

**CHRISTINA
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Networks Program
30 Blue Hen Drive
Newark, DE 19713

Networks News



Open House
Wednesday, October 4th

Please Join Us

Networks Program

- Open House will be from 5PM— 6PM
- Open House is an opportunity for you to learn about your son/daughter's enterprise area. If you would like to discuss individual concerns about your son/daughter, your enterprise teacher will be glad to schedule a conference at a later date.
- Bagged dinner will be a hamburger, hot dog, chips and water.

NETWORKS
NS
S
School for Employability Skills

30 Blue Hen Drive
Newark, DE 19713
Phone: 302-454-2233
E-mail: norma.brister@christina.k12.de.us
Michael.andrews@christina.k12.de.us

Upcoming Dates:

October 2 & 18— Flu & Covid Vaccine Clinic
October 4 — Open House 5:00—6:00pm
October 8 — Special Olympics Flag Football Qualifier in Townsend, DE
October 13 & 16 — Professional Development Day, School Closed
October 18 — Family Game Night 5:00—7:00pm
October 18 & 19 — Professional Dress Day(s)
October 24 & 26 — School Pictures
October 27 — Fall Dance
October 28 — Special Olympics Fall Sports Festival Flag Football @ St. Andrews in Middletown DE
November 9—Grading Day, School Closed
November 9 — Coleman's Hayride 5:00—8:00pm
November 10—Veteran's Day—Schools & Offices Closed
November 15 & 16 — Professional Dress Day(s)
November 15 — Parent Conferences from 2:30 to 6:00pm
November 20—24—No School—Thanksgiving Holiday



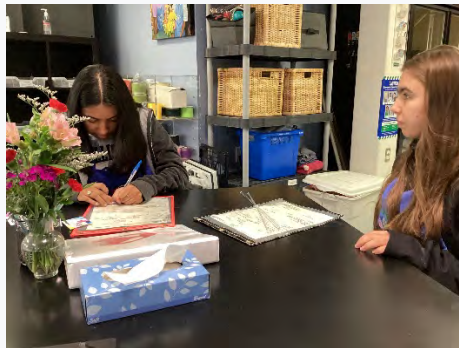


Networks Family Corner

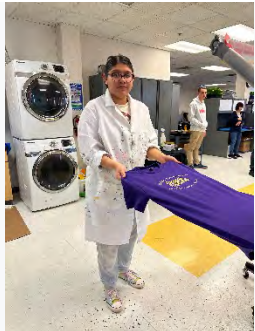
Here are a few parent quotes we received recently from some of our customers and student family members regarding our program.

SEPTEMBER 2023

"Staff members are a wonderful team and we appreciate you this week and every week and each and every day! Thank you so much for everything you do for our son and all the students."



"The flowers in the teacup that I received as a gift were adorable! They looked beautiful and the card was so nicely written."



"We use the TEAMworks division to help our small business grow! As the mother of a child with autism, it's our goal to hire people with different abilities. We love the shirts the students have made. They are great quality and affordable. They do such a great job!"

REMINDER: We are always looking for your feedback about your experiences with our services, products, areas, events, and even our school. We would like to not only hear success stories but would also like to hear ways you feel we can improve our program. Please use the QR code below to share your feedback. **Who knows, your story could be the next focus in the Family Corner.**





From the Nurse's Office



Do you just feel miserable? Are your eyes watering and you cannot stop sneezing, sniffing? Fall / Autumn Allergies Have Arrived!!

AUTUMN IS RAGWEED SEASON. The fall can be especially difficult for people who are sensitive to mold and ragweed pollen. It is estimated that over thirty million Americans are joining you in suffering from pollen allergy, a.k.a. allergic rhinitis or hay fever so you are not alone. Ragweed is known in the scientific world as *Ambrosia*, and it includes more than 40 species worldwide with the majority of them growing in temperate regions of North and South America. They are invasive plants that are difficult to control. Their pollen is a very common allergen, and the symptoms of ragweed allergy can be especially severe.



