



TRIX ACADEMY

20045 Joann Avenue, Detroit, MI | 313.426.1020 | Trix.MECC-Academies.org

Family Welcome Packet

2023-2024



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Check-off List of Items for New Scholar for Registration

- ☐ Birth Certificate
- ☐ Immunization Records
- ☐ Household Survey
- ☐ Field Trip Permission Slip
- ☐ Media Release Permission Slip
- ☐ Last Report Card **(New Scholars only - Please alert the Office Manager if you are unable to retrieve this)**
- ☐ If applicable, a copy 504 plan and/or IEP

Trix Academy's Mission and Academic Vision

Our Mission

The mission of Michigan Educational Choice Center (Trix Academy) is to ensure that all children meet high academic and social standards and thrive as leaders at home, in their communities, and in the world.

Our Vision

The Academy's ultimate vision is that our scholars master key academic skills and demonstrate strong character and values, including honesty, service to others, a superior work ethic, and a strong vision for and belief in their futures. The Academy aims to ensure all children attending the Academy have access to a rigorous, personalized education, as well as opportunities that support their growth as individuals.

Welcome Trix Families



Mrs. Kionna Williams, Principal



Welcome to Trix Academy

“Be Courageous and Soar Like a Falcon”

Dear Trix Academy Families,

Welcome to an incredible and exhilarating new year! I am eagerly anticipating the return of our scholars, and we are overjoyed that you have chosen to become a valued member of our exceptional family. The forthcoming school year fills me with excitement as well, and I can't wait to witness the Trix scholars ascend to new heights. Our aspiration is to be the premier K-8th Grade School in Detroit, setting the bar for excellence. I implore all parents to join us in our mission, to inspire and challenge each and every scholar in every aspect of their academic pursuits and personal development. Our aim is to equip our scholars with the necessary tools to thrive in high school, college, careers, and life as a whole. We envision our scholars as astute critical thinkers and catalysts for positive change in the world.

We are the Falcons!

As your Principal, I am extremely excited to embark on this thrilling educational journey alongside the scholars and families of Trix Academy. I am dedicated to crafting an extraordinary learning experience that will ignite the dreams of our scholars and propel them toward their desired futures. My unwavering passion for empowering the most vulnerable stems from my transformative educational encounters during my childhood through adulthood. I firmly believe that every child, irrespective of their background, deserves nothing less than a world-class education.

As we move forward it is **SUPER** important that you take the time to unpack and address all needed items and return information requested in this packet! I know it is lengthy, however, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** to the prosperity of our year ahead.

2023-2024 Schoolwide THEME:

As a leader, I always like to have a “theme” to guide my path. This year with the leadership team we have decided on a theme that speaks to both the direction and the vision for our scholars.

“Be Courageous, and Soar Like a Falcon!”



The concept of "courage" holds greater significance in our present times. I am absolutely certain that our scholars possess the qualities necessary to achieve greatness. It is my sincere desire for them to embrace courage and seize every academic opportunity that will expand their knowledge and self-belief. When we exhibit courage and maintain unwavering self-confidence, there is no goal beyond our reach. Together, let us embark on a journey of academic exploration, where our scholars can surpass their own expectations and discover their true potential.

I will be introducing this new theme to the scholars on the first day of school in our all-school morning meeting!

Schoolwide Goals:

Our families are the key to ensuring that our school is a highly effective center of learning. I want to highlight the following priorities that are critical to our continued success:

- 10% Growth in Proficiency in ELA and Math on State assessments
- 90% Scholar Persistence (starting the school year and ending the school year with us here on-time ready to learn every day)
- 90% Staff Retention - Keeping our extraordinary staff in place year after year ensures that not only great relationships are built with scholars and families, but it also promotes mastery of instruction for your scholars
- 95% Average Daily Attendance - We need your scholars here, every day, ready to learn. This is imperative for fostering a community of learning with high expectations

What should You expect in the first few weeks of school?

We believe in keeping parents as informed as possible. You will receive bi-weekly S'more newsletters from the leadership team here at Trix. Please be sure that we have your most up-to-date email address as newsletters will be sent electronically through email.

