



# Prep Academy News

Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> 2023

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## Fall Retreat Follow Up



As students faced the challenge of the climbing wall and low ropes course, important lessons were introduced. To meet with success the students found -

- a. Communication is important.
- b. Teamwork is a great way to solve problems.
- c. Persistence helps you move forward one step at a time.
- d. Asking for help when you need it is always a good plan.

The same skills apply to Central Academy academics! As the twelve former Prep Academy mentors can attest, as challenges arise, using these principles will help remove obstacles on the path to success. One high school mentor made a special connection between a retreat activity and Central Academy!



“Prep Academy is like walking on the tightrope. Everyone is on their own individual journey, but when things get wobbly, the community surrounds you and helps you along your way!”

Comfort Toluwalase – Prep class of '20-'21

## Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> - Prep Academy Conferences

**Parent-initiated conferences**, where parents arrange to meet with teachers, will be on **Monday, October 16**. We will have opportunities for parents to schedule phone conferences or attend our drop-in conferences on that day.

**12:00- 3:30: Schedule a 5-minute phone conference with teachers.**

**BOOK** your appointment. This **VIDEO** explains the booking system.

**4:00 - 8:00 PM: Drop-in Conferences.** There are no scheduled appointments during this time. Come to Central Academy (1912 Grand Ave.) and meet with teachers first come, first served.

## Please Welcome Jenny Schiltz!



As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, Ms. Schiltz will step into the role of Prep Academy Advisor. Ms. Schiltz has spent the last 18 years as an Elementary Advanced Learning Consultant, retiring at the end of last school year. She has served students and families in almost half the elementary schools during her time as a consultant and was co-chair for both the elementary and middle school Battle of the Books competitions. Her now adult children both attended the Academy and appreciated the challenge it provided.

In her free time, she can be found reading middle grade and young adult novels, geo-caching, hiking, and spending as much time as possible with her grandchildren. She is looking forward to getting to know the Prep Academy students and reconnecting with some of her former students!

After 20 plus years serving as an Academy teacher and later Prep Academy Advisor, Ms. Fox will be retiring to spend time travelling and with grandkids.

## Central Campus Career Expo OPEN HOUSE Thursday, October 19, 3:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m. YOU'RE INVITED!

Central Campus, at 1800 Grand Ave. (the building just east of Central Academy), is home to the Des Moines Public Schools career and technical programs.

Mark your calendars and drop by on October 19<sup>th</sup>, to explore the opportunities offered through Central Campus, including marine biology, automotives, robotics, engineering, photography, aviation, welding, nursing, fashion design, radio/TV/film, criminal justice, and SO MUCH MORE! This open house event gives an opportunity to see what options are available to Des Moines high school students and how you can best prepare to be a participant!

Take advantage of FREE childcare for ages 2-5 years (RSVP REQUIRED FOR CHILDCARE)  
To reserve a childcare spot visit -

[https://dmschools.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8wzJePfvojAdSmi](https://dmschools.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8wzJePfvojAdSmi)

To learn more about Central Campus and the Career Expo, please visit [centralcampus.dmschools.org](http://centralcampus.dmschools.org).

## What's Best About Prep Academy!

Last month I met with small groups including every Prep Academy student, and here's what they said was the BEST thing about coming to the Academy!

- 37 - they liked the pace and/or challenge of the curriculum
- 18 - the teachers were their favorite
- 20 - meeting new people from all around the city
- 11 - riding the bus back and forth between schools
- 6 - liked how quiet it is at the Academy

There's a lot to like at the Academy, and 2023-2024 Prep Academy is off to a great start!

# Reminders

## **Attendance:**

If your child is absent, in addition to contacting your student's home school, please contact the Central Academy Attendance Clerk at 242-7653 or [jamie.trogdon@dmschools.org](mailto:jamie.trogdon@dmschools.org)

## **Infinite Campus:**

Infinite Campus is where teachers record information about your student's individual progress. This includes grades given on assignments, what assignments might be missing and as time progresses, topic scores. For more information on the use of Infinite Campus visit <https://www.dmschools.org/infinite-campus-studentparent-portal/>

# Contacts

## **Prep Academy Support Staff**

Diane Fox, Prep Academy Advisor, [diane.fox@dmschools.org](mailto:diane.fox@dmschools.org)

Jenny Schiltz, (beginning Nov. 1) Prep Academy Advisor, [jennifer.schiltz@dmschools.org](mailto:jennifer.schiltz@dmschools.org)

Kelly Randleman, Central Academy Advanced Learning consultant [Kelly.randleman@dmschools.org](mailto:Kelly.randleman@dmschools.org)

## **Class specific questions please contact the teacher directly.**

Lana Lyddon Hatten – Math [lane.lyddonhatten@dmschools.org](mailto:lane.lyddonhatten@dmschools.org)

Jeff Marks – Math [jeffrey.marks@dmschools.org](mailto:jeffrey.marks@dmschools.org)

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Desman Oakley – English [desman.oakley@dmschools.org](mailto:desman.oakley@dmschools.org)

## **Central Academy Counseling Staff**

Kris Hilton (Names beginning with A-M) [kristin.hilton@dmschools.org](mailto:kristin.hilton@dmschools.org)

Amy Cummings (Names beginning with N-Z) [amy.cummings@dmschools.org](mailto:amy.cummings@dmschools.org)

Suleyma Reyes (Counseling associate -bilingual) [suleyma.reyes@dmschools.org](mailto:suleyma.reyes@dmschools.org)

## **Central Academy Main Office**

Central Academy Director, Dr. Jessica Gogerty [Jessica.gogerty@dmschools.org](mailto:Jessica.gogerty@dmschools.org)

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