



Mayor's Office of
Black Male Engagement

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

SPOTLIGHT GUIDE 2022
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

JOY. IMPACT. SUPPORT



SPOTLIGHT SERIES 2022

JOY. IMPACT. SUPPORT

The Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement is committed to redefining the image of Black males from the cradle to the cane. Here in the Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement we want to recognize hard working, inspiring, and narrative changing Black males in the City of Philadelphia.

The Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement in collaboration with the Office of Children and Families (Community Schools), the Mayor's Office of Youth Engagement, and the Office of Innovation & Technology highlighted the amazing work of Community Schools and four amazing Black male Community School Coordinators.

This year the Mayor's Office of Black Male Engagement connected with four Black men who have created joy in the lives of our Black male students, impacted Philadelphia schools, and supported the families across various neighborhoods. The OBME Spotlight Series: Joy. Impact. Support was created to amplify the voices, the work and the impact of Community School on our young Black males ecosystems in Philadelphia. Ultimately, we want to showcase and raise the visibility of positive Black men in Philadelphia. Our intention is to broaden and deepen the dimensions in which Black men and boys are seen, heard, and loved.

***UNTIL THE LION TELLS HIS SIDE OF THE STORY,
THE TALE OF THE HUNT WILL ALWAYS GLORIFY THE HUNTER.
- AFRICAN PROVERB***

PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Community Schools are a partnership between the City of Philadelphia, the School District of Philadelphia, and school communities to remove barriers to learning and support the success of each student.

The long-term goal of Community Schools is to ensure that every student graduates college-, career-, and community-ready, and that communities are healthy, safe, hopeful, and supportive.



In each Community School, a Community School Coordinator supports strategic partnerships and programs that promote wellness, stability, and learning opportunities for students, families, and neighbors.

There are currently 17 City-designated Community Schools, serving nearly 10,000 students.



"We cannot expect our children to succeed academically if they come to school hungry, sick or too traumatized to learn. Expanding the community schools approach is one way that we will better address the needs of students and families."

Mayor Jim Kenney

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IN PHILADELPHIA

William Cramp Elementary School

Hamilton Disston School

Murrell Dobbins CTE High School

F.S. Edmonds Elementary School

Edward Gideon Elementary School

Samuel Gompers School

Kensington Health Sciences

Academy

Alain Locke School



James Logan Elementary School

Alexander R. McClure School

Overbrook Educational Center

Southwark School

South Philadelphia High School

Tilden Middle School

George Washington High School

John H. Webster School

Richard R. Wright School



1

School climate

School events,
resource fairs,
and attendance
supports

2

Authentic Family & Community engagement

Arts and culture
events, adult
education classes,
and parent cafes

THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL WAY

A P P R O A C H

3

integrated Health & Social Services

Food distribution, clothing
closets, backpack drives,
and student/family
connection to behavioral
health services and other
supports

4

Expanded learning time & opportunities

Quality out-of-school
time programs, youth
summer employment,
and career exploration

**“We cannot make decisions
for students unless they are
directly involved in the
decision making,”**

**- Jared Beck, Alaine Locke
Community School Coordinator**

**Quote from the
Philadelphia Tribune**



CHARLES REYES

COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR, MURRELL DOBBINS CTE HIGH SCHOOL

Charles is a graduate and proud alum of Murrell Dobbins CTE High School, where he is now working as the Community Schools Coordinator. Charles has worked in the field of behavioral health for 14 years. His experience includes working in schools and in a partial hospitalization program. He is excited to be a Community Schools Coordinator and to have the opportunity to be part of an initiative that will impact people's lives in a positive way. He is an active volunteer and the parent baseball coach of the ENON Stars.



GREGORY WRIGHT II

COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR, EDWARD GIDEON ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Gregory was born and raised in West Philadelphia. As a product of the Philadelphia public school system he is excited for this opportunity to serve the communities that helped his educational development. Gregory attained his Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Temple University in 2011. For the last five years he has worked in youth development and food access issues in Philadelphia, and is eager to bring this knowledge to community schools.



JARED BECK

COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR, ALAIN LOCKE SCHOOL

Jared Beck is the Community Schools Coordinator at The Alain Locke School. Jared has spent the past 10 years working in crisis intervention for alternative and special education classroom settings. Jared, who is nearing his 4th year living in Philadelphia, fell in love with the city while he attended Widener University.



