

THE CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT UNIVERSITY

Fall/Winter Course Descriptions for 2013-2014



Parents: 1st Teachers

The Chester Upland School District



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome, new and returning students and families of Chester Upland School District to the 2013-2014 academic school year. We thank you for your continued partnership, and support to our school district. I believe that strong community-school relationships are essential to high academic achievement.

*Our administration and staff are here to provide you and your family with a supportive, educational environment. Our staff brings with them a wealth of experiences and **C-PRIDE**, a winning combination. We need each of you to help throughout the school year to get us off to a positive start and strong finish. Please know that your continued involvement and commitment to our district is appreciated.*

As we enter the 2013–2014 school year, our focus is to ensure that we provide educational opportunities that will afford all students academic excellence. Our work will concentrate on teaching and learning, curriculum development, data analysis, accountability and family and community engagement.

Thank you for making the “New” Chester Upland School District your choice; we welcome your contribution in helping our children achieve academic excellence. Together we will discover the greatness in our children.

Sincerely,

Gregory G. Shannon

Gregory G. Shannon
Superintendent of Schools



Parent University Admissions Procedures

Dear Parent,

We are the face of the Chester Upland School District, and we want you to get to know us better.

In a way, our mission is simple: to enable everyone in the city to join the cause of educating our young people. We seek partnerships with all stake holders, parents, family members, community groups, businesses and faith-based organizations – everyone who wants to play a part.

In another way, our work is complex – engaging tens of thousands of people and hundreds of organizations in the awesome responsibility of helping our students to succeed, and assisting every individual and group to find the best path to make a difference.

That is why we have created this guide to our Parent University. The guide explains the many programs we offer to empower parents and other partners, from small community organizations that tutor students in a residential setting, to corporate giants that commit expertise and resources, and also faith groups that offer mentoring and after-school programs.

As you read this guide, I urge you to stop on each page and try to identify how you can become engaged.

For example, we created Parent University to equip parents with the skills and tools you need as your children's first teachers and as advocates for their education. For parents, community partners, school staff and students, the School Advisory Councils are a way for you to join the leadership structure at each school. Limited-English proficient parents can find services from translation and interpretation to literacy training.

And that is just the beginning. We hope you find a path to partnership in this guide. For our children.

Sincerely,

Claudia S. Averette

*Claudia S. Averette
Chief of Staff & Director of Parent University*



**COURSE CATALOGUE
2013 -2014
Academic Year**

About Parent University

Research shows that when families are involved in learning, they will play an active role in the educational process. This increase in parental engagement will positively contribute to children's academic and social success. Parent University engages parents in innovative and meaningful partnerships for learning.

Parent University partners with internal district departments, academic institutions, community and faith-based organizations and city agencies to equip families with additional skills, knowledge and resources. Classes offered through Parent University provide training in life skills such as character development and financial literacy, and will provide families with tools that they can use to encourage their children to become successful. Classes are offered in locations geographically situated across Chester and in different languages.

Goals:

- Provide an educational platform to build strong parent teaching communities that will **increase student achievement in all Chester Upland School District schools.**
- Collaborate with internal Chester Upland School District departments to ensure families are provided with the access, opportunities and tools to support literacy at home as well as resources to **advocate for their children's education.**
- Collaborate with **adult literacy programs** and **higher education** institutions to fulfill the commitment to Chester's education initiative to increase the number of residents going to college.
- Provide resources and collaborative opportunities for adults who wish to achieve their own personal academic and non-academic goals. Provide a program within the context of adult continuing education to support **adult literacy and employment opportunities.**



PARTNERS IN SUPPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

American Reading Company

American Red Cross

Crozer Lewis Library

Darlington Arts Center

Harcum College

Neumann University

Source 4 Success

Widener University

IMPORTANT DATES

2013 - 2014

July 4, 2013	Independence Day <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
September 2, 2013	Labor Day <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
October 14, 2013	Columbus Day <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
November 5, 2013	Election Day (Schools Closed for Students) <i>Professional Development Day for Staff</i>
November 26-27, 2013	Half Day Dismissal for Students <i>(Parent/Teacher Conferences)</i>
November 28-29, 2013	Thanksgiving Holiday <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
December 23-31, 2013	Winter Recess (Schools Closed)
December 24-25, 2013	Winter Holidays <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
January 1, 2014	New Year's Day Holiday <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
January 20, 2014	Dr. Martin Luther King Day (Observance) <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
February 17, 2014	President's Day Holiday <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
April 14-21, 2014	Spring Recess (Schools Closed)
April 18 & 21, 2014	Easter Holiday <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
May 26, 2014	Memorial Day Holiday <i>Administrative Offices and Schools Closed</i>
June 12, 2014	Last Day for Students

Wreath Making Workshop

- This class will be a hands-on class with all the materials needed to create beautiful holiday wreaths.

