

# LETTER FROM THE CEO



## Community Academy of Philadelphia, CS

### Grades K - 2

Our students celebrated Read Across America Week with a diverse selection of books. Books were read through video by the administration of CAP. Check out some of the clips on social media.

### Grades 3 - 8

It's time for **CAP's Got Talent Virtual Talent Show!** We are excited to dance our way into CAP history by having our first ever virtual talent show!

All video submissions must be emailed to Ms. McNamara by Monday, March 29, 2021, at [jmcnamara@communityacademy.org](mailto:jmcnamara@communityacademy.org). Please review the attached flyer for further details.

### Own a Business?

CAP wants to help CAP families and alumni that own businesses. We will advertise for you in our newsletters for free. Please email [kacabeo@communityacademy.org](mailto:kacabeo@communityacademy.org) your information and student's name.



## Women's History Month

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed a law which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." All month students will be doing lessons and projects to celebrate the month.

## One Year Later

We are on the road to recovery and are here to support our





## Vaccines for Teachers

Over the last few weeks, teachers from CAP have received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine for COVID 19 from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Their second doses will begin next week. We are thankful to CHOP for giving the teachers this opportunity. It is important to us to give the students what they need to be successful.

## Facility Upgrades

There have been many concerns from School District of Philly teachers about the ventilation in their public schools. As you know, CAP has been on top of all of the latest ventilation systems for our school. HVAC (air handlers) fan setting is set to "always on" for better air circulation and outside air flow and filter levels were increased to MERV 13 (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) which filters down to 0.3-1.0 micron particle size. Also, CAP has installed ionizers throughout the entire building. Ionization is a commercially available

families so please do not hesitate to reach out to us for any support needed. It has been a year and the PA and US Department of Health, the CDC, and the President are encouraging schools to open back up. At the beginning of the month, Philadelphia announced they are rolling back some restrictions in the city. Here are some highlights: Outdoor catered events are permitted with a maximum of 100 people. The previous limit was 50 people; Indoor catered events remain prohibited; Religious services can increase capacity to 20%, an increase from the previous restriction of 10%; Retail stores can have 20 people per 1,000 square feet -- an increase from the current restriction of 10 people per 1,000 square feet.

The 6 foot-rule in the County of Philadelphia does still remain in place. So, we are incrementally going up the grades to gage interest in having students return for in person hybrid twice a week. Since we have students K - 4 in for hybrid, **it is now time to focus on grades 5 and 6.** It is important to us that we have created the best environment for our students.



In an effort to help our community, CAP has volunteered the gym to be used as a vaccination site with the City of Philadelphia and the Office of Emergency Management in order for there to be easier access to the families in the surrounding neighborhoods and equity of access. These clinic days are once a week and a contracted cleaner cleans the gym in its entirety.



**(cont from Facility Upgrades)** technology that produces a stream of ions that can capture gaseous and particulate contaminants in the air, including COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) virus and kills them. CAP still has electrostatic sprayers and daily periodic and nightly deep cleaning procedures.

## Standardized Testing 2021

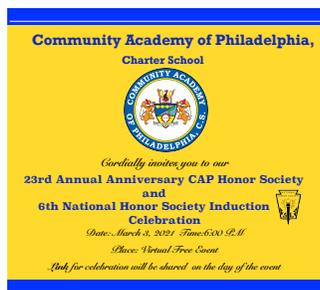
The Federal Government recently affirmed its commitment to state-level assessments being given across the country. The Pennsylvania Department of Education communicated its intention to apply for a waiver, giving schools the opportunity to administer the tests in the fall, rather than the spring, which is the traditional time period. The evidence cited included information regarding a large number of schools, especially at the secondary level, that continue to be 100% virtual and would have difficulty administering assessments. PDE has provided dates for the spring testing windows that have been expanded significantly to allow for flexibility in the scheduling of the administration. Dates specific to test administration will be communicated by the Principals in the future. CAP administration will continue to monitor communications from PDE and the Department of Education and will communicate them to families in a timely fashion, should any changes occur.



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## Grades 7 through 12

I know many families are anxious to know when students will be returning. I have received your emails. We are systematically bringing students back in a safe and orderly manner in order to maintain social distancing and other mitigation procedures. Communication will be coming very shortly on the rest of the grades and the possibility of the start of hybrid.



Congratulations to the students that received honors in the first semester year and the new inductees to the National Honor Society and the National Junior Honor Society.

