

**3223 Allegheny Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43209** (City Wide Alternative)

Phone: 614-365-8675 (HS) Phone: 614-365-6517 (MS & PK-5) Website: ccsoh.us/africentricearlycollege **VISION**: High achievement and early college for each student as we affirm the positive leadership of African Americans to benefit the global community.

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**Columbus Africentric Early College PK-12** is proud to provide an educational experience by implementing Columbus City Schools' curriculum within an educational environment infused with the Community Values of Nguzo Saba (Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity and Faith) and Leadership Principles of Maat (Balance, Harmony, Justice, Order, Reciprocity, Righteousness, and Truth). Additionally, the staff is committed to provide a positive and productive learning environment by utilizing an African-centered perspective and education. Our motto is "Success is the Only Option." Our mascot is the Nubians! Nubia once encompassed both Ancient Egypt and the golden city of Kush, Ancient Sudan. The word "Nub" means gold in the ancient African Kemet language. We are reaching for 'gold'!

**DEFINITION OF "AFRICENTRIC PERSPECTIVE**": "Africentric" is a perspective reflective of scientific conclusions that negate social Darwinism and the inferiority of certain races. It affirms one human race with diverse ethnicities and, as a point of view that explores the deep-roots and contributions of African people and their descendants, it recognizes the geographical and cultural unity of human origins in continental Africa as a 'knowledge base' that is beneficial to all people. **DEFINITION OF "AFRICAN CENTERED EDUCATION"**: African Centered Education as an optimal education draws upon a 'wisdom tradition' from the earliest human civilizations, emerging in Africa, which seeks to uplift and liberate. It is academically rigorous and develops capacity for the critical evaluation of historical and cultural assumptions into which all people have been socialized.

**DRESS CODE**: School Uniform PK-12. All students are required to wear khaki bottom pants or shorts. Pre K-8 students wear purple polo shirts/collar shirts. High school students wear black polo shirts/collar shirts. All layered options must be purchased through School Closet / School Days <a href="https://schoolcloset.com">https://schoolcloset.com</a> – shop by public school (Columbus Africentric Early College).

**PK-5 & 6-8 CURRICULUM COMPONENTS:** Pre-Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning utilizing the CCS Curriculum and grade/student-specific Learning Outcomes with a strong emphasis on the leadership principles of Maat and community values of Nguzo Saba. Classes include unified arts (vocal and instrumental music, physical education and visual art).

**EARLY COLLEGE CURRICULUM**: Columbus Africentric Early College provides students entering 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science transfer degree from Columbus State Community College, upon completion of the program.

**PARENTS AS ACADEMIC PARTNERS**: Site Based Council, Community Elders, quarterly joint PK-8 / High school community progress meetings, quarterly Ohio Achievement Assessment parent seminars, and commitment to intervention as outlined in the CAEC *Parent-Student-Teacher Compact* are some of the strategies that are employed to create and sustain parental involvement.

**UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM**: Citywide alternative program with an Africentric and Early College focus. Special features include academic, leadership and cultural assemblies, Celebration of Leadership (community event), marketplace opportunities for community vendors, quarterly student award ceremonies, research projects about African history and culture, and mentoring.

**CHARACTER BUILDING ACTIVITIES**: Utilizing Leadership Principles of Maat and Community Values of Nguzo Saba to build strong leadership and service capacity, Lead to Serve community service projects, campus leadership and service groups

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**: Our athletic program includes: football, basketball, track, softball, volleyball, cheerleading, cross-country, bowling, and wrestling. We have a National Honor Society at each school level high, middle, and elementary. We also offer student council, academic league. We have partnerships with Cardinal Health, DSCC, the VA, and others. We take yearly college tours to Historically Black Colleges/Universities. We have a PK-12 mentoring program. We offer leadership workshops for students. Parents are also required to appropriate intervention and enrichment opportunities are being met for their students.

**OUR STAFF**: We have highly qualified teachers and staff. Many of our teachers have obtained their master's degree and are working on additional post-secondary courses and degrees. Teachers are continually engaged in workshops, on-going professional development, and inservices that relate to the school's Africentric and Early College learning systems and beliefs.