
newsRELEASE



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First Student Partners with CincyAfterSchool, Cincinnati Public Schools and 3CDC to Bring Students Downtown for Inaugural School Skates Program

CINCINNATI — First Student, provider of school transportation services to Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS), is partnering with CPS, YMCA-led CincyAfterSchool and 3CDC to give more than 500 students an opportunity to participate in one of the city's most popular outdoor attractions – ice skating at the U.S. Bank Ice Rink on Fountain Square. For many of the students, grades K through 12, participating in the first School Skates Program will be their first time on the ice.

NOTE: Tomorrow, January 12, about 35 students from John P. Parker School will skate from approximately 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. A complete list of schools and dates is at the bottom of the release, and is subject to change due to weather. Please call media contacts prior to arriving for details.

First Student is providing free round-trip transportation from each of the 16 participating schools, ensuring safe and reliable bus service for the participants. And thanks to 3CDC and its subsidiary Fountain Square Management Group, participants will skate for FREE. The program began January 5 and runs weekdays through February 19.

“We are very pleased to participate in the School Skates Program and look forward to helping to create happy memories for each student,” said Linda Burtwistle, First Student president. “Fountain Square is such a lively and exciting place with the addition of the U.S. Bank Ice Rink. Every child should have the opportunity to experience this fun.”

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“With the help of community partners, CincyAfterSchool offers students diverse activities that have led to improved grades, social skills and self confidence, and healthier lifestyles. The School Skates Program is giving our students an opportunity they may not otherwise have, and providing them with fun activity to put play in their day,” said Rebecca Kelley, YMCA district vice president overseeing CincyAfterSchool.

About First Student

First Student, Inc., a part of Cincinnati-based FirstGroup America, is the leader in safe, reliable, sustainable transportation and is the largest provider of student transportation services in North America. FirstGroup America was recently awarded the National Safety Council’s 2009 Green Cross for Safety Medal in recognition of its commitment to safety and outstanding safety record. First Student safely transports more than 4 million students with a fleet of 60,000 yellow school buses in North America. For more information, please visit www.firststudentinc.com.

About CincyAfterSchool

The CincyAfterSchool Network is a nationally recognized partnership between lead agency, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, Cincinnati Public Schools, and other nonprofits, school leaders and volunteers representing the after school component of CPS’ Community Learning Center initiative. With 28 sites, CincyAfterSchool serves students in grades K through 12. Tutoring/mentoring; telecommunication/technology; career exploration; service learning; fine arts; leadership training; recreation; multi-cultural/diversity; non-school day programs including Saturdays, holidays, summers, evenings and family sessions are offered at each one. CincyAfterSchool program goals include: increasing student achievement, reducing risk-taking behavior, and providing balanced programming opportunities for all children, youth, and their families.

About 3CDC

The Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC) is a private, non-profit corporation formed in 2003. Its mission is to revitalize Cincinnati’s Center City as a regional center of high value employment and real estate by developing a diverse mix of housing, culture and entertainment. 3CDC is funded privately through business contributions, foundations and other philanthropic sources. For more information visit www.3cdc.org. Fountains Square Management Group (FSMG) is a subsidiary of 3CDC charged with managing and programming Fountain Square. For more information visit www.myfountainsquare.com.

School Skates Schedule

NOTE: All schools will depart Ft. Square at approximately 5 p.m. Arrival times will vary.

Date	School	Fountain Square Arrival Time (approx)
January 12	John P. Parker School	2:45 p.m.
January 13	Rees E. Price Academy	2:45 p.m.
January 14	South Avondale School	3 p.m.
January 15	Westwood School	2:45 p.m.
January 18	MLK Jr. Day	2 p.m.
January 19	Chase School	2:45 p.m.
January 20	Silverton Paideia	2:45 p.m.
January 21	Rothenberg Preparatory Academy	2:45 p.m.
January 22	Winton Montessori School	4:15 p.m.
January 25	Winton Hills Academy	2:45 p.m.
January 26	Ethel M. Taylor Academy	2:45 p.m.
January 27	Hays Porter School	2:45 p.m.
January 28	South Avondale School	3 p.m.
January 29	Westwood School	2:45 p.m.
Feb 1	Mt. Airy School	2:45 p.m.
Feb 2	Roberts Paideia Academy	4:15 p.m.
Feb 3	Roberts Paideia Academy	4:15 p.m.
Feb 4	Roberts Paideia Academy	4:15 p.m.
Feb 5	Winton Montessori School	4:15 p.m.
Feb 9	Sayler Park School	2:45 p.m.
Feb 10	Hays-Porter School	3:15 p.m.
Feb 12	Rockdale Academy	3 p.m.
Feb 19	Rockdale Academy	3 p.m.