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Greetings Families of Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy,

As you may have heard, there have been some changes recently with the YMCA Before & After School Programs at Harvey Milk. I have been brought on as Program Director, in order to create more consistency, oversight and alignment with the school day. A new Site Coordinator will be hired for the coming school year, as well as a Family Engagement Coordinator, a new position for Harvey Milk. And, the program will now be overseen by the Mission Branch YMCA and Executive Director, Marissa Cowan. The program, students, and staff will benefit from the consistent presence of multiple dedicated, experienced, and talented leaders.

A new Family Advisory Committee for the Before & After School Programs has also been created, in order to provide a way for parents and guardians to have input and involvement while supporting the continued growth and success of the programs. Please email me if you are interested in getting involved for the coming year.

Anticipated changes for the coming year include full implementation of [Restorative Practices](#), more support and professional development for staff, adjustments to the daily schedule to create a more productive and cohesive flow, engaging academic skill-building curriculum, and a mix of new and favorite enrichment activities - in the morning and the afternoon.

Potential partners and activities include cooking with [The Breakfast Project](#), [SF Arts Education Project](#) Artists in Residence, [Mission Science Workshop](#), *Don't Forget to Write* projects from 826 Valencia, after school youth sports, swimming, Spanish and yoga taught by certified YMCA staff, and, of course, Wes' popular skateboarding club! We will continue to utilize student and parent input to determine additional partners and activities as the program grows.

**Enrollment packets for the 2018-19 school year Before & After School Programs are now available** - see the attached PDF or pick up a copy from the program at drop off or pick-up. Please be sure to complete all portions of the application, one per child, including the student contract, to be reviewed and signed with your child. Students will be held accountable to this contract to help us ensure the safety and success of all children in the program **Please note: applications are due by Friday, June 1, 2018 (see application for more details.)**

Applications are also available for both the **Community and Traditional Summer Camp** programs offered by the YMCA for students attending Harvey Milk. The Traditional Camp operates out of the Embarcadero YMCA while the Community Camp is held at Tenderloin Community School off Van Ness near Civic Center. I will be one of the Community Camp Directors and many of our staff will be working at both camps.

**Applications are available at drop off and pick-up from Y staff. Space is limited - don't delay, sign up TODAY!**

Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions; I am excited to be working with the YMCA and to be partnering with the families and staff of Harvey Milk to bring your children the best possible out of school time programs and experiences.

Thank you,

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