



# CMSA TRIBUNE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



February 2017

### Teacher Spotlight: Special Education Team



Led by the incomparable Amy Bartlett, CMSA's Special Education team goes above and beyond to assist our students in their academic and behavioral needs. From left to right we have Ms. Tamburrino, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Thompson, Mrs. Kitaychik, and Ms. Brkljacic. Three of the five teachers graduated from the Illinois State University. In addition to their regular duties of developing IEP, etc. this group enjoys other school activities as well. Ms. Tamburrino coached girls varsity basketball, Ms. Bartlett coaches both girls and boys varsity soccer, and Ms. Kitajcacik teaches piano for students with special needs. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Jensen concentrate on working with the middle school students. Ms. Tamburrino, Ms. Brkljacic and Mrs. Kitaychik work with the high school students. We are very lucky to have this great team of professionals at CMSA!

### CMSA Honored with a "Silver" ranking one off the "Best High Schools"



For 2 years in a row, CMSA has been selected as one of the best high schools in the nation by US News. This year we have advanced to a "SILVER" ranking. Here is a link to see more!

[bit.ly/2bmYtD0](http://bit.ly/2bmYtD0)

## Illinois State Board of Education to Feature CMSA's Community Building Efforts as Best Practice



The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) approached Concept Schools to participate in a best practice sharing project, along with the Illinois Principals' Association (IPA) and Ed Leaders Network (ELN), a multi-state entity design to create high quality, on-demand professional development for educators

(<https://www.edleadersnetwork.org/>). They have been awarded a Department of Education grant to provide webinars to certified and non-certified staff currently employed within a public school or district. States that participate are: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

The crew spent the entire day interviewing students, parents, staff and community members. They were pulling together the story behind the relationship of the community to the school and how CMSA contributes to making its Rogers Park neighborhood a better place. Even the Alderman Mr. Joe Moore, a longtime friend and supporter of CMSA dropped by to participate in the filming. We look forward to seeing the finished product and feel very proud that CMSA is a part of this special project.

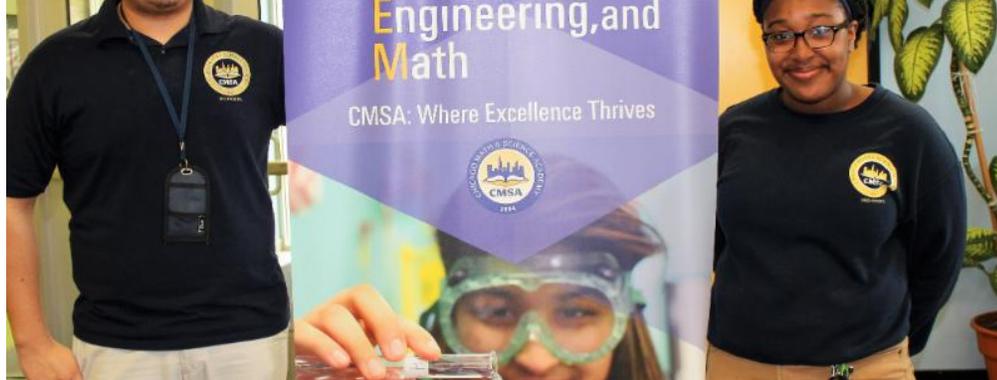
### Touhy Park Nominates CMSA Students for Junior Citizens Program



## Student Spotlight: Aurora Tan



Aurora Tan joined CMSA in the 8th grade. Currently a senior she has her eyes set on attaining a college degree. This desire keeps her focused as she struggles with a chronic illness which requires intensive many medical procedures. Ms. Kinney is her favorite teacher for the "exciting and creative methods she uses to teach". In her spare time, Aurora likes to play video games, listen to music, and ride her bike. She is looking forward to the next chapter of her life as college awaits her.



Masharah Tingling and Jaime Garcia have been chosen by Touhy Park as their representatives for this year's Junior Citizens Award Program. The program celebrates our city's young leaders for their exceptional civic contributions. Each year the Chicago Park District conducts a search of students involved with their local parks to select one outstanding young person to be named the Chicago Park District Junior Citizen of the Year. In addition to good academic standing, the ideal nominee must demonstrate a high level of involvement with their neighborhood parks, active participation in their community, a strong character and a drive toward achieving academic excellence.

***Congratulations on your nomination, Mashara and Jaime!***

## Students Salute our Neighbors at Engine 102

### Concept School's Parent Blog in Spanish!



Le invitamos a leer la última entrada en el Concept Blog en Español.

[WWW.CONCEPTSCHOOLS.ORG/blog/](http://WWW.CONCEPTSCHOOLS.ORG/blog/)

### CMSA Ranks as Level 1+

**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS RATES CMSA AS LEVEL 1+ SCHOOL**  
Students made significant gains in key areas:

- Reading growth on NWEA MAP (grades 3-8) → Better than **82%** of schools nationally
- Math growth on NWEA MAP (grades 3-8) → Better than **94%** of school nationally
- Growth of EPSS assessment scores (11) → Better than **90%** nationally
- College Persistence rate (class of 2015) → **84.0%** of graduates persisting in college
- My School, My Voice Survey → Well organized school
- Attendance Rate → **97.2%**

