations throughout the school year.
- The Manufacturing Program created items using 3D printers to create water bottle holders and book bag hooks to hang on wheelchairs for special needs students at Colerain Elementary.
- The Culinary Arts Program created dishes at the Home and Garden Show, operated our very own culinary café and catered for various departments within CCS.
- The Early Childhood Education and Teaching Academy Programs collaborated and held a diaper drive and made blankets and cards that were donated to local organizations.
- The Cosmetology Program sponsored their annual Thanksgiving Day Food Drive that helped to feed families in the community. Also, the Cosmetology and the Nail Tech program hosted a Spa Day for Human Trafficking victims.
- The Information Technology Program had students that competed in the BPA regional and state competition, served as vice president and secretary in the region and competed in the Miami Valley Robotic Championship.

You are invited to visit the school and meet the teachers and administrators during our Open House on Tuesday, September 12th from 5:00 to 7:00.

School begins on Wednesday, August 23th! Thank you for choosing Columbus Downtown High School, "**Your student's pathway to success**".

Sincerely,

Cheryl D. Willis
Principal

The Columbus City School District does not discriminate based upon sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, ancestry, familial status or military status with regard to admission, access, treatment or employment. This policy is applicable in all district programs and activities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What new staff members have joined Columbus Downtown High School?

CDHS is happy to welcome the following staff to our team:

- Neiah Blackwell – Community Based Program Instructor
- Teari Buari – Family Ambassador
- Anna DiNardo – Guidance Counselor
- Jermaine Harris – Culinary Arts Instructor
- Ashley Harrison – Culinary Arts Instructional Assistant
- Alana Veach – Instructional Coach
- Kasey Wilson – Information Technology

When can we pay for school fees?

School fees can be paid on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If you are unable to pay on-line, payments can be made at Columbus Education Center – 3rd Floor Accounts Receivable Department, 270 East State Street. Payments can no longer be accepted at the school.

- Information Technology - \$18
- Cosmetology - \$450
- Culinary Arts - \$50
- Manicurist - \$200
- Public Safety - \$50

What do we do if we want a schedule change?

Students are to follow the schedule provided until a schedule change is granted. Students/Parents must complete a “Schedule Change Request Form”. These are available in the Guidance Office and should be submitted to

- Mrs. Leslie Felder – Senior Guidance Counselor
- Mrs. Stacey Thompson – Junior Guidance Counselor

Change requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed.

What about entry/exit and attendance?

ENTRY: The building opens at 6:45 am. Please be mindful of students exiting buses and crossing the parking lot in the morning. All students will enter through the Main Entrance are considered tardy after 7:30am. Students are not allowed to leave school once they arrive on property.

EXIT: School dismisses at 2:30pm. Busses will be parked in the front parking lot and will depart promptly at 2:35pm. Please allow the buses to load and depart before attempting to pick up your student.

If your student will be absent, please call the school at 614-365-2283 or send an email to attendance.downtown@columbus.k12.oh.us during school hours each day of the absence. Either a written note or doctor’s excuse explaining the nature of the absence must be received by the main office within 48 hours.

What about student parking?

Student drivers must have a valid parking pass to park on school property. Applications are available in the Main Office. Students are to park in the student parking lot only, which is the lot near 4th Street.

What about Transportation?

Transportation information is sent directly by the District to the home. If you have transportation questions, please contact the District's Transportation Department at 614-365-5074. Students are not permitted to ride home with another student on a different bus.

What school supplies do we need?

Specific school supply information for all students are located on the school's website and course syllabus will be provided by teachers on the first day of school.

What about Student Identification cards?

CCS will issue each student with a personalized Student Success Identification Card featuring a photo, name, ID number and school logo. During the school year, students will be able to use the Student Success Cards to:

- Serve as ID during the school day.
- Access online learning
- Check out books and other materials at any Columbus Metropolitan Library Branch
- Support safety by allowing administrators and safety and security personnel to identify students quickly and easily.
- In addition to these benefits, students will be able to use cards to access COTA.

What about Breakfast and Lunch?

Breakfast and Lunch are free to all Columbus City School students. Breakfast is served from 7:00am-7:30am. Columbus City Schools has a closed lunch policy. **Students are not allowed to go out to eat, nor are they allowed to have outside food delivered during school hours. Delivered food will be discarded.** Students are permitted to pack lunch and microwaves will be available for student use.

How do we communicate with teachers?

Contact information will be provided by each teacher through their course syllabus and is available on our website. Grades will be posted on Infinite Campus and parents are encouraged to check their student's progress frequently.

What about dress code and electronics?

CDHS follows the dress code guidelines found in the district's Guide to Positive School Conduct. Students not dressed appropriately will be asked to change or parents will be notified to bring a change of clothes.

For General Clarity:

All clothing should fit properly and not interfere with or cause a disruption to the school environment. Undergarments are to be concealed at all times.

Pants/skirts/shorts: not to be tight or form fitting and are to be no more than 1' larger than the waist and worn on the students' natural waistline. No sagging will be permitted. Pants/skirts/shorts are not to drag on the ground or be shorter than mid-thigh, defined as longer than fingertip length.

Shirts/tops: not to be form fitting, no bare midriffs, bare shoulders, and cleavage must be covered.

Shoes: must be always worn. No flip flops, beach shoes, or house shoes are allowed. Sandals are to have a strap around the heel to keep the shoe in place.

Repeated dress code infractions may result in disciplinary actions.

Cell phones and Electronic Devices: It is understood that all cell phones and electronic devices are brought to school at the student's own risk. "Bring your own devices" are permitted, by teacher discretion, in classrooms. Columbus Downtown High School is not responsible for any lost or stolen devices. Students violating the classroom policy will have their devices confiscated by a staff member and parents will have to pick it up in the Main Office.