Within the first couple of weeks, you will receive login information for PowerSchool and LiveSchool. PowerSchool is our student information system where you can go to check your child's progress on a regular basis. LiveSchool is our schoolwide behavior management system where you will be able to see how your scholar is behaving and you will have the capability to communicate directly with your child's teacher through the platform's chat feature.



What do we promise for you Scholar's Educational experience?

The Trix Academy's faculty and staff recognize that elementary and middle school is a special time in the lives of children. Our goal is to ensure that your scholar has a well-rounded learning experience that helps them to succeed academically, socially and emotionally. We have crafted a rigorous daily academic schedule and some exciting enrichment opportunities that will be forthcoming.

I am so elated to partner with and serve you as we 'Courageously Soar' this year, developing and empowering strong Falcons!!

Mrs. Kionna Williams

Mrs. Kionna Williams
Trix Academy Principal
k.williams@mecc-academies.org



20045 Joann Ave, Detroit, MI 48205

(313) 426-1020



8/3: Mandatory Kindergarten Orientation 4 pm - 6 pm

8/17: Back-to-School Bash and Playground Ribbon Cutting 3 pm- 6 pm

8/21: First day of school

8/31: Student Orientation



Click here
→

Kindergarten - 4th Grade Class Schedule

5th Grade - 8th Grade Class Schedule

Arrival and Dismissal

ARRIVAL

Scholars may enter the main entrance of the building at 7:45 am each morning. Scholars will enter the building and wait in the lunchroom with the supervision of a Trix Staff member. Breakfast will begin at this time. Our instructional day begins at 8:05. We will have a building wide morning meeting each morning during breakfast, then **scholars will move immediately to their classroom instruction starting promptly at 8:20 am.**

DISMISSAL

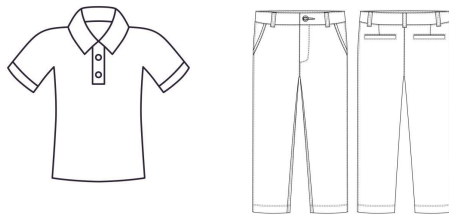
Dismissal starts at 3:30 pm. **Early pick-ups hinder your scholar's academic progression because they will miss important instruction.** Parents are welcome to start pulling up to the Trix Academy Pick-up Sign (**In GREEN**), located at the corner of Fairmont and Fairport. You will give the name and grade of your scholar to the Trix Staff Members in the front. We will radio the scholar's name(s) for pick up.

Scholars will be released to the parent pick-up line at 3:30 pm. Walkers will be released at 3:35 pm.

Uniform Policy and Expectations

2023-2024

Trix Academy Elementary



Kindergarten - 3rd
Grade:
RED shirts
Black or Khaki pants
Black sweaters are
allowed NO HOODS
Black shoes

4th and 5th Grades:
GRAY shirts
Black or Khaki
pants
Black sweaters are
allowed NO
HOODS
Black shoes

6th - 8th Grades:
WHITE or BLACK
Shirts
Black sweaters are
allowed NO HOODS
Black or Khaki Pants
Black Shoes

Forbidden Items

- T-shirts
- Leggings
- Jeggings
- Hoodies
- Jogging pants
- Basketball shorts
- Any sweater other than black

P and D Uniform

20936 Kelly Rd, Eastpoint, MI 48021
586-777-3801

E and S Apparel

18986 Schafer Hwy, Detroit, MI 48235
313-342-7100

Forman Mills

10000 8 Mile Rd, Detroit, MI 48234
313-456-9698

Trix 2023-2024 School Calendar



2023-2024 School Year Calendar

Board Approved Feb 23, 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

DAYS: SCHOLAR 0 (0) TEACHER 0 (0)
First day for 12 month employees 7/5; new teachers 8/3; returning Math & ELA teachers 8/7; all other school staff 8/14

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Jul 30	Jul 31	1	2	3	4	5
					New Teacher Orientation	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					Staff Work Day	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Scholar 1st Day! Q1 Begin					
27	28	29	30	31		

