



December 1, 2009

Dear Prospective PCS Family,

We are pleased that you are considering the Paul Cuffee School for your child. Attached, please find the application form as well as an important letter from Head of School David Bourns describing student and parent expectations at Paul Cuffee School.

The Paul Cuffee School (Kindergarten – 8th grade) is now nine years old and about to open the Paul Cuffee High School at last. We are adding our 9th grade in August 2010. Every year thereafter, we will add a grade until we reach the 12th grade in 2013-2014 when we will have a full-service high school and our first graduating class.

Admission is determined by open lottery. The admission lottery for the 2010-2011 school year will be conducted in early April of 2010. **The deadline to apply is March 22, 2010. All applications received after that date will be placed on the waiting list, after the lottery, in the order received.** Please notify the school's main office immediately if there are any changes in your address or telephone number before and after the lottery.

We anticipate approximately 50 openings in Kindergarten, 6 openings in 6th grade, 15 openings in 9th grade and very few openings in all other grades.

Our upcoming Open House events:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Open House</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Annual event for prospective parents of students applying to Kindergarten – 8th grade.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">February 2, 2010 from 6-7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lower School - 459 Promenade Street</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Paul Cuffee High School Open House</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For prospective parents of students applying to 9th grade.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">February 11, 2010 from 6-7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lower School – 459 Promenade Street</p> |
|--|---|

If you are planning to attend either event, **please RSVP by calling the main office at (401) 453-2626** by January 27th. In the meantime, we encourage you to visit the school's website at www.paulcuffeeschool.org for more information about the school.

If you have any questions about the application form and/or application process, please call me at (401) 453-2626 ext. 227.

Sincerely,

Olinda Matos
Admissions Coordinator

A Maritime Charter School for Providence Youth

459 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 • www.paulcuffeeschool.org • phone: (401) 453-2626 • fax: (401) 453-4964



Dear Prospective Families,

Paul Cuffee School is a Rhode Island Charter school, providing a college preparatory K-12 academic program for students from Providence, Rhode Island. Paul Cuffee, for whom our school is named, was a ship builder and a ship captain who lived on the Southeast coast of Massachusetts at the time of the American Revolution. He was also an important civic leader committed to non-violence and also the founder of a progressive school in Westport, Massachusetts that welcomed children of different racial and ethnic backgrounds. Paul Cuffee's mother was Wampanoag Indian, and his father was a freed slave who had been born in Ghana.

In addition to college preparatory academics, our school gives emphasis to the ocean and our environment. This means that over the coming years, more and more time will be devoted to science and mathematics. Students applying to the Paul Cuffee School need to keep this in mind because we require 2-3 hours of homework **each night** by the time our students reach middle school.

In the K-5 lower school, we focus primarily on language arts (reading, phonics, spelling, writing), mathematics, and science. The arts program helps us to explore and integrate the many lessons we are learning in language arts and mathematics. Students in our 6-8 program develop critical thinking, communication, and complex problem-solving skills in all areas of study.

The work at Paul Cuffee School is demanding. Students who are prepared to work hard are doing well, regardless of their reading, writing and math levels. Students not able or willing to work hard are having a difficult time.

Students whose parents (or in some cases, grandparents) work with them each day at home are very successful at our school. Parents must review homework assignments, classroom activities, personal behavior, and school life **each day** with their children. Parents meet formally at least 3 times each year with the classroom teacher, and we expect parents to learn about our academic programs and our academic standards.

We also expect parents to take the time to understand the responsible behavior we require at the Paul Cuffee School and to support our efforts and the efforts of their children to behave respectfully, responsibly, non-violently, and thoughtfully in school and at home.

We believe that our academic programs are exciting, and we believe that being a part of our school is enjoyable and rewarding. We also know that the expectations we place on our students are not always easy for them. Parents' involvement in their children's work is vital. Our School requires a three-way partnership in which our teachers and staff, our students, and our parents are all working together to achieve the demanding academic goals we have for our children, and to create the kind of safe, caring, and adventurous academic community which all of us want.

David Bourns
Head of School

Return to: 459 Promenade Street
 Providence, RI 02908
 (faxes not acceptable)
Application deadline: March 22, 2010



Official school use only
 Rec'd _____
 Initials _____ ID # _____

Application for Admission 2010-2011

Please print all information clearly and accurately on both pages. Incomplete applications will not be placed in the lottery.

Student Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Language: _____ Gender: Male Female
(circle one)

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Present Grade _____ Grade in September 2010: _____
month day year age

Schools or daycare centers last attended (current school first):

| | |
|--------|----------|
| School | Location |
| School | Location |
| School | Location |

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Information

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Name: _____ | Home Phone: _____ |
| Last First Middle | Work Phone: _____ |
| Relation to applicant _____ Lives with applicant? <small>yes no</small> | Cell/Pager: _____ |
| <i>(circle one)</i> | E-mail: _____ |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Name: _____ | Home Phone: _____ |
| Last First Middle | Work Phone: _____ |
| Relation to applicant _____ Lives with applicant? <small>yes no</small> | Cell/Pager: _____ |
| <i>(circle one)</i> | E-mail: _____ |

How did you hear about the Paul Cuffee School? flyer friend family newspaper radio other

Sibling Information

Does the above applicant have a sibling currently enrolled in the school? Yes No *(circle one)*

If yes, provide sibling's name: _____

| | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Last | First | Middle | Grade |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Is another sibling also applying on a separate form? Yes No *(circle one)*

If yes, provide sibling's name: _____

| | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Last | First | Middle | Grade |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

