

CHICAGO HOPE ACADEMY

Summer Newsletter

Happy summer break from Hope!

In-person and mask-free learning are back in Chicago and I am proud to lead a school filled with compassion and spirit. Our staff showed up to birthdays and baptisms, funerals and hospital rooms, sporting events and art shows. Volunteers blessed our students in a variety of ways – guest lecturing in classes, editing student essays, facilitating college visits, providing internship opportunities, and hosting Zoom mentorship calls.

Students led Socratic Seminars while teachers were out, wrote letters to faculty when they were sick, and learned to support adults in the same way we supported them. While some of our 2022 graduates are heading off to study at Wisconsin, Marquette, Vanderbilt, and Wheaton on full ride scholarships, our underclassmen are not wasting their summers. Miguel, Roy, and their wrestling teammates are flying to Israel to deepen their faith while Sabrina and Chenoa are driving to Notre Dame to study International Politics.

Gwendolyn Brooks wrote: “It is brave to be involved,” and I thank our volunteers and supporters for continuing to drive Hope’s mission forward by committing to our community. I ask that you boldly stand beside our students, families, and faculty, as we collectively execute strategies to pursue college affordably and point hearts toward Christ. With your support, we will continue to love families, empower students, and create opportunities.

New year, new Hope, same mission.

Ike Muzikowski

President and Principal

Ike Muzikowski



Emily Armira is the fourth sibling in her family to graduate from CHA, and she will be joining her older brothers at Wheaton College on a full ride scholarship this fall. I truly enjoyed coaching all three of her older siblings on the varsity soccer teams in my early years at Hope.



Proud parents, Suzy and Manuel, have supported and served alongside our staff for the past eight years, and we are honored to have walked this journey with the Armiras.

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THREE VALEDICTORIANS

Heading to Northwestern, Wheaton, and Notre Dame

With perfect GPAs, Aniah, Adaliah, and Giselle shared their valedictory speeches at graduation. The trio was all smiles as they professed their gratitude for the Hope journey.

Community through screens, love at six feet, handwritten letters, Feed My Starving Children meal packaging, drive-by birthday celebrations, Special Olympics volunteering, chapel services, and prayer. They reiterated the power of prayer and how it granted strength through trials saying, "We are one body, one community, and we were not called to walk life's journey alone." These three have left their mark on Hope.



Aniah Tapia is proudly heading to Northwestern University to major in Biological Sciences as she prepares for her career as a physician. She follows in the footsteps of her older brother, Aidden (Hope '17), who is earning a masters in science at Northwestern. Adaliah Gonzalez will be reuniting with dozens of her former classmates at Wheaton College where she will study Communications and Media on a full ride scholarship. Giselle Henry is excited to study Architecture at the University of Notre Dame in the fall. Go Irish!



VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR!

Hope supports Special Olympics Chicago



Hope football and basketball players pose for a picture with Bennie the Bull after cheering for SOC athletes.



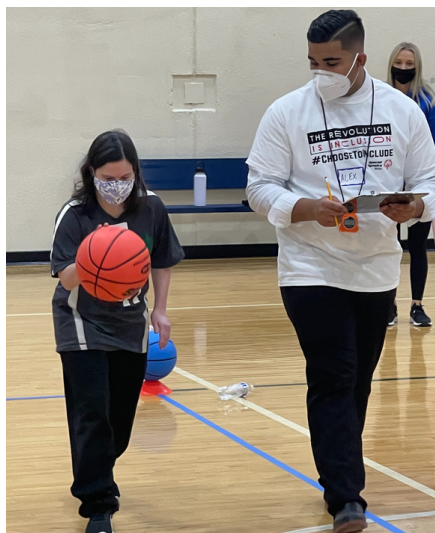
Hope soccer stars, Camila and Keyla, smile with Sparky of the Chicago Fire.



Hope Dean, Jen Pankau, gives her acceptance speech as 2022 Volunteer of the Year for SOC.

The Bears' linebackers weren't making tackles and the Fire's strikers weren't scoring goals, but excitement was contagious as Hope students led the celebration of Special Olympics Chicago (SOC) athletes at Soldier Field. This school year, hundreds of Hope students completed over 1,000 service hours with SOC by guiding drills for basketball, floor hockey, and volleyball at the Hope Gym.

On May 5th, our students completed their last service day of the year at SOC's opening ceremony. In Hope vans and the #12 Roosevelt buses, we rolled 300 strong to construct a human tunnel of hi-fives, cheers, whoops, and dances to honor the athletes we encouraged throughout the year. One of our Deans, Jen Pankau, and the entire student body of CHA were awarded the 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award. Jen thanked SOC for being gracious and hospitable to our Hope family and for trusting us as volunteers. We give thanks to God for the ability to serve as we remember 1 Peter 4:11, "If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and power for ever and ever."



Alex Garcia and Uriah Velez (above) guide SOC athletes in basketball drills at Hope gym. Alex is spending his summer at the Caddie Academy while Uriah is using his carpentry skills to build Hope a life size chess set. The two varsity wrestlers will visit Israel together before classes begin in August.

MENTOR A HOPE STUDENT

EMAIL SCOUT: SMUZIKOWSKI@CHICAGOHOPEACADEMY.ORG