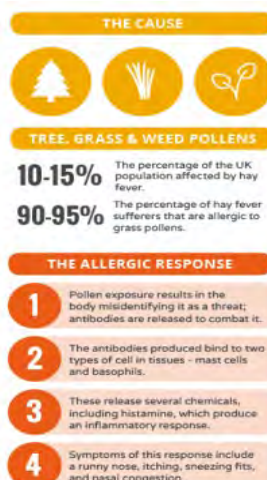
KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

Other plants that drop their pollen in the fall include nettles, mugworts, sorrels, fat hens, and plantains.

Contrary to popular belief, ragweed pollen, and not goldenrod, causes hay fever.



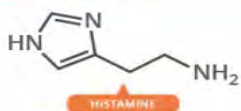
Symptoms typically flare in fall as weed pollen grains fill the air from **August through October (up to the first frost)**. In someone with hay fever, inhaling these tiny particles triggers a cascade of biochemical reactions, resulting in the release of histamine, a protein that causes the all-too-familiar symptoms including SNEEZING, CONGESTION, and FATIGUE, histamine can cause COUGHING; POST-NASAL DRIP; ITCHY EYES, NOSE, and THROAT; dark circles under the EYES; and ASTHMA ATTACKS. Typically, you will have a Runny nose with thin, watery discharge; no fever that starts immediately after exposure to allergens and lasts as long as you're exposed to allergens



According to the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, other things that can cause problems are:

Lingering Warm Weather While most people enjoy Indian summer, unseasonably warm temperatures can make rhinitis symptoms last longer. Mold spores can also be released when humidity is high, or the weather is dry and windy. Be sure to begin taking medications before your symptoms start.

Pesky Leaves - Some folks might find it difficult to keep up with raking leaves throughout the autumn. But for allergy sufferers, raking presents its own problem. It can stir agitating pollen and mold into the air, causing allergy and asthma symptoms. Those with allergies should wear an NIOSH rated N95 mask when raking leaves, mowing the lawn and gardening.



PROBLEMS THAT MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH FALL ALLERGIES INCLUDE:

Reduced quality of life from interfering with your enjoyment of activities and cause you to be less productive. For many people, allergy symptoms lead to absences from work or school.

Poor sleep as symptoms can keep you awake or make it hard to stay asleep, which can lead to fatigue and a general feeling of being unwell (malaise).

Worsening asthma. due to coughing and wheezing.

Sinusitis due to Prolonged sinus congestion which may increase your susceptibility to sinusitis — an infection or inflammation of the membrane that lines the sinuses.

Ear infection in children, can occur in middle ear infection (otitis media).

PREVENTION There's no way to avoid getting allergies/hay fever. The best thing to do is to lessen your exposure to the allergens that cause your symptoms. Take allergy medications before you're exposed to allergens, as directed by your doctor.

REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO ALLERGY TRIGGERS AND TAKE EXTRA STEPS WHEN POLLEN COUNTS ARE HIGH:



Stay indoors on dry, windy days. The best time to go outside is after a good rain, which helps clear pollen from the air.

Delegate lawn mowing, weed pulling and other gardening chores that stir up allergens.

Remove clothes you've worn outside and shower to rinse pollen from your skin and hair.

Don't hang laundry outside — pollen can stick to sheets and towels.

Wear a pollen mask if you do outside chores.

Check your local TV or radio station, local newspaper, or the Internet for pollen forecasts and current pollen levels.

If high pollen counts are forecasted, START TAKING ALLERGY MEDICATIONS BEFORE YOUR SYMPTOMS START.

Avoid food that may cause problems when the air is filled with ragweed pollens

Close doors and windows at night or any other time when pollen counts are high.

Avoid outdoor activity in the early morning when pollen counts are highest.

TRY AN OVER-THE-COUNTER NONPRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS REMEDY AT HOME to help ease allergy symptoms before they start as we do not have this medicine available at school:

ANTIHISTAMINES FOR HAY FEVER

Block histamine action, prevent most symptoms

All oral formulations for treatment of hay fever are antihistamines. These bind to H_1 histamine receptors instead of histamine, preventing the effects produced by the allergic response—although they may not clear blocked noses.

1ST GENERATION VS. 2ND GENERATION

First generation antihistamines can cause undesirable effects, including sedation. Second generation are less likely to exhibit sedative effects, particularly loratadine. Peak levels of antihistamines are generally reached one hour after taking.

