



# PURITAS PRIDE NEWSLETTER

August/  
September  
2023

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Puritas Lion Family! Our 23-24 School year has been off to a great start so far. Thank you to all of the families who attended Open House on August 22. We appreciate everyone's patience thus far with arrival and dismissal lines. Please remember in the morning there are staff throughout the building to help all of our students transition and prepare for their mornings, so there is no need for parents to come in.. We greatly appreciate your support and dedication to all of our students' and their academic success.

Our first round of diagnostic testing for all students will begin the week of September 11, 2023. Our Puritas families can help by ensuring your child(ren) arrives to school on time, they get plenty of rest the night beforehand and a breakfast in the morning. All students are able to pick up breakfast every morning. Please discuss the importance of the diagnostic tests. If students do not take the test seriously their follow up lesson on iReady could be too easy or too difficult which will frustrate and not provide the academic challenge that is right for each student.

Please save the date for our Curriculum Night on September 5 from 6:30-7:30. This event is a must attend for each student's success. The teachers and staff will be covering their expectations, curriculum and what to expect for the year. This is an excellent time to receive critical information that will benefit your child(ren)'s success for the 23-24 school year. Refreshments will be provided that night. Topics that will be discussed: class work and homework expectations, the student's learning environment, communication as a team, policies, procedures, and how to get involved.

Finally, the best form of communication with the building leaders (Mrs. Marshall- Principal & Mrs. Goss- Assistant Principal) is by emailing or calling the school. We will send out messages on PowerSchool/School Messenger and Class Dojo, however, there are multiple classes on Class Dojo and we do not want to miss any messages from our Puritas Families. We check our email daily and will respond quicker this way.

Thank you for choosing Puritas and being a part of the Lion Family!

~Mrs. Marshall- Principal & Mrs. Goss- Assistant Principal

## MONTHLY CHARACTER TRAITS & PBIS CHALLENGE:

September's character trait is respect. Puritas students discuss what respect means to their class and create a poster/bookmark to help remind them. Our first PBIS quarterly reward will be in October. All students who earn enough Dojo points in the first quarter will earn pizza, chips, and a drink!!

**P**repared  
**R**espectful  
**I**nclude Others  
**D**edicated  
**E**ngaged

# Staff Highlight Corner



**Mrs. Shannon Aufmuth, 1st grade teacher**  
 Hello, my name is Mrs. Aufmuth (off-mooth). I have been teaching for 16 years. This is my 2nd year with Puritas as a 1st grade teacher. I am a die hard Cleveland fan, along with THE Ohio State Buckeyes! I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, and our dog Georgia. My favorite thing to do is travel! I am a PROUD Puritas Lion and look forward to an exciting school year!



**Mrs Colleen Lull, Kindergarten teacher**  
 I am beginning my 28th year teaching. Most of that time has been in Kindergarten! This is my second year teaching at Puritas and my third year at Constellation. I live in West Park with my husband, 14 yr old daughter and our dog Scooby. We also have a son who lives nearby . I enjoy seeing live bands, playing rec. volleyball, and the Metroparks in my spare time.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Kamm's Corner Farmers Market**  
 Sundays through Oct., 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
 16906 Albers Ave Cleveland, OH 44111

**Walk on Wednesday – Dog Walk**  
 Wed, Aug 16, 6:00 – 7:30 PM  
 Munn Road Park  
 Get out and about in your neighborhood with our bi-monthly Walk on Wednesday series! We invite you and your pup(s) to join us for our second Dog Walk. Make sure to wear comfortable shoes, the walk is about a mile long. Treats for the doggies will be included!

**Cleveland Heroes Run**  
<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Cleveland/ClevelandHeroesRun>  
 Sun, Sep 17, 12:15 – 3:00 PM

Cleveland Heroes Run takes participants on either a 5-mile run or 2-mile run/walk through the local community. Each person sets his or her own pace and everyone has won before the event has even begun.. Both races start and finish at the Saint Joseph Academy in Cleveland. The 5-mile course will run through the Cleveland Metro parks. The 2-mile run/walk will be on Rocky River Drive. There is a cost for the 5-mile and 2-mile run.

**Kids-Only Race**  
 There is also a kids-only race for children 7 years old and younger which begins after the 5-mile race. Although registration is required for the kids race, no entry fee applies. We want everyone to get involved in this great event!

## A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEW LIONS IN OUR PRIDE!

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**Kortney Marzenski**  
 Kindergarten  
**Alyssa Kissel**  
 2nd grade  
**Vanessa Leadbeter**  
 2nd grade  
**Anne Telepak**  
 3rd grade  
**Florian Toma**  
 Art  
**Morgan Cleevely**  
 MS ELA  
**Nathan Fox**  
 MS Social Studies  
**Scott McMillen**  
 ELL

**Derek Scheeler**  
 Music  
**Angely Montalvo**  
 4th grade  
**Tim Meyers**  
 MS ELA  
**Andrew Sawka**  
 MS Instructional Specialist  
**Grace Booth**  
 MS Social Studies  
**Tammy Barnett**  
 ES Instructional Specialist  
**Josh Wieder**  
 MS Physical Education

# UPCOMING EVENTS...

23-24 School Goals:

- September 4 - NO SCHOOL
- September 5 - Curriculum Night  
(6:30 pm-7:30 pm)
- September 6 - Picture Day
- September 11-20 - Fall i-Ready testing
- September 15 - NO SCHOOL
- September 21 - Lions Dad (Male Figure)  
walk to school day
- September 29 - \$1 Puritas Spirit Wear  
Day

# 23-24 SCHOOL GOALS

1. By the end of the 23-24 School Year, 90% of our students will attain at least a 90% attendance rating.
2. By May 2024 at least 65% of the students will meet or exceed the projected growth goal in reading as measured by the 2023-2024 i-Ready Diagnostic.
3. By May 2024 at least 65% of the students will meet or exceed the projected growth goal in math as measured by the 2023-2024 i-Ready Diagnostic.

## SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Hello!

Throughout the 23-24 school year, your school counselor will be in each classroom once a month to provide classroom instruction. We will also have assemblies and speakers throughout the year covering things such as Drug Awareness, Disabilities Awareness, Emotional Management and so on. Group counseling will be a part of the counseling program this year and we will see Chess Club on Fridays again.

August's lesson is **MEET YOUR COUNSELOR**. For August's lesson we will cover meeting your counselor, how to contact your counselor, safety, and what/when/how to report things that you see and hear. The goal of this lesson is to ensure that students form a strong sense of community within Puritas from the start of the year by ensuring that they know how to get a hold of their school counselor. We have to work together to ensure that we all feel welcome, heard and safe here at Puritas. Knowing how to get help is the first part of the equation and the second factor that improves a sense of community would be when we all look out for one another. Drop a confidential note in your counselor's mailbox on his office door, or ask your teacher privately for help if you think you or a friend needs help. Remember, it is not tattling if you notify your teacher or counselor that someone needs help. Friends look out for one another!

6-8 Will participate in a guided discussion with questions. **Example:** If my friend wants to hurt himself, it is not tattling if I tell my school counselor. True or False

K-5 will receive a reading from "What Exactly Do School Counselors Do?"

