



*We promise families a school with a challenging academic program and a culture that values integrity, academic excellence, civic responsibility and accountability that centers on college and career readiness.*

May 26, 2022

Charlton Heston Academy Parents and School Community-

As the Academy takes a pause for an extended Memorial Day weekend break, I wanted to reach out and send a few updates on school safety and end-of-the-year items.

First, in an effort to continue and forever increase school safety, the Academy is increasing the number of safety drills. Also, all buildings (main building, early childhood buildings, and all career and technical education buildings) are locked at all times. While the entrances at the main building have an audio and video system to verify visitors, the entrance doors of all other buildings have signage with phone numbers of specific classrooms to call if you need to enter those buildings. Please be patient when arriving to any CHA buildings as we want to be sure we clearly verify/identify all visitors before allowing them to enter the building. If it is determined that a visitor does not need to enter the building, that visitor will be asked to wait outside/in their vehicle. I applaud recent feedback from parents and community members, which only helps the school community to remain safe.

Second, the Academy continues to partner with school resource officers from the Richfield Township Public Safety Department. These officers have been present or available at all times. The Academy will continue discovery on safety and security issues to find immediate resolutions when any gaps are identified. I welcome persons from the school community to contact me directly at 313-622-9173 to share thoughts, ideas, feedback, etc. especially regarding school safety.

Last, this week I received formal confirmation from the State Department of Education that CHA has been granted an additional 3 cancelled school days as forgiven days (plus the initial 6 forgiven days). To be clear, CHA had 15 total cancelled school days this school year, and 9 have been forgiven. So, the Academy will have to make up 6 total days from now until June 30th. These 6 "make up days" will be held virtually for all grades K-12 on the following dates: June 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. Students will not be in the buildings on these days.

Please understand that while we need to make up these days, it is clearly understood this extension of the school year may pose an inconvenience for many families. Hence, this was one of the reasons it was decided to schedule these days as virtual days. The Deans within respective grade levels have already begun to plan. I think you will find that, while the school year is extended, the teaching and learning for these 6 days will not be burdensome on families.

The main building will be open during the virtual days from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. All parents will be contacted by the Dean and/or teachers with details on the 6 virtual learning days. Please be patient on these details, which will be sent to you next week. Again, these 6 days will be designed to not impose on family time, trips, etc. that may have already been scheduled. Have a great holiday weekend!

Sincerely,

David Patterson, Superintendent  
Charlton Heston Academy