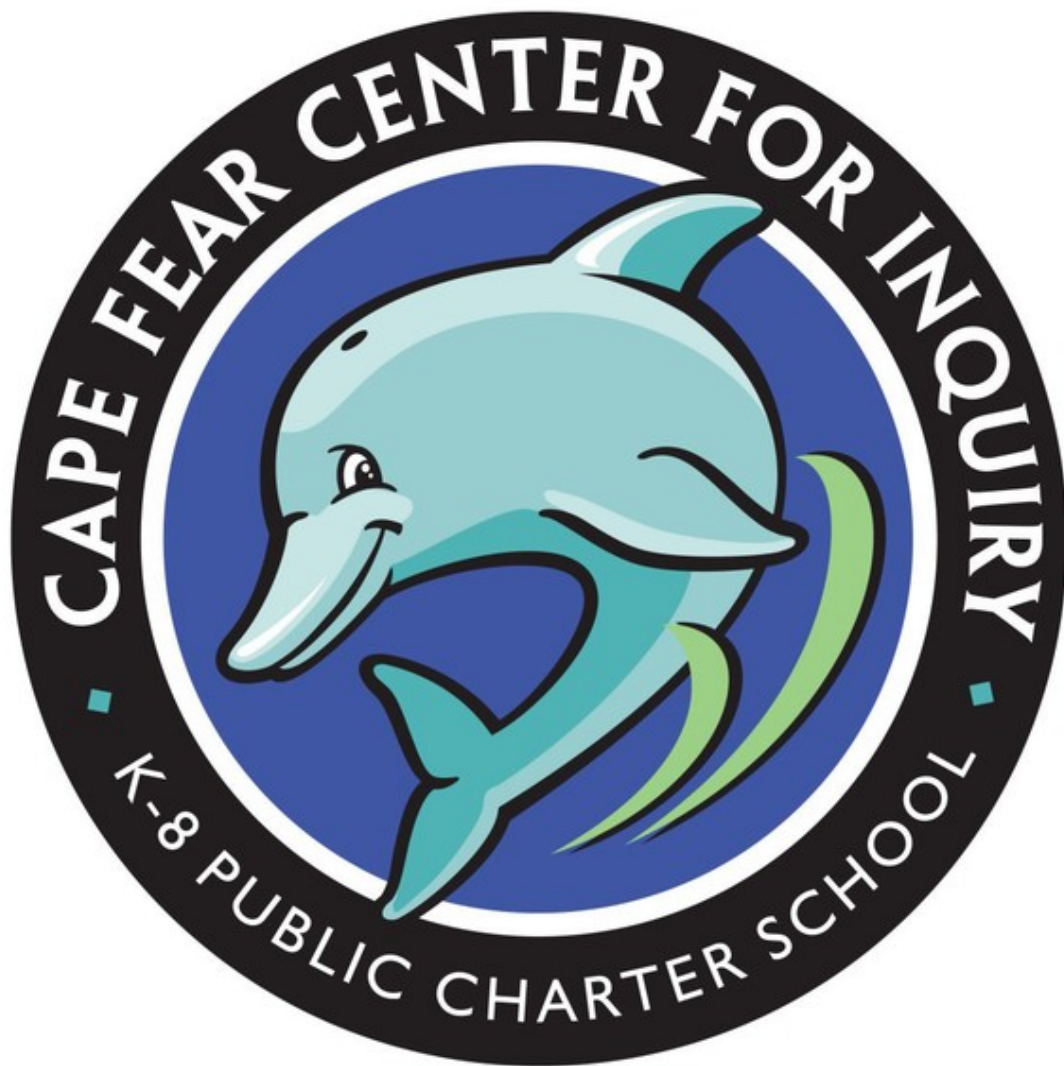


CFCI Community Communication

A Message From Our Leadership Team



August 20, 2023

Dear CFCI Families,

This past week our faculty and staff participated in Opening Days professional development, beginning of the year meetings, team building and while at the same time worked to get their spaces ready for our students to come back on Tuesday, August 22nd. We had some important

training that and collaboration time that will help us get the year off to a great beginning. We also had a wonderful treat from our Partnership on Thursday with a delicious lunch from Penos at the Pointe. Thank to our Partnership and for taking such good care of us as we prepared for Open House. And what an amazing Open House it was with over 200 families visiting the school and classrooms throughout the evening! We were so happy to see our students and families and we are truly looking forward to the beginning days this coming week. Our first official day for Grades 1-8 are on Tuesday, August 22! See you bright and early at 7:45am. Kindergarten parents/guardians remember that there is a flexible schedule with DIAL screening and playdates to start the year.



All of this is to say, as we prepare for the start of the new year, we think it is important for you to know how important it is that students are present during the first days of school. Along with being part of the community building that happens in their classrooms at the start of the year - each student's presence is part of how our school is funded for the year. Please take a look at the infographic below (**The First Day is a Big Deal!**) to better understand how important it is for each child to be present on the first day and for the first twenty days in order for our school to be fully funded. Please let us know if your child will not be present on the first day of school. Thank you.

