

**CCA Weekly Parent Update**  
**Monday, February 12, 2024**

***From the Principal***

Please join us on Tuesday, Feb. 13 for the Hamilton County Schools Superintendent's State of the Schools event. The event will be at the Gateway Building, so this will give everyone a glimpse of our future CCA home. Doors open at 5:45. Our CCA Jazz Band will perform at 6:00. The superintendent's speech will start at 6:30 p.m.

We are excited about our new student-led tutoring club, Iris! The name was selected because the Iris symbolizes wisdom and mentorship. From the club founders...

Starting this Tuesday, the Iris club will be meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5 pm every week. The club will meet in the Commons. Iris is a club of knowledgeable students coming together to help mentor kids in need of academic support, whether it be through homework or class content, as well as ACT help. The purpose of this club is to help kids with school in an easygoing and friendly environment with helpful peer mentoring. Please consider sending your kids in if they need help with any of their classes! For more information, contact Nawina Navaneethakrishnan ([shullynawin@gmail.com](mailto:shullynawin@gmail.com)) or James Derrick ([jcderrick27@gmail.com](mailto:jcderrick27@gmail.com))


Important cell phone reminder! Holding a cellphone (especially using it) is illegal in a school zone. Last week, teachers reported seeing three parents in one morning who were using their phones while dropping off their children and driving. Please help us keep everyone safe and do not use your phones while driving in our school zone.

A HUGE congratulations to CCA Senior Ella Hill for her designation as a National Merit Finalist! We are so proud of her!

Happy Valentine's Week!

***Mark Your Calendar!***

|                     |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday, Feb. 12     | Writer's Lounge<br>In the CCA Library | 5:30 p.m.                            |
| Tuesday, Feb. 13    | HCS State of the Schools<br>Event     | 6:00 p.m. at the Gateway<br>Building |
| Thursday<br>Feb. 15 | CCA Talent Show                       | 7:00 p.m.                            |
| Monday<br>Feb. 19   | No School<br>Presidents Day           |                                      |

|                                      |  |                         |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Tuesday<br>Feb. 20 (moved from 13th) | PAPA Board Meeting   | 5:30 p.m. CCA Commons   |
| Thursday and Friday<br>Feb. 22 & 23  | CCA Black History Concert  | 7:00 p.m. at UTC        |
| Thursday<br>Feb. 29                  | Winds and Percussion<br>Concert  | 7:00 p.m.               |
| Friday<br>March 1                    | High School Open Mic<br>Night  | 6:00 p.m.               |
| Saturday<br>March 2                  | Celebration of Creative<br>Arts (CoCA)   | Doors open at 5:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Mar. 5                      | Art Opening  | 5:30pm                  |
| Wednesday, Mar. 6                    | Acting/Directing Showcase  | 5:30pm and 7:00pm       |
| Thursday, Mar. 7                     | Strings Concert  | 7:00pm                  |
| Week of March 11-15                  | SPRING BREAK<br> | Enjoy your time off!    |
| Tuesday, Mar. 19                     | Beginning Acting<br>Showcase   | 5:30pm and 7:00pm       |
| Tuesday, Mar. 19                     | ACT Bootcamp for all<br>Juniors (all day)  | Library                 |
| Thursday, Mar. 21                    | ACT Test for All Juniors   | Gym                     |
| Fri. Mar. 22 & Sat. Mar. 23          | Portraits in Dance   | 7:00pm                  |
| Monday, Mar. 25                      | Communications<br>Showcase   | 5:30pm                  |
| Friday, Mar. 29                      | Spring Holiday   | NO SCHOOL               |

## **PAPA Notes**

### **Celebration of Creative Arts (CoCA) - Saturday, March 2 - Annual Fundraiser**

Just 3 weeks until our special fundraising event. You won't want to miss it!

**Get your tickets [HERE!](#)** For our Silent Auction wish list, click [HERE](#)

Please continue to send in gift cards and local specialty items too!

## ***Parent/Family Events and Volunteer Opportunities***

Jennifer Ledford, Volunteer Coordinator [ledford\\_jennifer@hcde.org](mailto:ledford_jennifer@hcde.org)

Click on the links highlighted in blue for the sign-up. [Log Volunteer Hours Here](#)

**On Friday afternoons, PAPA sponsors an afternoon treat for our teachers and staff.** We need your help to make this happen! Please check the links below to see how you can help. Thank you for your continued support of our CCA teachers and staff!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8AA22ABFFC25-47293167-faculty#/>

**Volunteer to make homemade baked goods for Faculty Friday**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8AA22ABFFC25-47293963-faculty#/>

**Volunteer to send in drinks and treats for Faculty Friday**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8AA22ABFFC25-47297799-items#/>

| In-Person Volunteering   | Item Donations                                     |
|--|--|
| <a href="#">BIPOC Feb. Lunch Series</a>                        | <a href="#">10th Grade Snack Sale</a>              |
| <a href="#">Black History Month Concert 2/22&amp; 2/23 UTC</a> | <a href="#">BIPOC Feb. Lunch Series</a>            |
| <a href="#">Writer's Lounge 2/12</a>                           | <a href="#">Writer's Lounge 2/12</a>               |
| <a href="#">Talent Show 2/16</a>                               | <a href="#">Dry Cleaning for Acting Department</a> |

Middle School Track and Field tryouts will be held February 20-22 from 3:15-4:45 pm . Please plan on attending each day. We will meet behind Normal Park Upper School on the athletic field. Bring a water bottle and dress for physical activity. The final team roster will be posted on the Normal Park school website on Friday, February 23rd. Practices will begin the following week and will be Monday- Thursday from 3:15- 4:45. All Students must have a physical form uploaded to Final Forms before tryouts. See the following link for instructions: [Important Forms - Normal Park Museum Magnet \(hcde.org\)](#). If you have any questions please contact Coach Gaines via email at [gaines\\_j@hcde.org](mailto:gaines_j@hcde.org)

**Library Book Wish List** - Please [click on this link to access the wish list](#). When you make a purchase, please email [ledoux\\_mary@hcde.org](mailto:ledoux_mary@hcde.org) so the books can be removed from the list to prevent duplicates and email [ledford\\_jennifer@hcde.org](mailto:ledford_jennifer@hcde.org) a copy of your Amazon invoice. Thank you for your support of our Library!

