SALT ELEMENTARY FIELD DAY

On Tuesday, May 7, CPS Athletics invited over 200 students from 22 schools across the district to participate in an Elementary Field Day, at the Reds Youth Academy in Rose-lawn! Student Athlete Leadership Teams (SALT) from each CPS high school met at a conference in January to collaborate and make plans for a group giveback project, resulting in scheduling a field day for high school students to meet younger CPS students in an afternoon of fun and friendly competition.

In addition, each high school was also tasked with running a campaign for a school-supplies drive which would ultimately benefit the elementary schools that attended the field day.

CPS Athletics would like to extend a big thank you to CPS Food Services for providing a boxed lunch for every single student during field day, in addition to the Reds Youth Academy for encouraging us to use their facility.

It was a valuable experience, giving high school students an opportunity to build mentorships with younger students, answer questions about what high school leadership and balancing athletics and school work efficiently.

The Academy of World Languages emerged as the inaugural SALT Field Day Champions, accumulating the most points from the 10-station rotation!

CPS FOOTBALL COMBINE

On Wednesday, May 8, CPS varsity football coaches held a student-athlete combine and showcase at Withrow High School. Over 100 students from 11 different CPS high schools and football teams attended and participated in a variety of drills and physical testing, while coaches and recruiters from over 15 colleges and universities had an opportunity to observe.

“It was like nothing else I’ve seen in CPS before”, said Armand Tatum, head varsity football coach for Western Hills High School. “119 student-athletes from each high school all working as hard as they could to impress college coaches, who would not otherwise be able to visit to every school in our district. Everybody was working together and encouraging each other as one team!”

Events like the combine provide an opportunity for exposure for our student-athletes looking to continue their academic and athletic careers at the college level. Our goal is to send as many students to college as possible. The athletic department will continue to invite representatives from colleges and universities to meet with CPS student-athletes, so they can showcase their talents.

Check out the combine video here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3_duhcnPw8
Western Hills student and stand-out softball player who was tragically struck by a car and killed earlier this year.

The Rodriguez family was in attendance to witness the unveiling of a memorial plaque near the backstop that honors Gabrielle, and the raising of a new flag in the outfield with Gabrielle’s number 13.

A huge thank you goes out to the CPS facilities department for building this incredible field and to the Reds Community Fund for donating the new scoreboard. We hope this new facility helps strengthen the community around Western Hills High School as students and the public will now have an opportunity to stay on campus for home softball contests!

Video highlights here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOLm0czFkyY

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER
On Monday, April 29, CPS Athletics invited students, parents, coaches, and school counselors to Mayerson Academy for a presentation on the NCAA Eligibility Center, presented by Lisa Roesler, Associate Director of Engagement and Strategic Partnerships for the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Throughout the day-long session, over 100 guidance counselors, students and parents stopped by to learn more about NCAA requirements for student-athletes. Roesler explained the role of each school staff member when assisting students with athletic scholarships, core-course requirements and she also answered questions.

We were able to give out special door prizes, including a brand new laptop, to students that attended! We’d like to thank our partner, Gatorade, for providing drinks and snacks at the event, in addition to providing every attendee with a brand new water bottle and towel!

CPS Athletics has a goal to strive for 100 percent compliance and eligibility for each student-athlete interested in accepting college scholarships. The Athletic Department plans to offer additional seminars like this to continue to inform and educate parents and students about NCAA eligibility.
STARGEL STADIUM UPDATE

TURF is down! We’re making progress! More updates to come soon! #cincinnati #iamcps
Check out the Stargel Stadium progress video here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvguZuM4_X4

ELEMENTARY T-BALL PROGRAM

CPS Athletics provided a pilot t-ball program to 3 CPS elementary schools this spring – Dater Montessori, Roberts Paideia, and Sayler Park School. This was a great opportunity for K-1st grade students to be introduced to the game of baseball, be part of a team, and exhibit school pride in friendly competition!

Each team received a uniform, hat, and baseball pants in partnership with Ohio Cleats for Kids and the Cincinnati Reds Community Fund. Thank you to our partners, coaches, and families for making this pilot program a success! Please reach out to Brent Langhorne @ langhob@cps-k12.org if you have questions regarding CPS elementary athletics.

Video highlights here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhQ7SqVYNCc