DAYS: SCHOLAR 9 (9) TEACHER 14 (14)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
					No School	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					Staff Training	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Q1 Progress Report Parent/Teacher Conferences		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DAYS: SCHOLAR 18 (27) TEACHER 19 (33)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Staff Training					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					Q1 End 41 days	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Q2 Begin				Q1 Report Cards	
29	30	31				

DAYS: SCHOLAR 21 (48) TEACHER 22 (55)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Staff Training				Veteran's Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Picture Day!					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
				Q2 Progress Report Parent/Teacher Conferences		

DAYS: SCHOLAR 18 (66) TEACHER 19 (74)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
						Q2 Progress Report Parent/Teacher Conferences
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DAYS: SCHOLAR 16 (82) TEACHER 16 (90)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Dec 31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Q2 End 46 days	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Dr. MLK Day	Q3 Begin			Q2 Report Cards	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

DAYS: SCHOLAR 17 (99) TEACHER 17 (107)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					Staff Training	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	President's Day			Q3 Progress Report Parent/Teacher Conferences		
25	26	27	28	29		

DAYS: SCHOLAR 19 (118) TEACHER 20 (127)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Picture Day!					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
					Staff Training Q3 End	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

DAYS: SCHOLAR 15 (133) TEACHER 16 (143)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Q4 Begin				Q3 Report Card	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DAYS: SCHOLAR 22 (155) TEACHER 22 (165)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
					Q4 Progress Report Parent/Teacher Conferences	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
					No School	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Memorial Day					

DAYS: SCHOLAR 21 (176) TEACHER 21 (186)

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Scholar Last Day Q4 Ends All Summer	Staff Last Day	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Juneteenth			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DAYS: SCHOLAR 4 (180) TEACHER 5 (191)

SCHOLAR FIRST/LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

 SCHOOL HOURS: M-F 8:05 am - 3:30 pm

STAFF TRAINING (NO SCHOLARS)

SCHOOL HOLIDAY (NO SCHOOL)

10 Tips for Parents

For even more ways to help your 6th grade student succeed this year, visit www.learnmoreindiana.org/6thgrade.

1 HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS. It is important for your child to know that you value education. Has your child completed a Graduation Plan? (See pages 11-12 for details.) Make sure your student understands that you expect him or her to work hard, graduate and continue learning after high school.

2 CHECK GRADES AND SCORES. Your son or daughter may say things are "fine" at school, but don't stop checking grades on report cards, progress reports, assignments, tests and class projects. Most schools let you check your child's progress online. Plus, you can view and analyze ISTEP+ scores at www.doe.in.gov/isteparentnetwork.

3 TALK TO TEACHERS. Teachers know how hard students are working, how well they are behaving, the quality of their homework and what areas need improvement. E-mail or call your child's teachers to check in periodically. Ask how your child is learning what's in Indiana's Academic Standards.

4 DON'T BUCKLE ON HOMEWORK. If your child is not studying at home, ask why and check with teachers. It's tough to hold the line, but making sure your child does his or her homework and studies is crucial for academic success.

5 ASK FOR HELP. Students who are struggling in a particular class may need extra help. Contact your school and make sure your child gets the support he or she needs. Catching a problem area early can make a big difference.

6 MATH MATTERS. Math exercises your brain and trains your mind to think logically. Every occupation uses math in some way, and the fastest-growing, highest-paid jobs rely heavily on math skills. Even if your child struggles with math, don't reinforce the myth that math is hard — enforce the fact that math is power! Learn more at www.IndianaMath.gov.

7 GET INVOLVED. Volunteer, participate in parent-teacher organizations and attend school events. Your involvement will have a big impact on your child's education. Most schools offer parent nights or teacher-parent sessions that provide great information. Check your school's calendar for details.