27% of District schools are Level 1+ and 17% of Charter schools are Level 1+

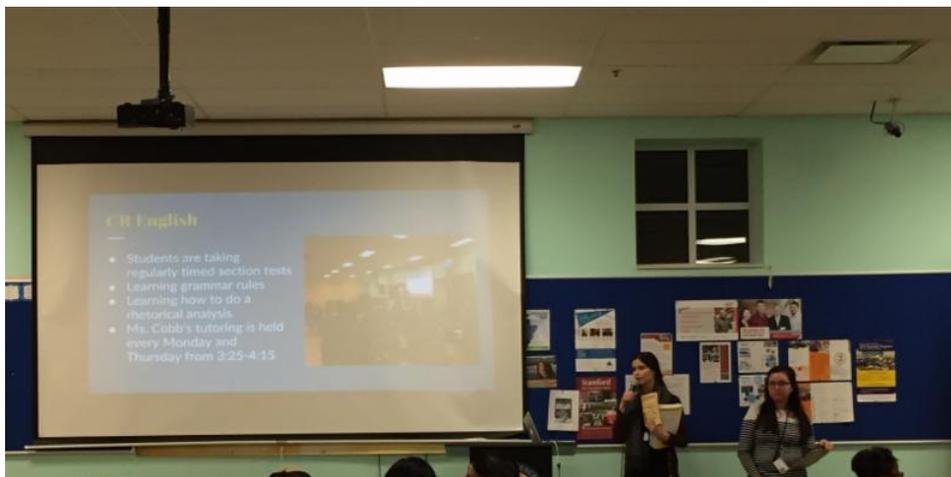
**Chicago Math & Science Academy is ranked Level 1+ by Chicago Public Schools. According to their SQRP report, CMSA students made significant gains in key areas:**

□ **Reading growth on NWEA MAP\* (grades 6-8) = is in the top 15% of schools nationally**



Our students Ambassadors enjoy visiting our community organizations to share school news and show their appreciation for the services they provide. A favorite place to visit is our Engine 102 Fire House with whom we share the block we're located on. These brave men and women are pillars of our community and have always welcomed us with open arms. We value their service and thank them for their amazing hospitality!

## Students Prepare for SAT Testing



- CH English**
- Students are taking regularly timed section tests
  - Learning grammar rules
  - Learning how to do a rhetorical analysis
  - Ms. Cobb's tutoring is held every Monday and Thursday from 3:25-4:15

Math growth on NWEA MAP\* (grades 6-8) = i  
s in the top 6% of schools nationally

□ **Growth of EPAS assessment series** (grades 11 PLAN to ACT) = i  
s in the top 4% nationally

□ **College Persistence Rate** (class of 2013) = 84.6%

□ **Attendance Rate = 97.3%**

\*\*NWEA = Northwest Evaluation Association & (MAP) = Measures of Academic Progress are nationally recognized norm-referenced assessments used as one metric in the school quality equation.  
Comparison

## You Can Help CMSA!

Please consider making a difference in the education of Rogers Park youth with a tax-deductible donation. We will gladly accept a check, credit card or you can use PayPal through the CMSA website.

Your donation will directly help our students succeed by providing such things as STEM-related textbooks, incentives for academic achievement, equipment for science labs, robotics kits, etc.

Remember that every donation received by CMSA gives inner-city youths the opportunity to fulfill their educational dreams.

Join us as our philanthropic partner in continuing our excellence in education. You can click the Donate button below. Every dollar makes a difference! We thank you for your support and generosity.



Students received testing advice and coaching from their teachers as they prepare for their SAT test. Parents and students were treated to an information session on how to best get ready for this important test. Good luck to all!

## Student Artists Take Center Stage at "Positive Vibes" Show



Congratulations to Mr. Brend and his Art club students who put on a wonderful show for parents and staff. The show also enjoyed the musical renditions of CMSA's gold award winning band which created a very festive atmosphere. All in all, it was a great evening with much celebration. Here are the award placings in each category.

### High School

**Best in Show: Alexis Fleigel - Painting**

Graphite: (1st) B'Elanna Robinson, (2nd) Mitzi Alonso, (3rd) Rosa Flores

Charcoal: (1st) Roma Yahya, (2nd) Raphael Chora, (3rd) Ivette Garcia

Painting: (1st) Alexis Fleigel, (2nd) B'Lanna Robinson, (3rd) Musharrat Islam

Cartooning: (1st) Alexis Fleigel, (2nd) Marino Garcia, (3rd) Viviana Martinez

Design: (1st) Alex Huang, (2nd) Emanuel Gomez, (3rd) Viviana Martinez

### Middle School

**Best in Show: Efren Ruiz - Color Drawing**

Drawing-Graphite: (1st) Olamide Bakare, (2nd) Edger Chora, (3rd) Allen Robinson

Drawing-Pen: (1st) Mohammad Raheem, (2nd) Efren Ruiz, (3rd) Diego Herrera

Color: (1st) Efren Ruiz, (2nd) Ashlei Jade Camat, (3rd) Vanessa Gonzalez Nieto

Cartooning: (1st) Onaiwa Gamon, (2nd) Stephanie Ayala, (3rd) Ashlei Jade Camat

Sculpture: (1st) Stephanie Ayala, (2nd) Ashlei Jade Camat, (3rd) Vanessa Gonzalez Nieto

## Black History Month Gala



CMSA's month long celebration of Black History culminated in a lovely gala attended by students and their families as well as staff. The audience were treated to fabulous food, and great performances which included Spoken Word and dancing. Congratulations to Ms. Turner, Ms. Moore and Ms. Vincent on this great event.



**Chicago Math and Science Academy:**

**"Changing the trajectory of our students' lives with STEM-focused education that successfully prepares students for tomorrow!"**

Chicago Math and Science Academy  
7212 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60626  
[www.cmsaonline.net](http://www.cmsaonline.net)

Phone: 773 761 8960 || Fax: 773 761 8961