**CCA Spring College Fair for Sophomores and Juniors March 6, 2024, from 1:30 – 3:30** Students will rotate through the fair on a schedule with their afternoon classes. There will be a wide variety of colleges attending - state universities, small liberal arts colleges, religious affiliated schools, plus military and two-year options. Parents are welcome if your schedule permits.

### ***Senior Section***

Please click here for the [Senior Year FAQ](#) that Mr. Flowers and Mrs. Sarabia created to try to answer the most commonly asked questions about senior year.

As college decisions begin to trickle in, I know many of you are thinking about financial aid and scholarships. Here's a quick reference guide to Tennessee Financial Aid & Scholarships: [State-Aid-Summary-Co24.pdf \(collegefortn.org\)](#) All CCA seniors have already applied for the TN Promise Scholarship.

To qualify for any Federal, State, or College/University aid you will need to complete the 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, FAFSA. Most institutional scholarships require the FAFSA as well. Due to a redesign of the FAFSA form, the 2024-2025 FAFSA will be available sometime in December instead of the usual opening in October. Federal Student Aid has not provided the exact date, so I expect it will be toward the end of December. We will send updates as they are available.

What is the FAFSA: [What Is FAFSA®? - YouTube](#)

Changes to the FAFSA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOglb7StyPU>

### **FAFSA Updates**

Federal Student Aid announced that pending FAFSA forms will be processed and sent to colleges mid-March.

I want to encourage you to take advantage of the FAFSA line by line webinar series for parents and students every Monday evening through March 26 at 7:30 pm eastern time. This presentation will walk you through every screen and question on the 2024-25 FAFSA. This was a very helpful tool for families last year. You will need to register to join the webinar.

Register here: <https://www.collegefortn.org/college-events/>

If you have questions regarding financial aid, please reach out to Ms. Sarabia at [sarabia\\_m@hcde.org](mailto:sarabia_m@hcde.org)

Important Senior Events:

**May 1, 2024:** College Commitment Day and Senior Finale

**May 7, 2024:** Seniors Last Full Day

**May 8, 2024:** Senior Exams and Senior Check Out Day

**May 13, 2024:** Senior Banquet and Senior Sunset 2 (2 guests per student)

**May 16, 2024:** Graduation at Memorial Auditorium at 5:00 pm

## **HANDY LINKS and Recurring Information:**

[CCA Performance Attire Swap Document](#)

[Log Volunteer Hours Here](#)

**Absences:** For absences to be considered excused, we require an appropriate excuse note (parent, medical or other), please send your excuse notes to Kristen Weaver. Notes can be turned in at the front desk, emailed to [weaver\\_kristen@hcde.org](mailto:weaver_kristen@hcde.org), or faxed to 423-209-5930 (attention Ms. Weaver). Please email Mrs. Weaver with any attendance related questions or concerns.

**Transportation Changes:** Please send an email to [brantley\\_regina@hcde.org](mailto:brantley_regina@hcde.org) if you need us to let your student know about a transportation change.

For communication about dismissals and attendance, email Kristen Weaver [weaver\\_kristen@hcde.org](mailto:weaver_kristen@hcde.org)

Please avoid last minute transportation changes, unless it is an emergency.

For bus passes, email Regina Brantley [brantley\\_regina@hcde.org](mailto:brantley_regina@hcde.org)

**Bus Pass:** If your student needs to ride a different bus, please send a written note or email [brantley\\_regina@hcde.org](mailto:brantley_regina@hcde.org) by 3pm that day so that a bus pass can be prepared. You will need to include the following: student's name, bus number, stop location, parent name and phone number.

**After school Tutoring:** Tutoring resumed Monday, January 22nd. This is a great opportunity for your student to receive individualized help from their classroom teacher. The tutoring schedule can be found [here](#).

### **CCA Photo Library**

Please upload images of your students performing or participating in their major at CCA. Click into the appropriate folder to share your pictures according to the relevant major. Please limit the number of submissions to 5 per family, per show. Please note that these pictures may be used for marketing purposes.

[CCA Photo Library](#)

**To make payments, purchase tickets, pay fees, or purchase swag,** Go to [cca.hcde.org](http://cca.hcde.org) **and click on the CCA Store Front tab.** There will be the following links to choose from:

- **[Ticketed Events & More](#)**: This link is to purchase online tickets for upcoming events or special items such as fundraising events. When you click on the link, you will be redirected to Memberhub/Givebacks.
- **[CCA Swag](#)**: This link is to purchase clothing and other items with the CCA logo. You will be redirected to the CCA Online Store. Instructions to make an account are on the website and [here](#).
- **[SchoolCash Online](#)**: This link is to pay dues or school fees. You will need to make an account if you don't already have one. This was used during registration for fees.