Take when hay fever symptoms are expected rather than when they have already started

This is because they cannot reverse the effects of histamine already binding to the H_1 receptors, and so will not provide relief.

Oral antihistamines. Antihistamines can help relieve sneezing, itching, a runny nose and watery eyes. Examples of oral antihistamines include loratadine (Claritin, Alavert), cetirizine (Zyrtec Allergy) and fexofenadine (Allegra Allergy).

Decongestants. Oral decongestants such as pseudoephedrine (Sudafed, Afrinol, others) can provide temporary relief from nasal stuffiness. Decongestants also come in nasal sprays, such as oxymetazoline (Afrin) and phenylephrine (Neo-Synephrine). Only use nasal decongestants for a few days in a row. Longer-term use of decongestant nasal sprays can actually worsen symptoms (rebound congestion).

Nasal spray. Cromolyn sodium nasal spray can ease allergy symptoms and doesn't have serious side effects, though it's most effective when you begin using it before your symptoms start.

Combination medications. Some allergy medications combine an antihistamine with a decongestant. Examples include loratadine-pseudoephedrine (Claritin-D) and fexofenadine-pseudoephedrine (Allegra-D).



From the Nurse's Office



KEEP OUR SCHOOLS FLU-FREE. GET VACCINATED.

The flu will be making a comeback.
You can stop it.

Last year, flu rates were low. But with more people out of their homes, the flu will be making a comeback. You can prevent that. Make sure you and your loved ones are vaccinated. Everyone 6 months or older is eligible. Make the time to fight for your health.

flu.delaware.gov



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health
Immunization Program

FIVE WAYS TO OUTPOWER THE FLU THIS SEASON

Start by finding a location to get your flu vaccine and making an appointment. We have great news for you ... we are partnering with ACME / ALBERTSON's and will have this year's **FLU shot** as well as the **latest COVID 19 Vaccine Booster** available for students and staff right here **at NETWORKS** during the school day on **MONDAY, OCTOBER 2ND** as well as on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH**. All you need to do is complete the vaccine permission form that was sent home the week of September 26th. For questions or consent forms, please contact Nurse Michelle @ 302-454-2233 or email @ Michelle.gayeski@christina.k12.de.us

FIND OUT WHERE TO GET YOUR FREE FLU VACCINE

The first—and best—line of defense for everyone 6 months and older.

This year, the flu is making a comeback. So we've teamed up with the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) to make sure every person we serve—and every person they care for—does what they need to do to remain flu-free and healthy! Here are five top things to know and do.

#1 Get the flu vaccine as soon as possible.

The flu vaccine is the first and most important step you can take to protect yourself against the flu. The flu vaccine is **safe** for individuals 6 months and older; **free** to most Delawareans, even if you do not have

as seniors, women who are pregnant, young children, and people with chronic health conditions; and something you should get every year

#2 Don't be fooled by the flu in hiding!

Because the number of cases dropped last year, many people think the flu has disappeared. The fact is that *the threat of the flu to your health is as strong as ever*. With pandemic practices easing, more Delawareans are interacting outside the home, more public events are happening, and fewer people are wearing masks. These things make it easier for the flu to spread.

#3 Take the flu seriously.

Remember, the flu is a serious illness. It can potentially make you very sick, put you in the hospital, or even cause death. Prior to the rare pandemic year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated the flu caused millions of people to get ill and resulted in thousands of hospital stays and thousands of deaths.

#4 Prevent the spread of germs and the flu virus.


Stay home and try not to interact with others if you are sick—and avoid people you know are sick. Even if you feel fine, cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands often and clean frequently used surfaces, such as desktops and door handles.

#5 Take care of the people you care about.

If you are responsible for someone else's well-being—children, parents, elderly neighbors, and so forth—make sure they practice tips 1-3 too! Start with making sure they get a flu vaccine, and if they need it, assist them with getting to a vaccination location.

