

September 11, 2019 - 3



South Holland School District 151

www.shsd151.org, (708) 339-1516

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BIDE

Biweekly District Events Newsletter

A biweekly publication providing the latest school and community events to help keep our readers informed.

Mentoring programs Positive Impact on Youth

Did you know that the high school graduation rate for African American males is 47 percent? Did you know that African American male students are suspended at nearly three times the rate as white male students? Did you know that African American and Hispanic male students have the highest suspension rates that any other students in public schools? Did you know that 1 in 3 African American males will go to prison in their life time?

The question that needs to be asked is, "What can and should be done to help these students to do better in school?" Put another way, what can each of us do to improve the lives of Black male students and other minority males in our public schools? Moreover, what should *schools* do?

It is imperative that every school offer mentoring opportunities for students of color, particularly



the young men, in order to help address why they continue to lag behind their counterparts in so many areas. In School District 151 in South Holland, we understand the need that exist, the sense of urgency, and the reality that says, not investing in our youth today sets them up for failure later on. Our male mentoring groups at Coolidge Middle School, referred to as CSWAP (Coolidge Students with Academic Pride) and MSWAP (Madison Students with Academic Pride) provide a vehicle to help nurture and support these young men. Our leader, Dr. Hill, says quite succinctly, "All students can learn period." She recognizes that learning takes place not just in the classroom, but through mentoring opportunities and programs. The foundational support is seen through mentoring and relationship building programs the district relishes. We know that the cycle of violence that is so prevalent can be curtailed through giving back to our kids, our future generation. It's clear that mentoring provides hope. Mr. Trotter,



the main sponsor of our Boys Mentoring Program at Madison School, referred to as MSWAP (Madison Students With Academic Pride) stated the following: The challenges that many of our youth are faced with each day are not really noticed until they get older. By the time it is recognized, they have been labeled, categorized and placed in arenas they are not ready for.

With the support of our school board, we offer an array of field trip opportunities to expose our students to different career paths and teach them about life skills. One goal in particular was to educate our young men about the particulars of managing money. We took our mentoring group to The Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago.

This field trip was very important because black and brown students suffer from a lack of knowledge, as it relates to financial literacy, largely because the wealth gap is so pronounced in our country. This distinct gap in wealth can be improved if students at young ages are educated on how money works and the importance of investing.

To continue our mission, and find ways to better connect with our young men, we started a garden at Madison School last year. This endeavor provides an opportunity for our students to connect with the mentors at levels that are often not possible in a classroom setting. We talk about the pressures they experience growing up, and how they can become more responsible. Through gardening, we also discuss healthy eating habits. It also affords us the opportunity to teach them about careers paths that focus on the environment, science, botany, and even farming. This year we will incorporate an economic feature that addresses how crops make it to the market.

Dr. McNair, Principal of Madison School

Local Businesses Support our Kids



T-Mobile supporting our 1:1 Laptop Program

TAFT

national
GRANDPARENTS
DAY



IMPORTANT NOTICE

E-learning

The 1:1 Laptop Technology Fee can be paid at the District Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The laptop is being used in the classroom and for homework assignments. The students will not be issued a laptop until the fee is paid. If you have questions, please contact the Information Technology Department at (708) 225-3414.

Missing assignment will affect the student's grade.



COOLIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
READING CONTEST



Dear Parents,

Throughout the month of October, the students of Coolidge will be encouraged to read as many books as possible for fun and prizes. Students will submit a written response form for each book that is read. The books that students read must be age appropriate. The student who has read the most books from each grade level will receive a prize. To enter the contest, complete the form below for each book read, and submit it to Ms. Woodard by October 31, 2019.

Parents please encourage your children to read. The state of Illinois has designated November 21, 2019, as Family Reading Night. The Coolidge staff has designated **EVERY** night as Family Reading Night. Help us to make a difference in our children's lives.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Number of Pages: _____

Summary:

THE FRUIT OF OUR LABOR

Madison's Male Mentoring group Madison Students with Academic Pride (MSWAP) brought fruit and vegetables from their garden to the School Board Meeting. Mr. Trotter and Mr. Bramlett, mentors, shared the vegetables with the School Board of Education and staff: cucumbers, cantaloupe, collar greens, carrots, mint. "I can't wait to cook these greens with some smoked turkey. I know they will be delicious". Vice President Burton



Hands Across Harvey

The Student Government Board of District 205 along with Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jerry Doss attended SD151's board meeting to encourage the school district to participate in Hands Across Harvey, a stop the violence event on October 26th.



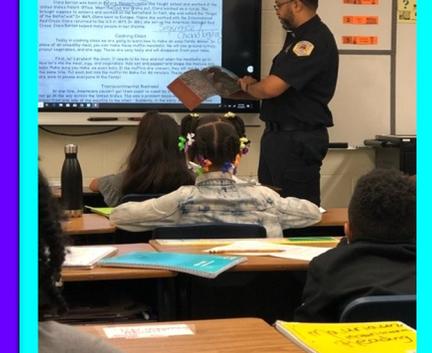
BRING YOUR DAD TO SCHOOL DAY

Madison School

Parents are an integrate part of the student's academic life. Each year, Madison School hosts "Bring Dad to School" day. This is an all day event. The dads are able to come to the school and stay as long as their schedule allows in their child's classroom. Over 125 dads attend the event.



Madison's Student Council
Greeting the Dads



Board of Education

Lanell Gilbert, President

Patrice Burton, Vice President

Loretta Wells, Secretary

Victor Jones, Member

Mary Johnson, Member

Joda Boykin, Member

Cynthia Shane, Member

District Administration

Teresa D. Hill, Ed.D, Superintendent

Paul D. Woehlke, Assistant Superintendent /CSBO

Kathryn Varner, Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Professional Development

Kyle W.G. Alston, Director of Information Technology

Warren Chestang, Facilities & Safety Coordinator

Anthony Palomo, ELL Program Director

District Public Relations and Communications

Mrs. Vanessa Bradley, Public Relations and Community Coordinator