December 12, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Crozer Lewis Library

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Be the Home Coach! (Easy Reading Coaching for Parents in all Grades)

- Learn how to support your child’s reading growth as part of your family’s busy schedule. Topics covered include making time for reading, talking with your child about books, using the Reading Skills Cards, and quick tips on what to say/not say if your child gets stuck.
January 9, 15, 22, & 29, 2014; February 5 & 12, 2014 - 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Stetser School

My Child Can’t Read: What Can I Do? (Intro to Reading Levels Grades K-6)

- When a child struggles in reading, parents may feel helpless or overwhelmed. You want to help, but what really works? How do you partner with your child and his/her teachers? This course introduces parents to the IRLA reading levels, explaining how each level works, how children advance from one level to the next, and what you can do to help your child improve.
January 9, 15, 22, & 29, 2014; February 5 & 12, 2014 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Main St. School

Home Reading for High School Success (Intro to Reading Levels & Academic Home Habits Grades 6-12)

- When your pre-teen or teenager struggles in reading, parents may feel helpless or overwhelmed. You want to help, but what really works? How do you partner with your child and his/her teachers? This course introduces parents to the IRLA reading levels, explaining how each level works, how readers advance from one level to the next, and what you can do to support your child’s academic success.
February 15, 2014 & March 1, 2014 – 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Stetser School
February 15, 2014 & March 1, 2014 - 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Chester High School

How to Grow A Reader (Developing Good Home Literacy Habits from the Start – Birth to Age 5)

- Some children arrive at Kindergarten already prepared for school. Learn easy ways to prepare your child for life-long academic success as part of your busy schedule. Topics include talking with your child, early reading, writing, and math activities.
February 19 & 26, 2014; March 5 & 12, 2014 – 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Stetser School
February 19 & 26, 2014; March 5 & 12, 2014 – 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Main Street School

Picking the Right Book (How to Find Books for Your Child - All Ages)

- Learn about what just right reading looks like, how to match your child to books that will work for him or her, and tips for locating good books at school, at home, and in the world.
Saturday, March 29, 2014 - 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Main Street School

First Aid/CPR/AED Workshop – Adult and Child

- This workshop will be hands-on to teach individuals the techniques of First Aid, CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and AED (Automated External Defibrillator). very important techniques can help you save a life.
January 18, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at STEM Academy (Showalter)

P.I.S.A.C. – Parental Internet Safety Advisory Course

- The Parental Internet Safety Advisory Course will introduce parents and guardians of technology adept youth to concepts and usage of Internet accessible devices, text capable devices, as well as, additional interface systems such as Skype, Tango, Instagram, and several others. The purpose of this course is to familiarize adults with the extensive safeguards available to protect their children and teens from technology fraud, bullying, slander, libel, physical, and emotional harm. Upon completion of this course adult monitors of youth internet behavior will be equipped with tools to prevent improper and potentially dangerous usage of social communication devices and platforms. This course will integrate the new age networking and communication processes and facilities with traditional parenting practices in the home, in school time, and during out of school time.

January 22, 2014 & January 29, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Stetser School

January 30, 2014 & February 3, 2014 – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Main Street School

Customer Service & Retail Merchandiser Course

- The Life Skills course is designed to provide the trainees with group experiences that facilitate the development of self-esteem, responsibility, and employability skills. It is a daily classroom learning experience that takes the trainee through step-by-step processes in reaching specific behavioral objectives.

Dates TBD

W/D Learning Centre – The Importance of Insurance

- This course will educate the consumers about insurances and how important it is to have insurance coverage for their Health, Life, Fire, Automobile, Home Owners, Renters, Property Causality and Business.

Dates TBD

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PARENT UNIVERSITY 2013 – 2014 SCHOOL YEAR APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT AND ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone : Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-Mail: _____

Sex: Male Female Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Highest Grade Completed: _____ Previous High School: _____

Previous College Degree Earned: _____

Plan to Enroll in: Winter 2014 Spring 2014 Summer 2014

Course(s) you wish to take during the present term:

- 1. Course Title: _____ Date: _____
Time: _____ Location: _____
- 2. Course Title: _____ Date: _____
Time: _____ Location: _____
- 3. Course Title: _____ Date: _____
Time: _____ Location: _____
- 4. Course Title: _____ Date: _____
Time: _____ Location: _____

Name of School Your Child Attends (Required): _____

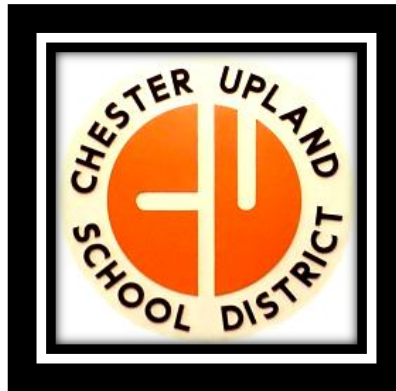
Child's Full Name: _____ Grade: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Telephone: _____

Please list any special accommodations that need to be provided:

Signature: _____ Date: _____



The Child **We** Raise Will Lead the Village...

Superintendent of Schools

Gregory G. Shannon

Chief of Staff & Director of Parent University

Claudia S. Averette



THE CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices

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