Get more flu facts at flu.delaware.gov and ask your employer if you can get a flu vaccine at work

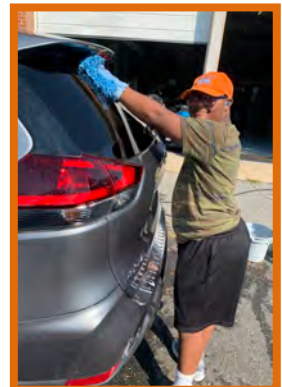
Welcome to AUTOworks!

2023-24 

This is an exciting time of the school year! Ms. Pettyjohn, Mr. James and I, Mrs. Lokey, are thrilled to begin this adventure with the students.

We began our school year learning about expectations and rules of the classroom. How to be safe in the AUTOworks classroom include: wearing closed toe shoes, listening, following directions, and working as part of a team.

The students have been busy organizing the classroom, getting their products in order and recognizing what tools they need to detail cars. The students will learn about handling chemicals and what a full interior and exterior car wash is, while providing good customer service.



WELCOME TO BITWORKS



NEWS FROM BITWORKS

Students in BITworks will gain experience in customer service by running the school store. Students will learn about public transportation including practice riding the DART bus and Paratransit if applicable. Students will learn about technology basics and will assist in making badges for the district. Each class has a community job site in which they will gain work experience.



DAILY REMINDER :

Please be on the look out for Training Agreements from BITworks. Students need these signed in order to gain work experience within the community.

Worksites we visit:

**Anytime Fitness *Walgreens *City of Newark Records Department *Main Event *Formal Affairs *Caffe Gelato *Klondike Kate's *Newark United Methodist Church * and more sites are going to be added to the rotation as the school year continues!*

Contact Us :



302-454-2233

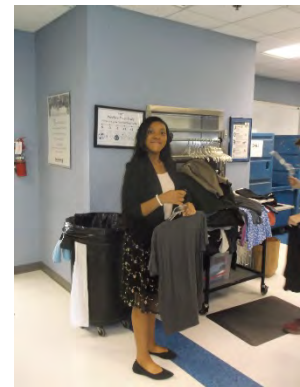


meredith.english@christina.k12.de.us



BRENNENworks

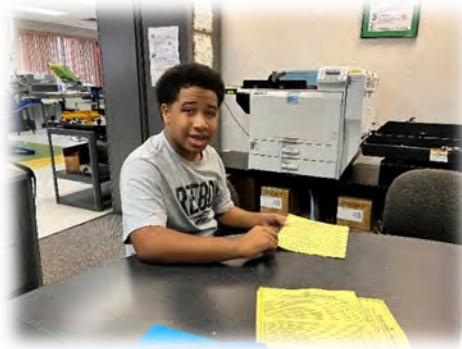
Welcome back to the 2023- 2024 school year. BRENNENworks has undergone a significant change from years' past. This year, we are having all of our students joining Networks enterprises on a half- day schedule. This means that each student spends 2+ hours in an enterprise, either in the morning or afternoon and then spends the other half in the Brennen classroom within Networks. We will be working to have these students improve to the level that they can spend all day within Networks enterprises and develop skills to get them a job beyond graduation.



We are enjoying our time at TRADEworks, MERCHANTworks, FLORALworks and COPYworks. We are excited with the possibilities coming up this year.

COPYworks News

COPYworks students got busy right away with an order for Science workbooks for one of the district's elementary schools. This project was started at the end of our summer program, but took us almost 2 weeks to complete. The students were great at learning new machinery and skills but most of all for working together to get the job done. Great TEAMWORK.



Some students learned how to print the booklets while others were taught how to coil. Coiling is the way we bind each booklet to ensure that all the pages remained together.

Here a student learned how to crimp the ends of the coils that would secure the pages.



