



The ancient Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year's resolutions, some 4,000 years ago. They were also the first to hold recorded celebrations in honor of the New Year—though for them the year began not in January but in mid-March, when the crops were planted.

Like in the Ancient Babylonian tradition, we too resolve to do things at the start of a new year. Resolutions can be an effective way to create new habits. What will you and your child resolve to do in 2024? How will you hold yourself and your child accountable for a resolution made at the beginning of the year? How will you know that you are working toward achieving the resolution? What will be the reward for promises made/promises kept?

Here is a list of the top 35 resolutions for elementary school students:

1. I will keep my room clean.
2. I will keep good grades in school.
3. I will eat less snacks.
4. I will have a fruit or veggie with every meal.
5. I will try new foods.
6. I will go to bed at a decent hour.
7. I will exercise for at least a half hour each day.
8. I will drink less soda and juice and drink more water.
9. I will eat my veggies even if I don't like them, because I know they're good for me!
10. I will be sure to do my homework before anything else after school.
11. I will take better notes in class.
12. I will pay better attention to the teacher and less attention to my friends during class time.
13. I will study my notes after school.
14. I will help my mom cook dinner at least three times a week.
15. I will do all of my chores without giving mom trouble.
16. I will be nicer to my sister and brother.
17. If I feel like I'm getting mad, I will walk away and calm down.
18. I will teach my sister how to play soccer.
19. I will watch less TV.

20. I will get out and play every sunny day.
21. I will put things away when I'm done using them.
22. I will brush my teeth each morning and night.
23. I will get into good hand washing habits.
24. I will find a hobby to do on rainy days so I'm not telling mom "I'm bored!"
25. I'll be nice to every kid, even the ones that are bullied by others; I'll be their friend.
26. I will memorize my address and phone number, and never give these out to strangers!
27. I will run for school president!
28. I will find a way to be actively involved in my community, even if it's simply picking up garbage at the local park on weekends.
29. I will talk openly about my feelings.
30. I will resist peer pressure and be a positive influence on my friends.
31. I won't talk back to my parents/teachers.
32. I will not tease my little brother/sister.
33. I will be more organized in everything I do.
34. If I need help, I will ask for it.
35. I will read a new book each (day, week, month, whichever is age appropriate).

Important Dates

1/3	Return from Winter Break
1/12	End of Second Grading Period
1/15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School for Students)
1/16	Professional Development Day (No School for Students)
1/17	Records Day (No School for Students)
1/18	Report Cards Available in Parent Portal
1/25	Liberty Lion of the Month Luncheon
1/25	Culture Night, 5-6:30pm
1/29	O.E.L.P.A. testing begins for ELL students (K-5)
1/31	Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:45-7:15pm

Social Emotional Resources (SEL) for Parents

The link below includes articles that give great information on how to support your child's social emotional health at home. Please take a moment to review some of them.

<https://www.smores.com/qv61e>

Outside Recess

When the temperature reaches 27 degrees with wind chill, students will have outdoor recess in the winter months. Please be sure to send students to school with coats, hats and gloves.

Second Semester Parent Conferences

Liberty will hold in-person parent conferences on 1/31/2024 and 2/6/2024 from 3:45 p.m. -7:15 p.m. Please expect sign-up sheets from your child's teacher upon our return from Winter Break.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (O.E.L.P.A.)

The Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) is the state summative test used to determine an English learner's progress to English proficiency and readiness to exit from the English language development program. The OELPA is aligned to Ohio's K-12 [English Language Proficiency Standards](#) and meets the federal requirement of an annual assessment of English proficiency measuring listening, speaking, reading and writing.

All English learners in grades K-12 must be included in Ohio's English language proficiency assessment program annually by taking either the general OELPA or the Alt-OELPA.

School Choice Fair

We are quickly approaching the time of year that CCS families will have the opportunity to submit lottery applications for the 2024-2025 school year. Each year CCS has a School Choice Fair to allow families the opportunity to view the numerous options that our district has to offer. The School Choice Fair will be virtual this year. The School Choice Fair dates are:

High School/Middle School Fairs - January 11, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Elementary School Fair - February 13, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

High School & Middle School applications are accepted from **January 3 to February 29, 2024**, and Elementary School applications from **February 1 to March 29, 2024**. Late applications are considered until **August 16, 2024**, for students completing the previous school year with CCS. New students can apply within two weeks of enrollment until **December 6, 2024**. Explore diverse educational pathways, including Selective Admissions, Return to Homeschool, Reservation, ROTC applications and more!

Look for additional information to come from the School Choice Lottery Office. Visit the School Choice website for additional information on School Choice:

<https://www.ccsosoh.us/Page/11196>.

Attendance—Every Minute Counts

The instructional day begins at 9:00. Please make sure that your child is present each day and stays until dismissal time. Each minute counts!!! Avoid a House Bill 410 attendance intervention plan by making sure to send in medical documentation for any late arrivals, early dismissals, or absences. As much as possible, please refrain from late arrivals and early dismissals as this will count against your child's attendance. Please email the Attendance Secretary, Keysha Woodson at kwoodson@columbus.k12.oh.us to send in any type of absence documentation.

What is considered a legally acceptable reason to be absent from school? Generally, absence from school is considered lawful, or an excused absence, for the following legally acceptable reasons (a signed parent or guardian note is required):

- Personal illness or quarantine
- Illness or death in the immediate household

- Emergencies or any other occurrences or situations which, in the judgment of individual principals, may necessitate absence from school as a last resort
- Religious holiday
- Superintendent's designation

Stay Safe,
Shalonda Likely-Roach, Principal
Eric Butler, Assistant Principal