



*"You have brains in your head.  
You have feet in your shoes. You  
can steer yourself any direction  
you choose. You're on your own.  
And you know what you know.  
And YOU are the one who'll  
decide where to go..."*  
— **Dr. Seuss, Oh, The Places  
You'll Go!**

## Important Information

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**01. CMSD Portal opens  
12/3/18**

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**02. EdChoice and  
Cleveland Scholarship  
open in February**

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**03. Be sure to tell Mrs.  
Zevallos of application  
submissions**

## Hello 8<sup>th</sup> Grade CLA Families

As we draw closer to winter break and our Celebration of Learning, we also come nearer to application submissions and deadlines. I knew it would come quickly, but wow, it came really quickly! Below you are going to find important information regarding upcoming events and deadlines. Calendars are located in the front office.

## Applications

For those scholars applying to schools requiring applications, scholars need to be aware of application deadlines approaching for independent and selective parochial schools. Turn in all paper applications to Mrs. Zevallos. Most applications are on online on the school's website. Be sure to inform Mrs. Zevallos if you applied to a high school online. Ask individual teachers (usually one math, one English teacher, & an Administrator/Counselor) for recommendation letters. Once the teacher has completed the form, he or she will turn it into Mrs. Zevallos. I will send all necessary documents together in one envelope to the schools you have applied.

## Cleveland Metropolitan School District

The online enrollment portal for CMSD will be open on December 3, 2018. [choosecmsd.org](http://choosecmsd.org) If you created an account for Breakthrough within the last two academic years, you will be able to use your username/password from that account in order to create your CMSD application. Please be mindful of school ranking, if John Hay is your scholar's 1<sup>st</sup> choice, it must be marked as such. Scholars enrolling into lottery schools will be informed of selection in early spring, precise date will be announced when available.

## Entrance Exams

**Parochial Schools**- Check the dates for the entrance exams for the Parochial (Catholic) Schools, remember each school has its own test and test date so visit the school websites for specific details.

**Independent Schools**-Scholars can prepare for the ISEE using the practice test. Please ask Mrs. Zevallos for a copy of the practice tests if you do not already have one. The ISEE is usually tied to scholarship money. It is better to take the test on one of the earlier dates before dollars have been distributed. You can visit the school website to register for the test or register at [www.iseetest.org](http://www.iseetest.org). The ISEE test can be taken at any Independent School offering the test. If you need a voucher, call the school you are applying to. If applying to more than one Independent School, you DO NOT have the take the ISEE more than once. Your scores can be sent to multiple schools.

## Shadowing

1. Shadowing forms are located in the front office. Please submit to Mrs. Zevallos for approval.
2. You may sign-up on the school's website or by calling them. If you are unable to reach a school, please let Mrs. Zevallos know.
3. Shadowing is a great way to help your scholar find their new "home."



### Mrs. Zevallos School Counselor/High School Counselor

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9711 Lamont Ave  
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216-229-8185

[citizensleadership.org/cla2hs](http://citizensleadership.org/cla2hs)

[Kathleena.zevallos@citizensleadership.org](mailto:Kathleena.zevallos@citizensleadership.org)

## Financial Aid

Financial aid forms & links are available on the individual school's website.

Independent Schools- you can also apply online at <https://sss.secure.force.com/familyportal> to enter the PFS (Parents Financial Statement) Online. Create your PFS Online account with your email address and a password. **Complete only one PFS per household.** You can apply for aid to any number of schools for any number of children using just one PFS for the same flat fee.

Parochial Schools - Many parochial schools use the FACTS system <https://online.factsmgt.com/SignIn.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>. There is a fee for application, but this is an excellent source of additional funding outside of EdChoice and the Cleveland Scholarship.

Peterson Scholarship - Parents of students with IEPs your scholar may be eligible for the Peterson Scholarship, this application portal opens in February and your scholar must have an IEP to apply.

**Many schools have financial due dates in November and December. Financial aid forms must be completed by the due date in order to be considered for Financial Aid.**

### Ironman Away Day



CLA scholars will have the opportunity to spend the day at Cleveland Central Catholic and meet with a panel of students and tour the school. Scholars are asked to have at least one question prepared for the session. Lunch and transportation will be provided.

**As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Have a safe and wonderful December.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mrs. Katie Zevallos**