

Blueprint: College Pilot Year A Success!

Dear Families,

Greetings! I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer! The Blueprint:College staff has been busy considering all the wonderful feedback our pilot program participants shared and gearing up for another year of programming. I am happy to announce that Blueprint:College was recently awarded funding from the TG Public Benefit Grant Program and will be expanding programming efforts to twelve CCS schools in the spring of 2009. In addition to preparing to serve 100 new families through this generous grant award, we're developing ongoing programming for our pilot year participants. A special Blueprint: College session on ways for parents to pay for their education is being planned for the fall. Also, we'll host an annual reunion activity on campus. This year we plan to schedule that program around the OSU Buckeyes Spring Game (usually in April)! What better way to encourage college in your students than to get them enthralled with buckeye spirit?

On a personal note, I took a week's vacation back in June and took advantage of some local fun given current gas prices. Malcolm and I spent a day at COSI and a day at the Columbus Zoo and in both instances I ran into Blueprint:College College Camp participants who warmly greeted "Miss Amy" or "Malcolm's Mom". I found it very meaningful to be embraced and remembered by some of your children. Everyone at Blueprint is looking forward to continuing to provide support for your children's educational aspirations in years to come.

Again, thank you again for a wonderful spring and please feel free to contact me if you have any education-related questions or concerns as the school year approaches or if you have information you would like to share as we prepare for the upcoming year. I'll be on maternity leave from late August until Thanksgiving, and will return to your schools in the winter to plan for Blueprint 09.

Best,

Amy Wade
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Blueprint: College Photo Gallery



Kick-Off Dinner – Speaker, Yaves Ellis



OSU Campus Visit Day – Medical Center Academic Session



Blueprint: College Graduation Ceremony



Blueprint: College Student Facilitators & Staff

Back 2 School: Tips 4 Success



It's school time again! You're probably feeling excited and maybe a little sad that summer is over. Some kids feel nervous or a little scared on the first day of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends, and maybe even a new school. Luckily, these "new" worries only stick around for a little while. Let's find out more about going back to school.

The First Day

Most teachers kick off the school year by introducing themselves and talking about all the stuff you'll be doing that year. Some teachers give students a chance to tell something about themselves to the rest of the class. When teachers do the talking on the first day, they often go over classroom rules so you'll know what's allowed and what's not. Pay close attention so you'll know if you need to raise your hand to ask a question and what the rules are about visiting the restroom. You might already know a lot of people in your classes on the first day. But it's a great day to make a new friend, so try to say hello to kids you know and new ones that you don't. Make the first move and you'll be glad you did and so will your new friend!

Moving to Middle School?

Sixth grade often signals a move to middle school or junior high, where you'll find lockers and maybe a homeroom. This is just what it sounds like - a classroom you'll go to each morning, kind of like your home in the school. In middle school, you might move from classroom to classroom for each subject. Your teachers know that this is a big change from elementary school and will help you adjust. Most teachers let you pick your own seat on the first day, but by the second or third morning, they'll have mapped out a seating plan. It's a good idea to write down where your seat is in your notebook so you don't forget.

Get Oriented

The first day of school is your first chance to find your way around a new school, or learn the pathways to new classes in your old school. It's a lot to learn in one day, so don't be surprised if you need a reminder or two. It might help to write a few notes to yourself, so you'll remember the important stuff, like your locker combination. Before you know it, your fingers will fly as you open your locker!

Here are a few final tips for a fantastic first day:

- Get enough sleep.
- Eat a healthy breakfast.
- Try your best.
- Develop good work habits, like writing down your assignments and turning in your homework on time.
- Take your time with school work. If you don't understand something, ask the teacher.

Adapted from www.kidshealth.org

Recipe of the Month

Eggplant Parmesan
Courtesy of OSU Catering

Yield: 8 servings

3 medium eggplants
Kosher salt, as needed
olive oil, as needed
1 tsp. black pepper
1 cup all purpose flour
6 eggs
4 cups Italian or panko (Japanese), bread crumbs
2oz. grated Parmesan cheese
1 lb. sliced Provolone cheese, cut in half rounds
1 lb. spaghetti
4 cups favorite marinara sauce

1. Remove the tops and bottoms of the eggplant and cut into slices 3/4" thick.
2. Sprinkle both sides with kosher salt and place on a rack with a pan underneath and let drain for about an hour in the refrigerator.

The eggplant:

1. Season the flour with 1/2 tsp. of salt and pepper. Combine well and place in bowl.
2. Crack the eggs and beat them. Place them in another bowl.
3. Place the bread crumbs and 2 oz. of Parmesan in a bowl. Combine.
4. Rinse the salt off the eggplant quickly under cold water. Don't get them too wet. Pat dry and place them on a towel.
5. Working with one slice at a time dredge the eggplant in the flour, shaking off excess, then in the eggs, letting excess drip off and then in the bread crumbs. Transfer to wax paper in a single layer.
6. Heat a large skillet and add olive oil about 1/4" deep.
7. Fry the eggplant a few at a time until golden brown on both sides. Remove to paper towel to drain. Add more oil if needed.
8. Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees.
9. Place eggplant on baking sheet and then top with a half slice of the Provolone.
10. Bake until cheese is melted. About 5 minutes.

