



## CAMBRIDGE STREET UPPER SCHOOL

*Manuel J. Fernandez, Head of School*

*Christen Sohn, Assistant Principal*

*Tiffany Robinson, School Clerk*

August 18, 2017

Dear CSUS parents and caregivers,

Welcome to all our new CSUS families and Welcome Back to our returning families. On behalf of TEAM CSUS (the faculty, staff and administration at Cambridge Street), thank you for choosing CSUS! We recognize that you had a choice among many schools and we are humbled that you entrusted us with your child's education. TEAM CSUS learned so much from our previous five years and we look forward to working closely with you to provide the best possible developmental experience for all children.

**The first day of school for all scholars is on Tuesday, Sept. 5.** Upon arrival your child should report directly to the cafeteria. At 8:45AM we will transition to the auditorium for our first school- wide community meeting. If your child did not receive a class schedule or forgets to bring it, no worries. At this meeting we will celebrate what it means to be a CSUS scholar, establish our goals for the year and distribute class schedules.

This year our primary aim is to continue our initiative: *Challenge the Opportunity Gap*. Reflecting on the previous year we have revised the Five A's with more specificity.

TEAM CSUS aspires to become a culturally proficient school that promotes and sustains academic excellence and social justice. We affirm the rich cultural and racial diversity of our student body and their families. We are committed to challenging the opportunity gap that impedes the academic and social success of some scholars because of a lack of access and a lack of resources. We recognize that any one of our scholars may have their academic and/or socio-emotional development impeded by one or more gaps in what we define as the **5 Essential Aspects for Success (the 5 As) at CSUS**. We will deploy every effort to provide the requisite support and resources to every scholar regardless of their socio-economic affinity group. We strive to ensure equity and inclusion for all, in all aspects of school. Members of TEAM CSUS will focus its individual, collective, and reflective efforts in support of the **5 Essential Aspects for Success**.

- **Academics** - Provide every scholar in every classroom with rigorous and culturally relevant teaching practices in a student-centered learning environment.
- **Arts** - Provide every scholar with multi-disciplinary instruction in the arts and performance opportunities in a dynamic and inclusive visual and performing arts program.
- **Athletics and Wellness** - Provide every scholar with health and wellness resources and the opportunity to participate in the school's wrap-around wellness activities and four season athletic program.

158 Spring Street

Cambridge MA 02141

617.349.3050

email: [CambridgeStreet@cpsd.us](mailto:CambridgeStreet@cpsd.us)

Website: <http://cambridgestreet.cpsd.us>

*CSUS spells SUCCESS!*

- **Associations** - Through advisory activities and socio-emotional initiatives, scholars will develop positive, culturally proficient and emotionally healthy relationships with fellow scholars, advisors, teachers and staff supported by a collaborative and sustaining culturally responsive school relationship with scholar families.
- **Access** - Provide scholars with full access to school and community afterschool programs and the technological support and resources to sustain extended learning and development beyond the school day.

Throughout the school year, TEAM CSUS will endeavor with a steady and intentional focus to actively support the **5 Essential Aspects for Success**.

We will encourage CSUS scholars to become empowered to Challenge the Opportunity Gap. The realization of our efforts will result in Successful Scholars:

- Engaging fully in their academics.
- Expressing themselves artistically.
- Exercising their bodies and minds.
- Establishing meaningful and supportive relationships with fellow scholars and adults.
- Extending their learning beyond the school day.

Again, thank you for choosing CSUS! Please do not hesitate to contact me or any CSUS staff member if you have any questions or concerns.

Peace,

Manuel J. Fernandez  
Head of School

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