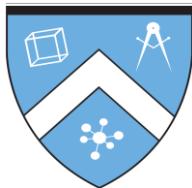


Columbia Secondary School Newsletter

Winter 2020
Volume 9, Issue



M362-CSS

Miriam Nightengale, Principal
www.columbiasecondary.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Junior Family College Night
February 12th (see below)

Black History Month Celebration!
February 13th

Mid-Winter Recess
February 17-21 (School Closed)

Parent –Teacher Conferences
3/18 Middle School 5- 8:00 p.m.
3/19 High School 5-8:00 p.m.
3/20 MS/HS 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Spring Recess
April 9 -17 (School Closed)

OFFICE EVENTS

JUNIORS AND JUNIOR FAMILIES:

Make sure to attend the Junior Family College Night Wednesday, February 12 6 - 8:30 p.m.

At this event, the CSS college office will outline the college process, review deadlines, and hear from admissions officers.

THIS IS MANDATORY for all juniors and we like to have at least one family member attend. This is a vital part of the college process for juniors!

CSS brings back a valued community member as its Interim Assistant Principal

My name is Marisol Manríquez-Weiner, and I have been a teacher in Chile, Michigan and New York for 28 years. From 2010 to 2018, I worked at CSS as a Spanish teacher and organizer of cultural and community events. I then moved to DOE's central administration, where I served as Content Area Specialist in Spanish with AP for ALL in the Office of Equity and Access. Working in this position allowed me to pursue some of my greatest passions: academic equity for students, teacher support, and Spanish language and culture.

In Chile, I received BAs in Spanish and Literature and Spanish Secondary Education (Universidad de Chile and Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación) and two post-graduate studies in theater management (Universidad Católica and Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación). From U.S. institutions, I have an MA in Spanish (Wayne State University), an MSED in Educational Leadership (Baruch College), a Bilingual Education Certificate (Queens College), and two administrative certificates as building (SBL-Baruch College) and district leader (SDL-Queens College).

I am committed to equity and excellence, and to providing a culturally relevant pedagogy to students by embracing students' and families' identities and seeing diversity as a source of knowledge. I am thrilled and honored to return to serve CSS as Interim Assistant Principal.

Good News from the College Office!

Three CSS seniors have been matched to universities through highly selective scholarship competitions. Senior Ashley Amparo has been matched to Brown University through Quest-Bridge National Scholarship Match, which recognizes academic excellence! She will receive a full, four-year scholarships (tuition, room & board). Out of 14,926 applicants, Quest-Bridge National College Match selected 5,842 finalists to be considered for the College Match Scholarship (among them were four CSS seniors). Of these, 1,127 students were matched, including Ashley!

Seniors Messiah Anderson and Randy Jerez have been selected as Posse Scholars. Messiah will attend Depauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, and Randy be at the engineering school at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Posse Scholars are chosen through a rigorous process used to identify students for leadership and academic potential. They receive full tuition scholarships and are part of a "posse" from the same city going to the same college. City-wide, 3,200 students were nominated, and 124 were matched.

Eight students were accepted at institutions to which they applied Early Decision (Barnard, Boston University, Columbia, Dartmouth, and Dickinson), which is binding and means they will be attending next fall. Other students have been receiving non-binding acceptances. Come by the college office to take a look at the "acceptance wall."



Athletics at Columbia Secondary School

Arianna Springer, Jr Athletics Director | Colette Young, Athletics Director

Athletics at CSS is thriving and growing this year thanks to the combined efforts of faculty, parents and students. Some new offerings that are available this year include "Weightlifting Class" in partnership with New York Sports Club (NYSC). A rock-climbing elective in partnership with Steep Rock Bouldering and a brand-new ultimate Frisbee Team. Our Athletics Program has been able to maintain and increase the number of sports teams at CSS thanks to the help of various grant programs, the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), and through the leadership of our students.

After a one-year hiatus, the Girls Basketball team, coached by Prof. Frampton, has returned and has been bringing their game face with a record of 5-2 thus far with four more regular season games to go. In addition, we added boys' volleyball, an initiative started by Patrick Villanueva '20 and Alex Elkasssem '20. Our middle school program has also expanded their sports offerings and has added basketball to their sport offerings of volleyball, cheerleading, swimming, dance, tae kwon do, and soccer. The basketball team will be making their first game appearance at Columbia University.

To support students academically and help with time management, we created this fall our Athletic and Scholar Programs. Everyday there is now an assigned Athletics Study Hall room for all athletes to go to from 3:15pm until the start of their game or practice. This gives students a quiet space to do their homework and study for their classes. We have also begun the Athletics Internship Program in which one to two students are able to work directly alongside the Athletic Director and learn what it takes to manage athletic programs, how to write grants, and many other professional development skills. Our first Junior Athletic Director is Arianna D. Springer, Class of 2020

UPCOMING:

- This spring we will have our first ultimate Frisbee team spearheaded by Javier Gushue '21 and Kai Miller '21.
- The CSS Spirit Squad will be performing at Columbia University on March 6th so make sure to be on the lookout for more information pertaining to that event
- For our CSS PSAL sports (soccer, basketball, girls' volleyball, cross country, and rugby) please consult the PSAL website → PSAL.org

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN STARTING SPORTS PROGRAMS, PLEASE BRING YOUR WRITTEN PROPOSAL TO ATHLETICS DIRECTOR YOUNG OR WORKMAN IN ROOM 403! WE LOVE HELPING BRING YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY!



The Varsity and Junior Varsity cheerleading squad performing at the national Macy's Day parade.



Successful Run of CSS's "The Sound of Music"

Musical Program Team

OUR 2020 MUSICAL PRODUCTION OF "THE SOUND OF MUSIC" WAS A SUCCESS and a beautiful showcase of the talented students that worked so hard to bring the story to life. Our deep gratitude to everyone that supported the program by attending the show, helping with donations, and volunteering throughout the season. We hope you had as much fun as we did.

Special thanks to all the amazing parent volunteers that work tirelessly, the PTA and Friends of CSS for their monetary support. We could have not done it without your continuous and loving support!

♪ "These are a few of our favorite things..." ♪