



**UNITED**  
SCHOOLS NETWORK  
COLUMBUS COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

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## **Columbus Collegiate Academy West to Open in Historic Dana Elementary School Building**

The historic school building at 300 South Dana Ave. didn't stay vacant for long. Columbus Collegiate Academy West, a tuition-free, public charter middle school, received the keys on July 1 and relocated its operations to a new facility. The CCA West campus is coming off a successful first year on the west side of Columbus, and is actively recruiting new sixth and seventh grade students for the 2013-2014 school year.

Formerly Dana Elementary, the 47,000 sq. ft. building has many new features that will enhance the learning environment. A full-sized gymnasium and stage, up-to-date computer lab, wide hallways and staircases, outside basketball courts and playground space, and large classrooms with large windows for natural light are all things students will use each day.

Executive Director Andrew Boy is especially excited about the move. "We are thrilled to find a more permanent home in the Franklinton community. Our move to Dana Ave. will allow us to serve more students and provide them with the school amenities all students deserve."

Boy's first charter school opened in 2008 and is now located on Columbus' east side. Today, both CCA Main Street and CCA West are a part of the United Schools Network (USN), which will open its first elementary school in 2014. As USN grows, new facilities like the one on Dana Ave. become crucial to student success.

College preparation is the central focus at all USN schools. Students develop the key characteristics that lead to success in basic foundations and skills, core content knowledge, critical-thinking ability, and personal integrity. Academic excellence for each student is at the core of the mission. Alumni are pushed to move on to college preparatory high schools that prepare them to make their dream of college education and future success a reality.

The faculty and staff understand achievement requires time and determination. CCA West features an extended school day where students spend more class time in English literacy and mathematics to sharpen critical and basic skills. In addition, they regularly complete challenging homework assignments to master important content.

"We want to do what has worked in the past. We're not trying to think of some brand new way of doing everything. We want to do what works for students," says CCA West School Director Kathryn Anstaett.

But it doesn't end there. After the academic day, students can participate in a free enrichment program run by After-School All-Stars. The program has been a hit with students and families at the Main Street campus, and is another new addition to the CCA West school day.

At every turn, students have shown dramatic gains over traditional public school students in urban areas. This is in part because CCA maintains high expectations for scholarship and behavior – and students live up to those expectations.

While staff members are already hard at work moving supplies and preparing the building at 300 S. Dana Ave., Columbus Collegiate Academy West officially opens its new doors on the first day of school, Aug. 21. With over 100 new sixth graders and the returning seventh grade class, CCA is excited for this landmark day.

Limited spaces for both grades are still available. Families are encouraged to call admissions at 614-557-0116 as soon as possible. To learn more about CCA West and United Schools Network, visit [www.unitedschoolsnetwork.org](http://www.unitedschoolsnetwork.org).