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Hello Confluence Community,

We hope the new year is off to a great start for you and your family. As we move forward into 2026, we're energized by the work ahead and grateful for the trust you place in Confluence Academies.

If you missed our New Year's Day letter, we invite you to take a moment to read it. As shared in that message, 2026 marks a year of intentional growth—one that will require all of us working together to ensure success for every scholar, educator, staff member, and school community. This focused commitment is outlined in our strategic plan and will guide our work throughout the year.

We are also enrolling new students for the 2026–2027 school year. Please consider sharing this opportunity with family members, friends, and neighbors who may be seeking a school community dedicated to developing the whole child and preparing students for what's next.

Thank you for your continued support of our scholars. We are proud to serve our students and families!

Warm Regards,

Linda DeJoie-Anderson
Student Recruitment & Community Outreach Coordinator

Candice Carter-Oliver, Ph.D
CEO



Confluence Students Attend Pioneer's Dinner



Thank you to Farrakhan Shegog, President and CEO of [Young Voices with Action](#), and [Blackwallstreet314](#) for inviting us to their recent Pioneer's Dinner. It was an inspiring evening, and we appreciate your continued support of our scholars.

[Learn more about Mr. Shegog and other area leaders' work with our Educators for Gun Safety Student Ambassadors here.](#)


Educators for Gun Safety

Affinia Healthcare is offering [free gun locks](#) to help families create safer home



**HELP KEEP ALL
KIDS SAFE**



If you have a gun in your home, ask for a
FREE GUN LOCK

No forms to fill out
No questions asked



Stop by any Affinia Healthcare location and ask for a
free gun lock at the receptionist desk.

 www.affiniahealthcare.org 

Safety initiative, our ongoing commitment to protect children and empower students to be voices for change. A reminder, free gun locks are also available in the front office at each Confluence campus.

Beginning the week of January 20, all Confluence Academies students will participate in an age-appropriate Gun Safety Curriculum designed to promote awareness, responsibility, and safe practices. Together, we are taking proactive steps to help keep our students, families, and communities safe.

Join GCAA Students to Celebrate MLK Day at the St. Louis Art Museum



This free community event features St. Louis Poet Laureate Pacia Elaine Anderson leading a poetic journey inspired by Moneta Sleet Jr.'s photographs of Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement, alongside performances by students from local schools and performing arts institutions, including students from Grand Center Arts Academy.

2026 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration:

[The Dream Reimagined—Youth Voices Uplifted](#)

Sunday, January 18th, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
St. Louis Art Museum

Get Tickets

Reminder: Confluence Academies will be closed on Monday, January 19th in observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Confluence Preparatory Academy



Join us tonight for CPA's annual Alumni Night! Reconnect with classmates, tour the school, and cheer on the Titans.

The Girls Varsity Basketball Game tips off at 4 p.m., followed by the Boys Varsity Basketball Game at 6 p.m.

After the games, alumni are invited to a social hour in the cafeteria with light appetizers, beverages, and cake. Hope to see you tonight!



From print to podcasting to social media, [CPA's Titans Talk](#) students are finding creative ways to share stories that strengthen our school community.

To close out 2025, students produced two engaging social media interview videos featuring staff and student reflections on holiday memories and New Year's resolutions—putting their skills in journalism, video production, and thoughtful, responsible social media use into action.

Grand Center Arts Academy





December was a month to celebrate our students' growth and creativity at GCAA. Music Pathway students impressed audiences with outstanding winter concerts featuring orchestra, chorus, guitar, and jazz band.

The Visual Arts Pathway's Winter Art Exhibition transformed several areas of our school into galleries showcasing our students' amazing work across multiple mediums.

Dance Pathway students closed the season with their *Superheroes vs. Villains* winter performance on the Sun Theater stage. Together, these events celebrated the talent, dedication, and continued growth of our GCAA scholars.



GCAA's Makerspace students once again turned creativity and technology into meaningful community impact through their support of the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots campaign.

Since 2018, our students and staff have participated in IC3D Filament's national effort to create 3D-printed toys for children in need, and in 2024, GCAA was honored to serve as the St. Louis

Thanks to this work, more than 1,300 3D-printed toys were contributed locally this year, while the national partnership surpassed 100,000 toy donations!

Old North Academy



Girl Scouts and Bank of America partnered to surprise our Old North Girl Scouts with a special gift: the opportunity to choose a beautiful new doll! This thoughtful gesture celebrates what the Girl Scouts stand for—courage, confidence, and character. We appreciate these organizations' support in growing our young leaders.



Old North Academy's Career Fair connected students with industry professionals as they explored future career pathways. Middle school scholars had the opportunity to learn about exciting fields, ask questions, and begin envisioning their professional journeys. A big thank-you to TRIO for helping organize this important event.

NED recently brought his upbeat energy to Old North! NED stands for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best! His visit was a fun and inspiring reminder to



South City Academy



South City students added a festive flair to their Reading Buddies time before winter break.

Student Council members visited the Compton Campus to spend time reading with our PK–2 scholars, sharing stories in both English and Spanish to support language development and a love of reading.

The program is designed not only to strengthen literacy skills, but also to build meaningful connections across grade levels.



We had so much fun leading up to winter break! During Holiday Spirit Week, students and staff showed their school pride by wearing red and white for Candy Cane Day. These joy-filled days are just one reminder of how much we love our South City community.

Food and Assistance Resources

Please find a list of [local resources available throughout the St. Louis area to help with food, financial, and housing needs here](#). If you have questions or need additional support, please reach out to your school's main office for guidance.



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