Co-Op Department


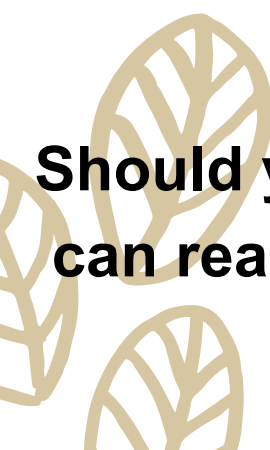


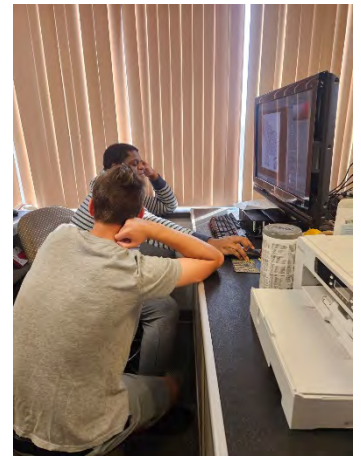
The Co-Op team is excited to introduce Networks students to a variety of work experiences throughout the upcoming school year. Our students will have the opportunity to volunteer at the following sites:

- 
- Goodwill**
 - Eco Plastics**
 - Gauger Cafeteria**
 - Old Navy**
 - Walgreen's**
 - Little Sisters of the Poor**
 - Klondike Kate's**
 - Food Bank of DE**
 - Newark Natural Foods**
 - Richardson's**
 - Zingo's**
- 

Tasks at these sites will include store recovery, bussing tables, washing dishes, sorting, stocking, folding laundry, food prep, cleaning and front facing. We look forward to our students taking on new challenges and building their professional skills!

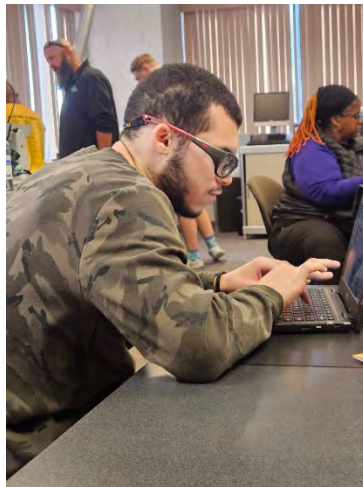
Should you need to contact the Co-Op Team, you can reach Jim and Adrienne at 302-454-2233 x112.





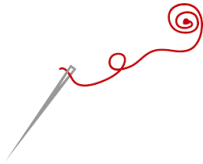
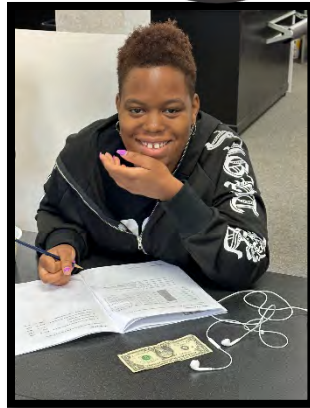
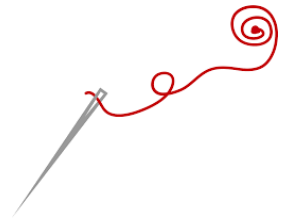
Welcome to ETCHworks

ETCHworks has started this year off running. We have created nameplates for new staff members, plaques for Special Olympics and hot plates for customers. The students have been very busy learning how to use the equipment in the area.



Introducing...

FABRICworks



FLORALworks

Welcome back to school! FLORALworks students jumped right in and started the school year preparing flowers for a wedding. Students are learning how to handle flowers carefully, keep them fresh, use tools to process them and place them into arrangements.

Below are pictures of the wedding flowers that students helped to prepare.



WELCOME BACK

Happy 2023-2024 School Year!!! Miss Lisa, Mr. Gerard, and Ms. Di would like to welcome you all back to Networks. We are here for you and wish you all a happy and healthy school year!

This year we are starting something new-the Networks Care Closet. Please contact Ms. Di or Miss Lisa for more information. We are also starting a backpack program in collaboration with the Food Bank of Delaware. Please see the attached information regarding the program. Paper copies will be coming home with our students as well. Please return completed interest letter if you would like to participate.

We hope you will always remember:

DeaR STUDENTS

Always Remember...

1. You are important.
2. You are special!
3. I believe in you.
4. I trust you.
5. You are listened to.
6. Your opinion matters.
7. I care about you.
8. I respect you.



