



# BEYOND THE GAME

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

## ATHLETICS

WINTER 2019

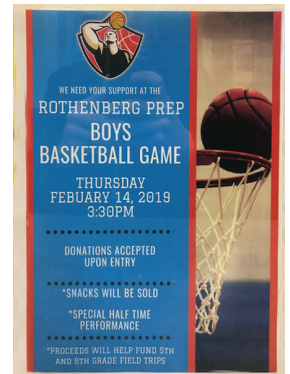
### ★ ELEMENTARY UPDATE

It has been an exciting winter season for elementary athletics with programming in basketball, baseball/softball, soccer, and swimming! In collaboration with resource coordinators at CPS elementary schools, along with CPS Elementary Athletics Coordinator, Brent Langhorne, students across the district have had opportunities to develop healthy habits, learn new skills, and build school pride. Check out a brief summary of three exciting programs that have students energized and excited!

**After-School Futsal Program** — 14 schools and over 350 students participated in an after-school futsal program during the month of January. In collaboration with Kings Hammer Soccer Club, FCC, and Xavier Girls Soccer, coaches from across the city traveled to our elementary schools to provide soccer instruction and skill development activities!

**After-School Swimming Program** — In collaboration with Activities Beyond The Classroom, CPS Athletics, and the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, 1st grade students at Midway, Roll Hill, and Westwood had the opportunity to participate in swim safety lessons after-school for 2 consecutive weeks. This was a fun opportunity for students to have fun in the pool, but also learn important swim safety skills that they can utilize around the water for years to come

**Elementary Basketball Scrimmages** — CPS Athletics provided a pilot program in January/February that allowed elementary schools the opportunity to form basketball teams, wear school jerseys, and play organized competition against other schools in the district. The atmosphere at scrimmages has been incredible, with posters made by students, dance teams performing at half-time, and some schools starting to implement cheer teams. It is exciting to see elementary students taking pride in their school and learning positive skills along the way!



Click here for a CPS Athletics Recap Video: [www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/social-media](http://www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/social-media)





## ★ STUDENT ATHLETE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

On Thursday, January 24 Cincinnati Public Schools Athletics invited over 70 students from 14 schools to participate in a Student Athlete Leadership Conference. All students that attended are members of their individual schools' Student Athlete Leadership Teams (S.A.L.T.) and throughout the course of the day, were involved in a series of break-out sessions led by Athletic Directors, heard from guest speakers and then ultimately came together to plan a large, group give-back project!

Our S.A.L.T. students came up with the idea of an elementary school give-back and supply drive, which will be followed by a field day where high school students will lead and mentor the elementary student participants. The plan is to pair each high school with nearby elementary schools for the supply-drive event with the intent of the schools fostering a long-term rapport.

CPS Athletics wants to extend a BIG thank you to all those that contributed; CPS Food Services for providing lunch for every single student, Board member Ozie Davis for speaking about leadership, Aiken alum LaMarque Ward for being our keynote speaker, and all the students, coaches and athletic directors that made the afternoon something to remember!

Check out conference highlights here:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4Rvd6R4yjs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4Rvd6R4yjs)





## ★ ACT BOOT CAMP

In September, Cincinnati Public Schools Athletics hosted an ACT Boot Camp for junior and senior student-athletes to receive extra help on the upcoming ACT. The students had two evening sessions with ACT Pro Martha Geller and got individualized help to improve their ACT scores. In all, 20 students attended the boot camp and all of them walked away feeling more comfortable and prepared for the October and December ACT test dates.

In addition to the test prep, CPS Athletics also made sure each student had dinner the night before the ACT, as well as breakfast before they made their way into take the test.

One student who attended the boot camp raised their score from a 15 to a 20 and was able to accept their college athletic scholarship offer! That student signed their letter of intent on February 6. Other students saw an average of a 1.5 point raise in their score, which is a significant difference when it comes to accepting scholarships for college. The district looks forward to sponsoring more events like this in the future and continuing to build a model that works for more students!

## ★ STARGEL GROUNDBREAKING

Construction is officially underway at the site of what's to be the new and improved Stargel Stadium! On Wednesday, January 23 students from Taft High School piled into the gymnasium, joined by the Elevar Design Group, several community leaders, CPS Board members and Superintendent Laura Mitchell to celebrate the official groundbreaking of the new multi-purpose athletic facility. Perhaps the most special guests of all were the Stargel family. At the conclusion of the groundbreaking, CPS Board President Carolyn Jones and company presented the family with a commemorative plaque that symbolized the connection and legacy that Willard Stargel left in the West End.

Some of the improvements to the stadium include a brand-new weight room, state of the art locker rooms, a larger press box with a video-recording canopy and more!

**Check out more on the ceremony by clicking the link below for the official video summary!**

**[www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxanCJxMwt4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxanCJxMwt4)**



## SAVE THE DATES!

The CPS Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet to honor the induction class of 2019 will be held on **Thursday, April 18, 2019** at Paul Brown Stadium!

CPS Athletics will host our annual Dave Dierker Golf Outing on **Sunday, June 9, 2019** at Glenview Golf Course! Make sure you come out to support the Dave Dierker Scholarship that we will present at the outing!

**Click here for more details: [www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/special-events](http://www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/special-events)**