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

ATHLETICS

OPENING DAY PARADE
On Monday, April 2nd, Cincinnati Public Schools Athletics sent elementary students from LEAP Academy and Roberts Paideia to Findlay Market so they could walk in the 99th annual Cincinnati Reds Opening Day Parade! We’d like to thank the Reds Community Fund for helping implement the MLB Fun-At-Bat program in our CPS elementary school P.E. classes and highlighting our participating students during the parade. To make the afternoon even more special, Cincinnati Public Schools Superintendent, Laura Mitchell joined in marching with our energetic group at the parade to encourage continued education through athletics!

★ WALNUT HILLS CHEER/DANCE
In early February, the Cheer/Dance team at Walnut Hills High School found themselves competing in Orlando, Florida for the National Championships! A 5th place finish in a regional tournament allowed them to qualify for Nationals, which led to the Lady Eagles showing up and taking home 2nd place in Orlando!

This marks the first time any CPS Cheer team has qualified at either tournament and will pave the way for a strong future in cheer/dance throughout all of Cincinnati Public Schools!

Left: Walnut Hills cheerleaders pose with their 2nd place trophy! Below: Cincinnati Reds mascots, Mr. Red & Gapper join CPS elementary students at the start of the parade!
**CAREER DAY AT ROTHENBERG**

Cincinnati Public Schools Athletics recently attended a high school/college career fair at Rothenberg Elementary School. Fifth and sixth grade students had an opportunity to meet and interact with several high school and college organizations to talk about what it’s like to have a job, as well as other things they could do to further their education in and out of school. CPS Athletics was fortunate enough to have a booth that students were able to approach in order to ask questions about the organization of high school athletics, in addition to having some fun! We were able to pass out special prizes and goodie bags to students that answered questions and participated in our discussion about their future!

**#CMACTAKEOVER**

Winter sports season ended with much excitement as several CPS Basketball teams found themselves making deep post-season runs! In particular, CMAC Boys Basketball took the spotlight as they sent four teams to the Sectional Finals! Aiken, Hughes, Taft and Woodward came away as the final four teams standing at Mason High School as the CMAC Takeover took full effect. After Hughes and Woodward moved on to the District Finals, both teams survived and advanced to square off in the Regional Semi-Finals. Social media even joined along, as #CMACTakeover became a trending hashtag through Southwest Ohio. When it was all said and done, Hughes made it the farthest, ultimately coming just short in the Regional Finals against power-house, Trotwood Madison.
CPS SPOTLIGHT: ARMAND TATUM
VARITY HEAD FOOTBALL COACH – WESTERN HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

What made you decide to coach football?
I developed a love for the game of football at an early age. When my playing career ended I knew I wanted to be a part of the
game in some way, shape or form. My life’s passion is to walk with, instruct and aid young men into their God-Given destiny.
Coaching football is the perfect marriage of linking my love for the game of football and my passion to see young men become
wonderful husband, strong fathers and successive members of society. (This fall will be my 16th season coaching football)

You’ve now coached at two different CPS High Schools. What makes CPS special to you?
I can remember sitting at a football pre-game meal and looking at a table of guys all of which came from different socioeconomic
backgrounds...but they were the best of friends and eventually became brothers because of the team environment. We truly have
a family atmosphere within CPS. Many of our Students know each other and/or are related to each other throughout the district.

Can you explain your philosophy on educating young people through athletics?
I believe Student-Athletes are prepared holistically for life. The rigor of balancing their academic requirements, with the physical
exertion of training and competing, demands a well-rounded lifestyle. Being a Student-Athletes teaches how to prioritize, care
for your body and give yourself to a cause greater than yourself. We teach Servant Leadership in our Football Program. At some
point in every adult’s life they will be asked to put their own desires aside for a group or cause. Athletics is the training ground for
leaders.