9. You are a winner!
10. I will help you succeed!



BACKPACK PROGRAM



The Food Bank of Delaware's Backpack Program provides food to children for weekends and holidays when school is not in session and federal school meal programs are not available. Backpacks are stocked with kid-friendly, nutritious food including shelf-stable milk and juice, pop-top meals, macaroni and cheese, apple sauce, cereal and more. They are distributed on Fridays or the last day before a holiday or vacation in a discreet manner at schools, daycares, preschools and other community-based organizations.

Food is purchased by the Food Bank of Delaware and informational flyers and activities are also provided. Bags are delivered year round to participating sites weekly. Site staff store the bags in a secure area until distribution day. Bags are deposited into the child's backpack in a discreet manner. Dependent upon availability, school supplies are also distributed in the take-home bags.

Program Outcomes:

- Reduce health problems in children served by mitigating negative consequences of under nutrition
- Remove the barrier of hunger that contributes to poor school performance
- Empower school personnel to take direct action to benefit hungry children
- Increase awareness among parents and guardians of resources available to low-income families in their community
- Increase awareness of positive nutrition to students' families



OUR IMPACT



239,772 bags distributed



183 partnering sites



7,748 child participants

Supporting the Program:

It costs approximately \$300 to provide one child with weekend food for an entire year. This includes the cost of food for each week, supplies, transportation and program administration.

To support the program:
Larry Haas, Chief
Development Officer, at
lhaas@fbd.org.

To become a backpack site:
Please contact Chris Willis at
cwillis@fbd.org.

A member of



Information as
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



A community free of hunger
www.fbd.org

Hello,

My name is Christopher Willis, the Backpack Program Coordinator for the Food Bank of Delaware (Food Bank). I have created this form to ask if the Food Bank can be of any assistance for your child. Reported by Feeding America, 1 in 7 children face hunger every day in the state of Delaware. To confront that issue, the Food Bank created the Backpack Program to assist feeding children on the weekends. Participating children will receive a pack filled with food each Friday, it includes; 4 complete non-perishable meals and 2 snacks for the weekend.

If you would like your child to participate, please fill out the form on the back of this letter and return to the school. Thank you for participating in this program; we appreciate the opportunity to assist your family at this time. If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact me. If you have children at other schools and would like to inquire about participation, please reach out to me.

Christopher Willis
Backpack Program Coordinator
Food Bank of Delaware
302-292-1305 ext 233
cwillis@fbd.org

The Backpack Program is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

Name of School or Organization

Child's Name and Grade (if applicable)

Child's Teacher or Instructor

Signature

MERCHANTworks

The MERCHANTworks Enterprise Area welcomes back our students, both new and returning, to another exciting school year!

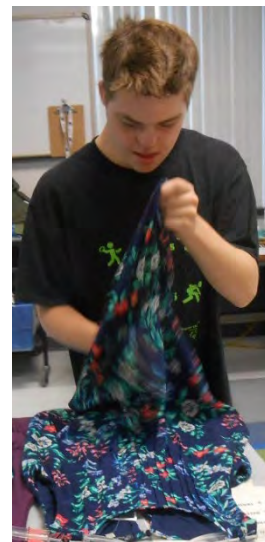
This September was filled with opportunities to become acquainted with the many Enterprise Area's rules and processes for a safe and worthwhile learning experience.

Students also participated in the first Professional Dress days of the year.

Parents/guardians please be aware of our "Open House" on October 4th from 5 to 6 which will provide you a chance to meet our Networks staff.

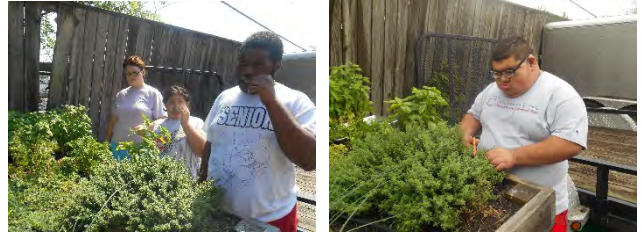
We look forward to another GREAT YEAR!

Mr. Madigan, Ms. Cailah, and Mr. Rob are the MERCHANTworks staff members this school year.



We Are MUNCHworks!

Students in MUNCHworks have the opportunity to learn the skills needed to enter careers in nutrition, food preparation, catering and other fields that involve work with food. By participating in a full-service catering business, which includes meal planning and food safety in accordance with the guidelines of ServSafe, students learn basic food preparation techniques, procedures and vocabulary as taught in the food service industry.