8 PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. College is an important investment that will pay back for a lifetime. Call Learn More Indiana at 1-800-992-2076 to order a free copy of *Indiana's Guide to Paying for College: An Introduction for Families and Students*. Apply for the Twenty-first Century Scholars GEAR UP program (www.scholars.in.gov or 1-888-528-4719). Open a savings account and investigate opportunities like Indiana's 529 college savings plans (www.collegechoiceplan.com), which can help pay for education after high school. Remember, a few dollars saved each month now can make a big difference in the future.

9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE. Show your child firsthand the importance of education. Take a class. Finish your diploma. Earn a college degree. Seeing you demonstrate a personal commitment to lifelong learning sends your child a powerful message about the importance of education.

10 LEARN MORE. Learn More Indiana has free information to help Indiana students and families explore careers, prepare and pay for college, stay on track for academic success, and more.



Show your commitment to education and support your local schools.

PURCHASE AN EDUCATION LICENSE PLATE.

For details, visit www.doe.in.gov/garfield.

Learn More Indiana is a partnership of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, the Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana, with additional support from Indiana's colleges and universities, USA Funds, and Lumina Foundation for Education — all working together to provide information that supports learning.

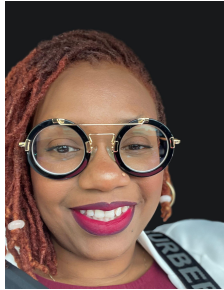




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The Leadership Team



Kionna Williams (Mrs. Kionna) - Principal

My name is Kionna Williams (Mrs. Kionna), and I am your new principal. I have been working hand and hand with the staff and leadership of Trix Academy for the past two years, as I was the Deputy Regional Director for PLA. This school is like home to me, and the decision to serve as the principal of this building is not one that I take lightly.

As an educator, I have nearly 30 years of diverse experience ranging from early childhood education to 8th grade. Throughout my illustrious career, I have worn many hats, serving as a teacher, coordinator, Instructional Coach, Instructional Specialist, and most recently Deputy Regional Director of Michigan schools. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Eastern Michigan University, a Master of Business Administration in Human Resource Management from Baker College, and am currently a Doctoral Candidate in Critical Curriculum Inquiry at Wayne State University. My wealth of knowledge and expertise forms the backbone of my commitment to educational excellence.



Karen Orpe (Ms. Orpe) - Assistant Principal

Hello Trix Academy Families! I am Karen Orpe, the new Assistant Principal for the 2023-2024 school year. I am proud to have served as the Instructional Coach for the last three years at Trix Academy and I taught Middle School Social Studies for 18 years, in Los Angeles. While I am a recent resident to the state, I am so happy to continue to serve families and scholars in the pursuit of an excellent education. I believe a great education provides a strong foundation for future success and I am excited to share that opportunity with your scholars. I also love supporting educators to grow as professionals so that they can help our scholars soar. I am grateful for my fiancé, two children, family, and friends who help support me in my mission. Here's to a fantastic school year!



Paula Hayes (Ms. Hayes) - Dean of Culture

Hello! My name is Ms. Paula Hayes and I currently serve as the Dean of Climate and Culture for Trix Academy. I have been with Trix Academy for 6 years and have worked for Phalen Leadership Academies for 7 years. I have 25 years of educational experience. My expectation is to continue to grow and learn so that I can fully serve all scholars better. I am extremely passionate about working with all children and I am truly thrilled about being a part of the Trix family.



Rene Cadogan (Mr. Cadogan) - Principal in Residence

My name is Rene Cadogan, and I am from Panama Rep. of Panama (Spanish is my native language) . I am coming all the way from the great state of Virginia where I resided for years and I am looking forward to this transition to Detroit, Michigan. I have 3 adult children and one grandson and soon to be a grandad again in about 3 months. I hold licenses in Prek-12 Spanish from George Mason University, Prek-12 School counseling from the University of the District of Columbia in Washington DC, and Pre-12 Administration and Supervision from Walden University. I love working with students and their families in order for their scholars to be successful. I enjoy working with teachers because it gives me the opportunity to share my knowledge and make teachers become leaders in their field. I enjoy reading, sports, traveling, and spending time with family and I am happy to be at Trix Academy.