With any new year comes changes to enrollment. This year, we find ourselves looking for some amazing 8th graders to come learn with us! If you know of a family that may be looking for a spot for their 8th grader to finish out their middle school experience in an environment of inquiry and responsive teaching, please let them know about us! They can reach out to Debra Korb at office@cfci.net. We have a couple of spots and would love to have them filled for the start of the new year! Thank you for sharing the opportunity with others!

Please take a moment to look through some of the information and forms contained within this communication. We are looking forward to a very busy and productive year dedicated to our school motto: **Learn, Share, Live**

*CFCI students will **LEARN** while at CFCI, **SHARE** their experiences, and **LIVE** as empowered thinkers, learners, inquirers and good people in the world.*

Have a great rest of your summer. We will see you on the First Day of School for First through Eighth on Tuesday, August 22nd.

Kim and Susan, Co-Directors
Lisa C, Ben P, & Kelly - Coordinators

THE FIRST DAY IS A BIG DEAL

For most students, the first day of school is a milestone that only comes around once a year, so no one wants to miss it, right? For charter school funding to fully reach a school the way it is intended, your child must be present for the first day of school. We understand that things happen, but the per-pupil funding formula used by the State of North Carolina determines school funding by first-day attendance, not enrollment. Don't let your child be deprived of what is rightfully theirs! It

will affect the school budget directly. In the example above, a child who does not attend school until Day

Day 1 Attendance (1).pdf

[Download](#)

591.7 KB

Welcome to CFCI!!!



We Were so Happy to Welcome New Families and See All of Our Familiar Faces Too!

BEGINNING OF YEAR FORMS - PLEASE TAKE TIME TO FILL THESE OUT ASAP!

SIGN UP TODAY TO VOLUNTEER AT CFCI!! Volunteer sign up window is from 8/17-9/30!

Before and After School On-Site - Superlative Club -Register Today

[Click Here to Register Today ~ \(888\)-262-4322](#)

After School Van Transportation and Alternate Programming - Off-Site

BOURELLE MARTIAL ARTS
Dan 901-409-3306

CHILDCARE NETWORK
Sandra 910-392-3430

FAST (Sports-related)
Mike 910-620-5555

KIDDIE ACADEMY
910-232-0881

YMCA (Midtown)
910-515-6095

A Warm CFCI Welcome to Our New Faculty and Staff



**Ms. Courtney Lewis - K-8
Global STEM Teacher**



**Our Teachers, New and
Veteran participated in
team building - A great
way to get to know each
other!**



**Ms. Angelica Colvin, 5th
Grade Teacher in the 4/5
Loop**

Please join us in welcoming our newest CFCI staff members! Some are familiar faces in new positions, while others are new to our school and even new to Wilmington! We are so excited to have them joining our amazing team of educators. We have a few more wonderful teachers and teaching assistants to share with you and will update the community next week! In the meantime, when you see new faces around the school this year, please stop and say hello!

Safety Patrol

The time has come to assemble the new CFCI Safety Patrol Crew for the 2023-24 school year! Students on Safety Patrol help with the lower parking lot car drop off in the mornings alongside teachers and the leadership team. Students are chosen based on their ability to accept responsibility, assume roles of leadership, and be exemplary role models for the entire student body. This is an honor and an important role for any middle school student. If you and your student are willing to commit to the Safety Patrol for the 2023-24 school year, please complete the form in the link below by Friday, August 25th. We can't wait to get started!! on September 5th! Our target date for starting Safety Patrol

Safety Patrol Interest Form

Our Partnership

The Partnership is excited to welcome new and returning families back to school! We are looking forward to another successful year working with the parents and staff of CFCI.
Welcome Back!

What is the Partnership?

CFCI Partnership is the parent/teacher organization (PTO) at the school. The group works to support the mission of the school and foster the community driven spirit we strive for. We support our students and staff by hosting school wide events, fundraisers, and providing teacher stipends and grants to cover costs of education materials for the classroom and professional development. We strongly believe parent participation, both time and financial, directly impacts the students and our school.

Partnership Board Members for 2023-24

Chair- Joanna Rickard Henderson

Vice Chair- Erin Firth

Treasurer- Khadija Brown

Secretary- Anna Fernez

NewsLetter Template.pdf

[Download](#)

53.9 KB

Supply Lists - Check here for K-8 Supply Lists from Your Child's Teachers

Arrival and Dismissal Info for Our Families

Please Read Carefully Prior to the Start of School

CFCI 23-24 - Arrival and Dismissal Info for Families

Our main goals in these procedures are:

- keeping students, staff and families safe
- providing an efficient experience for families taking time out of their day to transport their child to school

ARRIVAL

School doors open at 7:45am. Students will be marked tardy if they arrive after 8:05am.

Parents/Guardians must accompany tardy students into the building from upper/lower lots to sign them in.

- Students in grades **K-3** + any older siblings will be dropped off in the lower lot, utilizing the Wonder Way entrance.

