



PHOENIX NEWS

Learn | Make Friends | Have Fun

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Important Phone Numbers

Main Office

612-668-2450

Attendance Line

612-668-2483

Family Liaison

612-668-2478

Important Dates

8th Grade Ceremony

June 14 @ 9:30am

Last Day of School

June 14

Beacon's Leadership

June 19-July 28, 2017

Summer School @ Ramsey

begins June 26

School Registration

office staff return Aug 14

Welcome Night

Aug 24th, 6-8th grade
5-7pm

2017-18 School Year

Begins

August 28

Dear Anwatin Community,

Wow, what a year we have had. It is hard to believe it has been nearly 180 days since we opened our doors to the 2016-17 school year. Throughout the year we had our ups and our downs, our highs and our lows—however, the end of the year is a time to celebrate and appreciate all that we have accomplished and a time to look to the future.

Thank you parents. Your ongoing support to your rapidly growing child and our tireless staff was felt and so appreciated. Your commitment to the education and well being of your scholar was crucial to their success. Your persistent phone calls, help with homework, volunteering, checking grades, and attendance to events is an essential part of student academic and social growth. For that, we thank you.

Thank you community partners. The many learning activities we do with our students would be very difficult to fulfill without you. Due to your support we were able to create a welcoming mural, put on numerous events—including our first ever carnival, supply our students with supplies and much needed materials, buy steel drums for our drumming program, along with so much more. For that we thank you.

Thank you students. Your tenacity, kindness, quirkiness, fiery spirit, determination, risk taking, loving-joyful character is what makes Anwatin great. You are why we do what we do and why Anwatin exists. You have been through a lot this year. Through the laughter and tears, triumphs and frustrations you have learned about yourself, others and the world. You have gained new knowledge that will mean something to you someday (I promise). You have made or kept friends who will be with you for life whether in person or as a memory. You have connected with your teachers—some of whom have made a lasting impact on your life and future. I am so proud of you!!!! You are all beautiful, brilliant, benevolent humans who have a full and wonderful life ahead of you. Do great things and strive for excellence everyday! I love you and thank you for such a wonderful year.

Calvin Terrell Assembly

A few weeks ago Anwatin students participated in an assembly lead by Calvin Terrell. Mr. Terrell worked directly with students on issues of race, bullying and conflict resolution. His presentation included historical and current incidences around these issues, and some of his presentation included language and information of a mature nature e.g., references of recent acts of violence based on ignorance or prejudices or word usage that historically denigrates certain individuals or groups. More importantly, his presentation invited each student to become an "Agent of Unity" by having students examine the role they have in creating a safe school and community for every individual who attends Anwatin or lives in our community.

Please see the resources below and on our website to help facilitate these difficult and important conversations with your scholars at home.

Articles and activities for processing with students:

<http://www.benjerry.com/whats-new/2016/systemic-racism-is-real>

<http://www.nctsn.org/resources/topics/culture-and-trauma>

A note to our students:

6th graders—next year you won't be the babies anymore and expect great things from each and every one of you. Remember what you learned about what it looks, sounds, and feels like to be an Anwatin Phoenix. Model this for our incoming 6th graders—they will be watching and learning from you. Over the summer—do what brings you joy. Read a good book, hang out with friends, go to a pool or park, spend time with your family, do something meaningful for your community.

7th graders—next year you will be the Anwatin Phoenix Leaders! We will depend on your expertise on how to truly be an Anwatin scholar. We all expect excellence from you every day. You have a lot to learn next year in order to be ready for high school but until then...Enjoy being a kid. Even though you are a teenager you still get to have a little fun. Cherish your time with your family, continue to play with your friends, stay curious about the world—kept learning. Read! Read! Read!

8th graders—what a year you have had. As school leaders some of you rose to the top right away modeling Anwatin excellence from day one. Our 6th graders looked to you for guidance and you provided it. Some of you, it took a little time, but in the end you matured and have grown into lovely young men and women. Next year you will be the babies again. Look to people who model excellence and bring out the best in you. You are our world's future. We depend on you to care for yourself—so that you may care for us one day, care for each other—so that you have friends and peers who have your back when you need it, and care for our earth—so that it is here and in good shape for your grandchildren. 8th graders—do great things, be excellent, work hard, enjoy life, and I'll see you on graduation day in 4 years!!!

IB Community Project Celebration

Through the IB Community Project in their Language and Literature class, nearly 50 8th graders chose a problem in their community and created and acted on a solution for it.

Project topics ranged from raising money for a feline rescue center, to packaging food for Feed My Starving Children, to a PSA on animal cruelty and animal testing.

FREE SCHOOL CALENDAR & HANDBOOK



2017-2018 Calendar - Pick Yours Up Today! Available in its digital form online and as a traditional wall calendar, we are excited to provide our families with a brand new resource. Stop by the school for your free copy; they'll also be available at school events in the spring and fall.

Summer Wellness

Summer vacation is just around the corner. Students are anxiously awaiting unplanned independent time with their friends and family. For middle school age students, the 10 weeks of summer can get a bit hot and long, especially when youth have a lot of unstructured time. Please review the following resources for ways to engage your child in healthy academic and social activities throughout the summer.

- www.mpls.k12.mn.us
- <http://commed.mpls.k12.mn.us>
- www.minneapolisparcs.org
- www.hclib.org
- www.whatsup612.com

FREE SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) was created to ensure that children could continue to receive nutritious meals during summer vacation, when they do not have access to school lunch or breakfast. Minneapolis Public Schools Culinary and Nutrition Services Department is a local sponsor of the [USDA Summer Food Service Program](#), which provides nutritious meals and snacks served in Minneapolis schools, parks, and community sites. The 2017 Summer Food Service Program will run Monday, June 19 through Friday, August 18. There is no service on Tuesday, July 4. It's absolutely free. Email SFSP@mpls.k12.mn.us for more information.