Sheilene Smith (Mrs. Smith) - Director of Operations

Hello Trix Families, my name is Sheilene Smith and I am passionate about education and maintaining high standards of excellence within the school system. Over the years of working for various charter management organizations, I have gained and developed the importance of being a team player in the education sector.

In my role as Operations Manager at Trix Academy, I have over 25 years of combined experience in the field of education: I bring ten years of experience as a classroom teacher and five years of experience as a school district Business Manager, and 10 years of experience in various roles within Administration. It is my goal to ensure that Trix Academy runs efficiently with everything that the scholar needs, and it is a place where you are proud to bring your scholars.

Restorative Practices at Trix Academy

This year Trix Academy will engage in Restorative Practices for scholars, families and Staff. The Dean of Culture will lead the Restorative Practice initiatives throughout the year.. This research based conflict management practice will be used to build social and emotional learning for staff, scholars and their families. Here is a small sample of the process:

SAMPLE CIRCLE PROCESS OUTLINE

- State the purpose of the Circle
- Discuss Ground Rules (suggested examples):
 - Listen and speak with respect
 - Only tell your truth
 - Use school/org-appropriate language
 - Respect people's privacy; only tell your own story
- Use of a talking piece
 - Significance of the object used
 - Speak only when you have the talking piece
 - No cross talk of any kind, verbal or nonverbal
 - Facilitator may need to speak (if time is an issue)
 - Share the time fairly
 - You may pass and we'll come back to you
- Questions / Rounds
- Closing the Circle

Some useful questions for general issues (not in response to a specific issue)

1. *Start with something positive like "what is one good thing that has happened today?"*
2. *What are the main issues that are causing us to be here today and what is one thing you have done to maintain this as a problem?*
3. *What are you willing to do to make this better, not just tomorrow but for the long term?*

FORMAL RESTORATIVE CONFERENCES

These are for the most serious offenses. The main difference is the amount of planning. The conference facilitator must meet with all parties in advance of the conference to explain the structure of the meeting and to ensure that the offender has taken full responsibility for his or her offense and will not re-victimize the people he or she has already hurt. They answer questions, anticipate special needs, and arrange a place to hold the conference. Also, it is encouraged to share a snack and "break bread" together afterward. The facilitator may be a neutral party (including volunteers trained in restorative conferencing). This is the main focus of our Level 2 workshops.



This year Trix Academy will engage in daily social emotional learning lessons, activities, and/or discussions during our daily morning meetings. It is our goal to continue to cultivate the whole child by addressing any social emotional trauma that they may have experienced during this pandemic. We are excited about the work that we are about to dive into with our staff, scholars, and families. Please take a look at some of the SEL Core Competencies we will engage in this year.

SEL Core Competencies

Self-Management

- Regulating one's emotions
- Managing stress
- Self-control
- Self-motivation
- Setting and achieving goals

Self-Awareness

- Labeling one's feelings
- Relating feelings and thoughts to behavior
- Accurate self-assessment of strengths and challenges
- Self-efficacy
- Optimism

Social Awareness

- Perspective taking
- Empathy
- Respecting diversity
- Understanding social and ethical norms of behavior
- Recognizing family, school, and community supports

Relationship Skills

- Building relationships with diverse individuals and groups
- Communicating clearly
- Working cooperatively
- Resolving conflicts
- Seeking help



Responsible Decision-Making

- Considering the well-being of self and others
- Recognizing one's responsibility to behave ethically
- Basing decisions on safety, social and ethical considerations
- Evaluating realistic consequences of various actions
- Making constructive, safe choices for self, relationships and school

Sources: CASEL, Acknowledge Alliance



Follow Us on **Social Media** & Let's Get Connected



facebook.com/TrixAcademy



instagram.com/platrixacademy

Keeping up with all the news and updates related to Trix Academy has never been easier. Follow us on social media to stay in the loop on all the latest developments, announcements and more. We post timely updates and interesting content that will keep you informed and engaged. Stay connected with our team by following us on Instagram

Trix.MECC-Academies.org