- Parents are allowed to line up in their cars on the back side of the MPR beginning at 7:30am. Please do not arrive prior to 7:30am, as this will block the parking lot for our staff.
- Cars begin pulling forward at 7:45am (please do not pull forward before this time).
- We ask that you pull all the way forward before stopping to let your child out of the car. Car greeters will be stationed to assist your child.
- All children will walk on the sidewalk (in one direction) and enter the building using the K1 doors (on the left side of the building).
- Students in grades **4-8** will be dropped off in the upper lot, utilizing the Shipyard Blvd. entrance.
 - Car greeters will be stationed to greet students.
 - Please do not let your child out of the car before 7:45am.
 - Students will walk down the sidewalk and enter the building through the Middle Grades door.
 - If you arrive at 8:05am or later, your child is tardy and needs to be signed in by an adult in the front office. You may park in the upper lot and walk down, or drive around and park in the lower lot. Do not let your child walk down after 8:05am, as the middle grades doors will be closed and locked at this time.

DISMISSAL

- Students will begin exiting the building at 3:05pm.
- Students in grades **K-3** + any older siblings will be picked up in the lower lot.
- Students in grades **4-8** will be picked up in the upper lot.
- Families of students whose last name starts with letters A-M, we kindly ask that you begin arriving at 3:00.
- Families of students whose last name starts with letters N-Z, we kindly ask that you begin arriving at 3:15.
- We kindly ask that as much as possible, you do not arrive before your designated dismissal time. This helps us to prevent dangerous traffic stacking on Wonder Way and Shipyard Blvd.

Car Signs for Dismissal: At Open House you will also receive car signs for your family, babysitters, etc. You will write the names of the child(ren) the car will be picking up in black marker. It is important that whomever is picking up keep this car sign posted **all the way** through the carline. Please do not take them down after the caller calls their name as all staff need to see the names of students being picked up to be able to quickly identify who should be in which car. In the lower lot, you will be asked to move to Wonder Way to wait for your child if a second call is necessary and a staff member will walk them down to the car.

Please direct any individual questions or concerns to Ben Rose (brose@cfci.net - 910-362-0000).

Teachers and Staff Getting to Know One Another and Becoming a Stronger Team!



Parachutes are an excellent way to develop strength, endurance, and work on team-building skills.



Develops physical skills like hand-eye coordination, balance and mobility.



Muscles are strengthened as the core and arms are put to work in a gentle but effective way. Promotes social interaction and communication.

Lunches

We will once again be teaming with My Hot Lunch Box to provide lunches from local restaurants to our students. Our plan is to begin sometime mid-September. We will be sending additional information to families when everything is ready to go.

Also, if your family is in need of free or reduced lunches/snacks, please reach out to Ben Rose (brose@cfcf.net) in the front office with help filling out the form. The form is included in our Beginning of Year packet but we are here to help you get what you need.

Change in Our Chromebook Protocols

For the past 6 years, CFCI has been a 1-1 school with students having access to Chromebooks in grades 2-8 and iPads in Grades K-1. During that time we have had many opportunities to assess the benefits of having a 1-1 program at our school. These include:

- Increased student engagement and participation
- Increased familiarity with technology that helps prepare our young learners for a more tech driven world
- The ability for teachers to access unlimited digital resources such as apps, interactive websites, digital media, games and more
- Increased equity in our learning environment

Along with the benefits, we have found that there have been challenges that include increased screen time and budget concerns (including management of devices.)

This past school year, our Technology Committee had many discussions about the 1-1 program. Looking to mitigate some of the negative aspects while supporting students and teachers with what has become an important tool in our learning environment, we have decided to try a new approach to our 1-1 program for this school year. Our plan is to limit the use of chromebooks to the classroom they will no longer go home with students each day. Instead chromebooks will

assigned to classrooms (not students) and be available as a resource for students during the school day. The intent is to be purposeful in how students utilize chromebooks for learning and minimize the amount of damage that is occurring with chromebooks traveling from classroom to classroom as well as from school to home. On occasion, a teacher may assign a special project that will require students to take a chromebook home but this will be an exception to the norm. The technology committee, classroom teachers, school leadership, students, and families will all be a part of monitoring the usefulness and merits of this new plan. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We appreciate your support and look forward to a successful implementation.

Exceptional Children Information for Parents

Preparing for the beginning of the year. Please consider these tips from NC DPI to help create a smooth and enjoyable start to the 2023-2024 school year.

08.02.23 Preparing for Beginning of the Year.pdf

[Download](#)

145.9 KB

Weekly Wellness with Nurse Jen and Mrs. Horne

Social Emotional Learning for All

This year we will be utilizing curriculum resources from Everyday Speech to provide our students with the social emotional skills they need to be successful in the classroom and in their everyday lives. The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) defines Social Emotional Learning (SEL) as *"the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions."*

SEL has been shown to:

- Improve test scores
- Increase student motivation
- Decrease dropout rates
- Decrease student fights and other violent behaviors
- Reduce emotional distress, including anxiety, stress, and social withdrawal



What's Happening In and Around Our Classrooms

Each week we will include photos and articles about all the great things happening in and out of our classrooms. The learning is never ending at CFCI!

2525 Wonder Way, Wilmington, NC 28401

Telephone: 910-362-0000



Cape Fear Center for Inquiry

Cultivating curiosity for over 23 years!