RENNIE PARKER

COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR, SAMUEL GOMPERS SCHOOL

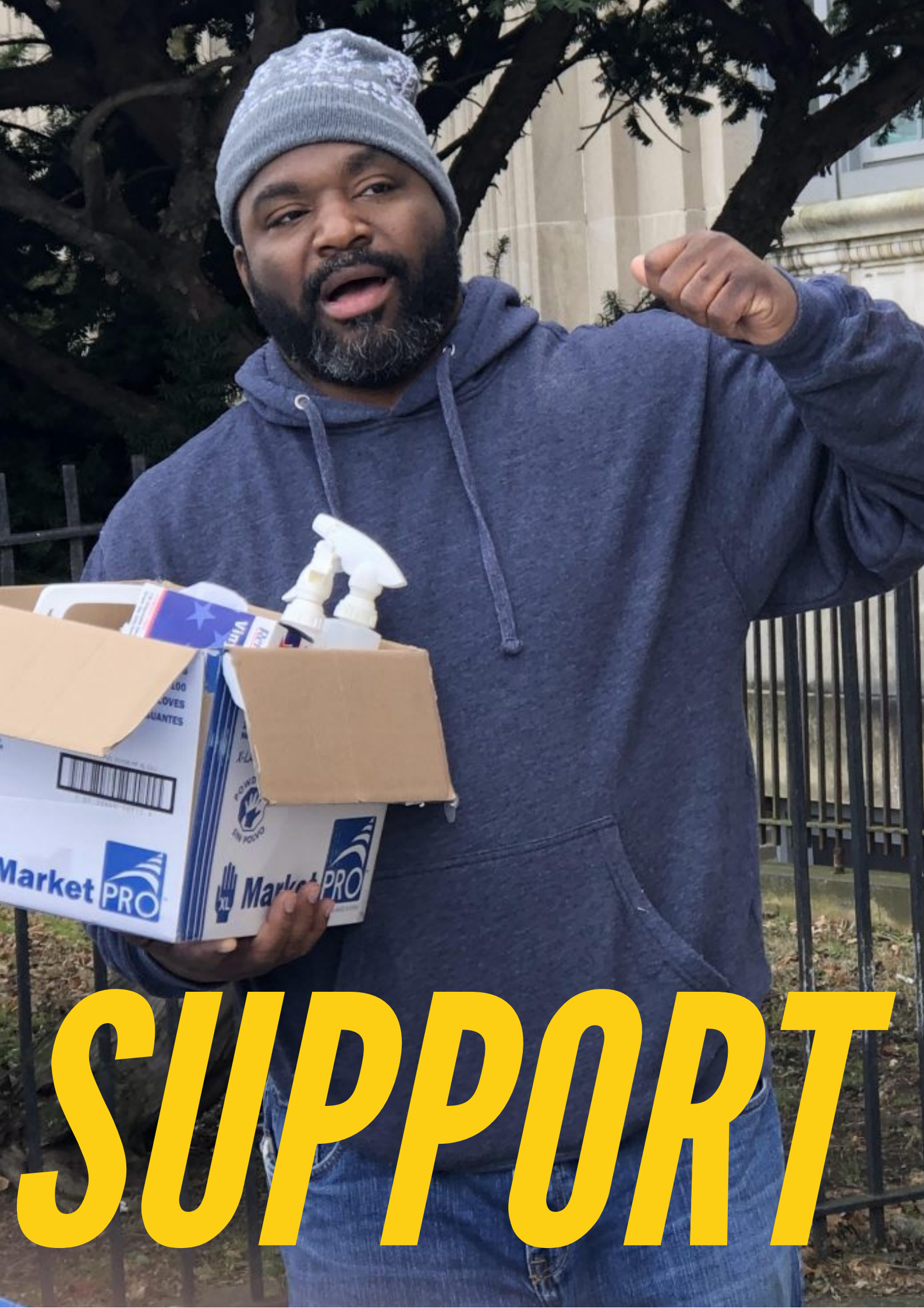
Rennie Parker is a West Philadelphia native and a proud product of the public school system. Upon graduating from Overbrook High School, Rennie attended The Pennsylvania State University receiving his bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice. Over the course of 19 years, Rennie has worked with various organizations and programs serving children in the public and private sectors. Rennie is an active advocate in his community and served as a Block Captain, volunteers for Wynnefield Overbrook Revitalization Corp (WORC) and Wynnefield Business Association (WBA). He is also a proud member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.



JOY



IMPACT



SUPPORT



COMMUNITY



Mayor's Office of

Black Male Engagement

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Black Male Engagement PHL