



BEYOND THE GAME

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AND THE COMMUNITIES OF CINCINNATI

ATHLETICS

FALL 2019



★ GO VIBRANT – BOUNCE FUNDRAISER

CPS Athletics partnered with a non-profit organization called go Vibrant to lead an effort to raise money for CPS elementary school athletics. As a result of this partnership, a field trip opportunity was provided for 3rd and 4th grade CPS elementary students at 10 different schools! The field trip experience consisted of fun physical activities for students at the P&G go Vibrantscape at Smale Riverfront Park, and each participant received free admission to the Wellness Your Way Festival at the Duke Energy Center.

As a result of this partnership, go Vibrant presented \$10,000 to Cincinnati Public Schools, which will be utilized to provide sport opportunities in soccer, cross country, and track & field to the 10 elementary schools that participated in the field trip! CPS Athletics is committed to partnering with organizations and community members in an effort to impact students through sports. If you have any questions regarding the growth of elementary athletics in the district, please contact Brent Langhorne: langhob@cps-k12.org.

[Click here to check out the recap video from "Bounce."](#)



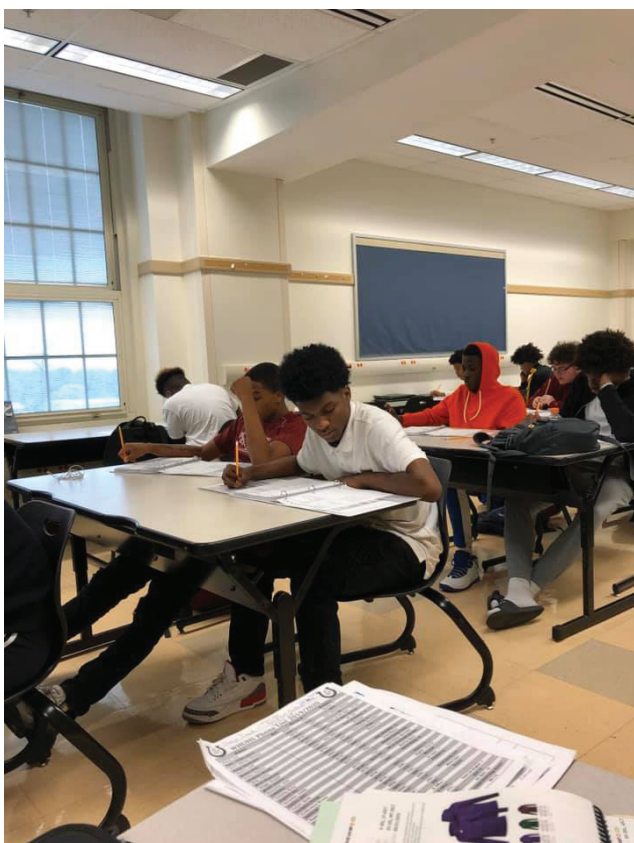
★ CPS ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT DONATION

This past fall, CPS Athletics received a special message from the Johnson Charitable Gift Fund. After finding out more information about the group, it was soon revealed that a generous donation had been made to the district, specifically for athletic equipment!

CPS Athletics has experienced tremendous growth in structured programming over the past few years, and people around the city are starting to take notice. Because of the rapid growth and new opportunities for students across CPS, the Athletics department humbly accepted a donation of \$50,000!

It was decided that half of the money would go towards elementary athletics and the other half would be dispersed among junior high and high school athletics programs providing much needed sports equipment.





★ ACT BOOT CAMP

This year the Academic and Athletic Accountability (AAA) Pathway has expanded its ACT offerings to reach more students over a longer period of time. Schools in close proximity are partnered together and select student-athletes receive six weeks of intensive ACT training from ACT guru, Larry Hodge. Throughout this training, student-athletes are exposed to test prep strategies, repeated practice and continued individualized support.

With this additional ACT support, the AAA Pathway team believes that student-athletes are being prepared for life beyond high school — including college scholarship opportunities. Mr. Hodge not only coaches students through the ACT, but also offers advice about managing through how to handle adversity and tough situations through strategy and perseverance. Results from the ACT session show all participants saw an increase in their score. For some student-athletes, the higher score meant they could accept college scholarships because they met entrance requirements.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

★ STARGEL STADIUM RIBBON-CUTTING

On Friday, September 13, nearly a year of anticipation finally came to fulfillment as Cincinnati Public Schools officially opened brand new Stargel Stadium across the street from Taft High School! The stadium is the home field for six different CPS football teams (Aiken, Gamble, Hughes, Riverview East, Shroder & Taft). The stadium was recently rebuilt and upgraded to be a high-tech, state-of-the-art facility that stands out in down-town Cincinnati, with a beautiful view of the skyline beyond the end-zone.

In week three of the football season, Withrow High School came down to visit Taft High School for a marquee match-up between two of the stronger city school programs. Over the course of the night, the new synthetic turf, bleachers, and press box were on display for fans to see. What stands out most, however, is the weight room with state-of-the-art equipment that is now attached to the home locker room. In addition, a large athletic training room that benefits our student athletes was also installed.

At halftime, a special ceremony was held that included CPS Superintendent, Laura Mitchell, as well as Board President, Carolyn Jones as they joined with Stargel Family and other community members to officially cut the ribbon, opening Stargel Stadium for good!

We'd like to thank a variety of sponsors for supplying our hospitality room and supporting other giveaways throughout the night and promoting the game — Activities Beyond the Classroom, Skyline Chili, Gold Medal, 101.1 The Wiz FM, GO Vibrant, Gatorade, Kona Ice & Taglio all played an important role and we appreciate their contributions!

[Click here to see video of the ribbon-cutting ceremony.](#)



★ MEDIA DAY

Students deserve to be recognized for their incredible accomplishments, whether in the classroom, out in the community or on their respective field/court of play. That's why this year, CPS Athletics and the Cincinnati Metro Athletic Conference (CMAC) created CMAC Basketball Media Day in preparation for the winter sports season!

On Sunday, November 6, boys and girls basketball players and coaches from 10 different CPS high schools joined together at the new site of Gamble Montessori High School. Throughout the afternoon, coaches were asked to share their season goals and program outlooks while students had an opportunity to participate in special photo ops, creating videos and images that schools can use to promote their games and more on social media/around their buildings.

In addition, the CMAC has requested that every coach to lead a service project focused on giving back to the community. Every coach had a chance to talk about their team's project and why it's important to them. Finally, from each team was named the CMAC all-academic team, representing the top students and GPAs in the conference.

Check out our full recap of CMAC Basketball Media Day [here!](#)



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