

**PACA Connect Meeting**  
**November 8, 2023**  
**Fireside Dining Room, 8:00 AM**

- I. Welcome, PACA President Gaby May and Vice-President Ellie Merritt-Zeiger
  
- II. Jason Singleton, Athletics Director, and Mary Deeds, Assistant Athletics Director  
(Presentation linked [here](#))
  - A. Offerings in fall, spring, and summer
    - 1. 73 total teams
  - B. MS: 6th, 7th, and 8th grade sports available
    - 1. 10 Girls, 9 boys, 2 coed sports offerings
    - 2. 83% of MS students participate in sports
  - C. US: 9-12 grade sports available
    - 1. 12 Girls, 10 boys, 3 coed sports offerings
    - 2. 83% of US students participate in sports
  - D. #GrownHere
  - E. Emphasis on sportsmanship
  - F. Winningest program in Ohio: Tradition
    - 1. Over 90 State Championships
      - a) 41 Team State Titles
      - b) 55 Individual State Titles
  - G. Internal Coaches: 67% coach one team, 33% coach multiple teams
  - H. External: 89% coach one team, 11% coach multiple teams
  - I. New conference: Central Buckeye League (CBL)--8 schools
  - J. No pay to play fees in MS/US
  - K. No charge for games--this is unique
  - L. Goal is to not cut kids, but we do have cuts in MS/US
  - M. Encourage playing multiple sports
  - N. Transportation typically begins in MS
  - O. Snacks are available to athletes in the dining room before competitions
  - P. US takes trips, such as to Florida, etc. over Spring Break (not this year because of other school trips happening), but will be back next year or summer
  - Q. Best time to take vacations: First week of Spring Break, first week of July, second week of Winter Break (shutdown period for sports); MS practices are optional over breaks
  - R. Encourage 12-season athletes (4 years, 3 sports/year)--quite an accomplishment
  - S. Field House floor is being replaced currently

T. Student Nutrition Intern is offering to meet individually with athletes to go over proper nutrition in season, off season, etc.

U. Wonderful facilities

**V. *Thank you for your support and for volunteering—we can't do it without parents***

W. Follow on social media: Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube (@academyvikings)

X. Junior Vikings: Youth Sports (Mary Deeds)

1. ½ Football; 3, 4, 5, 6 Basketball; ¾ and ½ Lacrosse
2. Also have outside organizations: Girls on the Run (grades 3-6), CBJ Learn to Play (grades 1-5), GCSTO Swim Lessons (grades 1-5)
3. Youth clinics (grades 2-5) for kids to sample sports before MS
4. Cultivate participation, character development, and fun
5. No cuts at this level
6. <https://www.columbusacademy.org/youthsports>

III. Jennifer Conti, Director of Student Internships

(Presentation linked [here](#))

A. Launched in 2019 to partner with local businesses and internships for school-year and mainly summer internship opportunities

B. All US students (9-12 including just graduated seniors) are invited to participate

C. Encourage 10-15 hours per week for 6-10 weeks in the summer

D. Positions may be paid or unpaid (if unpaid, students can apply for a \$500 stipend grant from the Internship Office); unpaid positions are NOT eligible for service hour requirements

E. Follow on social media (@CA\_Internships [Instagram])

F. Some past partners include Dreams on Horseback, Besa, NC4K, CMoA, etc.

G. By the numbers: 59 host organizations, 224 positions offered, 265 applicants, 820 applications received, 160 different interns, 25% of US student participated

H. Important Dates:

1. January 22: Positions announced
2. January 23: Internship workshop (to apply, students have to attend this workshop)
3. Jan 29-Feb 16: Submit applications
4. Feb 26-March 8: Interviews
5. March 7 and 8: CA hosted interview days

6. March 11: Offer day
  7. March 15: Commitments due
  8. May 1-15: Submit stipend grant applications
  9. June 4: Internships begin
- I. Other opportunities:
1. CAApS Program (CA Applied Science Program): Summer research lab experience (rising juniors and seniors) in OSU College of Engineering—placed in engineering, science, and research labs); 20-40 hours per week for 8-12 weeks; unpaid positions; students present posters in the fall; applications open right after Thanksgiving Break (Nov. 27); student info meeting (Nov. 29), applications close (Dec. 13), interviews begin (Jan. 8)
  2. External internship opportunities—posted on social media
  3. Summer job announcements also on social media
  4. Summer enrichment announcements on social media and all info in catalog on [www.columbusacademy.org/internships](http://www.columbusacademy.org/internships), which include courses, institutes, and travel experiences (there is a smaller section in the catalog for MS as well)
  5. Career Readiness: resume writing and cover letter help (including templates), mock interviews, career fair featuring alumni speakers (sponsored by Alumni Office and Internship Office)
  6. Encourage students to participate in internships and/or career readiness initiatives
  7. If interested, please host an intern at your organization (email Jen Conti at [contij@columbusacademy.org](mailto:contij@columbusacademy.org))
  8. Fall athletes CAN participate with advance notice
- IV. Ria Forchione, Kids4Kids Co-chair, update on Kids4Kids
- A. Thank you to everyone who has contributed, volunteered, and supported!
  - B. All grades get involved
    1. 6th grade: Looked at expiration dates and sorted all food donations
    2. US: Set up the food drive store
    3. 7th grade: Packed boxes for individual families
    4. Pre-K-US: Shop for families
    5. 8th Grade: Service Day on Friday—take everything to Childhood League (clean, tour, and set the shop up down there)
    6. 30 families are sponsored
- V. Faculty Appreciation
- A. Sweet Celebration on December 15: Day to honor all faculty and staff (287) employees with a dozen cookies and sweet treats

- B. Emails for donations will come out November 26—please consider donating for our wonderful faculty and staff!
- VI. Announcements:
- A. [Kroger rewards](#)
    - 1. Login
    - 2. Click “Community Rewards”
    - 3. Use code: **XW755**
  - B. Save the Date: December 11 Lynn Lyons: Parent Education Series
  - C. Viking Corner has new items!

PACA Website: [www.columbusacademy.org/paca](http://www.columbusacademy.org/paca)

PACA Email: [paca@columbusacademy.org](mailto:paca@columbusacademy.org)