They work on learning how to: read a recipe and follow the instructions to completion, perform calculations to increase or decrease recipe yield and safely use a variety of food preparation utensils, appliances and equipment. Preparation of both hot and cold foods are the focus of instruction.



Ms. Darlene Lewis, Mr. Jason Lomas and Mrs. Janin Quinones
are the MUNCHworks staff members!

TEAMworks

Welcome back to school!!!! TEAMworks is off to a running start. We are getting multiple orders from many customers. Right now, we are working on printing three different orders while we prepare more screens for the next order in-line.





Welcome back TRADEworks!

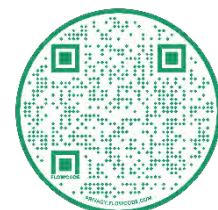
TRADEworks and WOODworks are settling into our new “home” at the CEEC building. TRADEworks has started our work in the community. We will be providing our cleaning services to REACH Church, St. Thomas Church, Special Olympics and the offices of CTL. Students have learned procedures and practiced cleaning skills.



Our program provides hands-on experience in basic custodial and maintenance skills. We will focus on choosing and using proper tools and supplies for a specific job, completing multi-step tasks and communicating with our peers appropriately. Students have learned procedures and practiced cleaning skills.

WOODworks

It has been a very busy start to the school year in WOODworks. This month WOODwork's students have been working on getting our space at the Christina Early Education Center (CEEC) ready for the school year. We have also been focusing on tool identification as well as safe use of all the tools they will be using this school year. During this time, we have begun to make our first seasonal items of the year.



To order your pumpkin on line for \$15.00, scan the QR Code

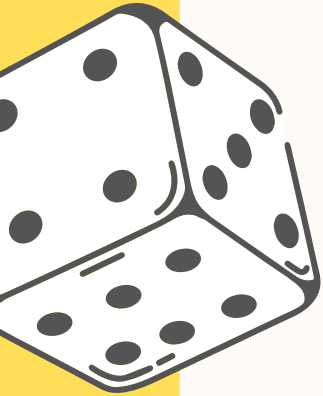


Alphabet Soup:

A Parents Guide to Special Education Acronyms

Accommodations	“Practices and procedures that provide student with disabilities equitable access during instruction and assessment in the areas of presentation of content, student response, setting for instruction, and schedule
Community Navigator	A person assigned to your family when the individual is approved for DDDS services
DDDS	Division of Developmental Disability Services - Support services and funding for individuals with disabilities including but not limited to adult agencies.
DVR	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation - Funding and training services for employment
Essential Life Plan	The adult form of an IEP
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan (sometimes referred to as a Behavior Support Plan). A BIP includes practical and specific strategies and positive supports designed to increase or reduce any behavior that impacts a student’s learning or the learning of others.
ESY	Extended School Year services. Services provided to a student beyond the normal school year and at no cost to the family. ESY eligibility is an IEP Team decision
IEP	The “Individualized Education Program provides the diagnostic-prescriptive tool to implement specifically designed instruction.” The document describes what special education and related services your child is to receive.
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment. All children with disabilities have a right to be educated in the least restrictive environment, with supports and services, in which their IEPs can be implemented. This means that a child can be in a class with his/her non-disabled peers to the maximum extent possible in which she/he can still learn.
Pathways To Employment	A Medicaid funded program designed to support young adults (ages 14-25) with disabilities who want to work. The program helps participants get prepared for work, find jobs, and succeed in the workplace.
PPre-ETS	Pre-Employment Training Services. Programs to provide employment focused training opportunities to students with a disability who are enrolled in school, ages 14 to 22
Supported Employment	Individuals are supported while obtaining and maintaining paid employment in the community.

NETWORKS PROGRAM



EVERYONE
IS INVITED
TO JOIN

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Spare Your Time for Fun

Wednesday, October 18
5:00pm-7:00pm



Games to Play

**BOARD GAMES, CARD
GAMES AND WHITEBOARD
GAMES**

Registration is required by Oct. 13th.

REMEMBER, STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

