

Dear Parent,

I write to you as parents looking for good schools for their children, and as fellow citizens of Baltimore. I know that this is a busy and anxious time for many parents in Baltimore, as various schools announce which students they can accept and, city-wide, parents have to make many hard decisions about their children's futures (I know from personal experience, since my son is about to enter kindergarten in Baltimore City).

There is news that may help some of you make an informed school choice for your children. Baltimore City Public Schools is moving to build a number of 6th-12th grade schools, both by allowing some high schools to begin accepting middle school students and by creating 5 new schools. Whatever your previous decision about the best school for your child, you have the right to explore these new choices.

The Baltimore Civitas School is one of these new 6-12th grade schools. We will graduate students prepared for college and careers in public service, be that as politicians, teachers, civil engineers, or community organizers. At heart, we have four guidelines:

- Students engaged in authentic experiences that guide them towards becoming engaged citizens
- Teachers, students, parents and the larger community teamed in meaningful, productive ways that facilitate learning.
- High standards in reading, writing, math, social studies and science met through the lens of becoming engaged citizens.
- A place where all students are valued and known, where “no one slips through the cracks.”

We are currently recruiting rising 6th and 9th grade students to begin with us this September. If this is of interest to you for your current 5th or 8th grader, or later on down the road, please contact me:

Matt Wernsdorfer
410-516-0285
civitasschool@gmail.com

For information on the larger process of building 6-12's in Baltimore City, please contact the Baltimore City Public School System's Area 8 at:

BCPSS- Rm. 318
200 E. North Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-396-8550

Whatever your choices, I wish you success in such a crucial decision.

Sincerely,

Matt Wernsdorfer
The Baltimore Civitas School