The spaghetti:

1. Bring salted water to a boil in a large pot.
2. Add the pasta and cook until al dente.
3. Drain well.

Service:

Place a mound of the spaghetti on the plate and sauce it with your favorite marinara. Sprinkle with grated Parmesan and 2 slices of the eggplant on the side.

Have an Idea for Blueprint: College Update Workshop?

Do you have a great idea for an update workshop? Want to learn more about college financing, test preparation, or transitioning to middle school? Share your ideas for a Blueprint: College alumni workshops for 2008-2009. We want to provide you with information you want to hear. Please contact Amy Wade with any ideas you may have for an update workshop at 247-7024.

College Camp Kids Corner

Homework Planner Worksheet

Homework is an important part of your learning. Planning ahead can make homework easier. Fill out the form below to help you plan your homework study time and space.

Name _____ Grade _____

Circle the answer that fits you best.

- When I study or do homework I need
A. quiet B. soft music
- When I do homework I like
A. to be alone B. to be with family

The areas in my house that are good for studying are:

- _____
- _____
- _____

- I like to study and do homework
A. as soon as I get home B. after I play for awhile

Look at your answers above and show them to your parents...
Decide on a plan together.

The place I will study and do homework is _____.

The time I will do my homework is _____.

If I need help I will _____.

Unscramble the Back-to-School Words

- UGNPLODARY _____
- OHLSCO _____
- RHEETAC _____
- DNERGAI _____
- EERSBETMP _____
- ESSREC _____
- INNGERLA _____
- OWRMKHEO _____
- KPCBCKAA _____
- TMHA _____
- DERGSA _____
- OOSBK _____
- IWNTRGI _____
- NSRFDEI _____



Y Z N O T E S E P P
C A A A C S U R O C
O R W R H H E A E H
M E A J A S M S F W
P A F E L R T E V Y
U D T U K K K R G W
T I T E A C H E R S
E N W R I T I N G D
R G H P E N C I L F
H B O O K S M A T H

BOOKS	MATH	TEACHER
CHALK	NOTES	WRITING
COMPUTER	PENCIL	
ERASER	READING	

Lost.

(How most kids feel about preparing for college.)

Without the help of an adult, it may be confusing for students to find their way to college. If you know a student with dreams of a higher education, do your part and help lead the way. Learn how at...

KnowHow2GO.org 800-433-3243

More Information on Ohio's 529 Plan

CollegeAdvantage is an investment for a lifetime – the gift of a college education opens the door to a world of opportunity for your child. Fortunately, college advantage is also an affordable college savings program. You only need \$15 to start an account. You can also encourage relatives to contribute to the account for special occasions in lieu of a toy or game. With CollegeAdvantage, saving a little at a time can make a big difference down the road. Call 1-800-AFFORD-IT (233-6734) to request materials or get signed up!

Looking for a way to finance your own education?

IDAs (Individual Development Accounts) are matched savings accounts to enable low-income families to save and build assets – most often buying a first home, paying for college or starting a business. Saving for college in an IDA is matched by federal and private funds with some college savings being matched up to eight times the amount you save. More information is available at www.edci.org, or by calling 614.559-0115.

A special Blueprint: College session on ways for parents to pay for their education is being planned for fall. Watch future newsletters for more information about this program.

Kid's Corner Game Answers

Word Scramble Key

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. PLAYGROUND | 8. HOMEWORK |
| 2. SCHOOL | 9. BACKPACK |
| 3. TEACHER | 10. MATH |
| 4. READING | 11. GRADES |
| 5. SEPTEMBER | 12. BOOKS |
| 6. RECESS | 13. WRITING |
| 7. LEARNING | 14. FRIENDS |

School Words
Find and circle the words.

Y Z N O T E S E P P
C A A A C S U R O C
O R W R H H E A E H
M E A J A S M S F W
P A F E L R T E V Y
U D T U K K K R G W
T I T E A C H E R S
E N W R I T I N G D
R G H P E N C I L F
H B O O K S M A T H

BOOKS	MATH	TEACHER
CHALK	NOTES	WRITING
COMPUTER	PENCIL	
ERASER	READING	

This newsletter is published by The Ohio State University's Blueprint College program. Blueprint: College is a program in The Office of Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience whose mission is to provide education and support to parents of elementary students. The primary objectives of Blueprint: College are to expand parental involvement in education, empower parents through knowledge, foster educational dreams in children, and create a base of positive parental influence for children, schools and the community. For more information, contact Amy Wade at wade.203@osu.edu or 614.247.7024.