



Please find below the February board update for the 2016-2017 school year.

Professional Development

This Friday will be a full day of professional development for all three schools. The day will consist of professional development, planning, collaboration and other practice and work devised to increase the skills and knowledge of teachers at all three schools. No students will be on campus.

Special Recognition

Daneisha Melvin, a 5th grader at our Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus, had advanced to the city championships of the spelling bee. We all congratulate her on her success so far and wish her the best in the next round of the competition.

Haley McNabb, a 3rd grade teacher at Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus, earned the teacher of the week honor presented by WREG Channel 3. She received a number of gifts and was recognized by the school and TV station for her outstanding work.

Staffing

We are in the process of sending out offer letters to the staff for the 2017-2018 school year. Each school leader met with every staff member before the holiday break to hear the staff member's career aspirations as well as thoughts for the next school year. The principals take that feedback, along with the evaluations and input from the coaches, leaders and the CMO to determine the staff for the upcoming school year. The offers for teachers will be delivered over the next two weeks while the offer for non-teachers, administrative positions and leaders will begin to be communicated next month.

Extracurricular Activities and Wrap Around Services

We continue to provide great learning opportunities and life experiences for our students outside of the classroom. Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus won a grant to pay for every 5th grade student to attend the National Civil Rights Museum. The trip will occur next month and will be a great opportunity for our 5th grade students.

Part of our work to accomplish our mission to prepare students for college entails providing exposure and vision for our students to attend college. To accomplish that, all of our 7th grade students will visit Tennessee State University on Wednesday, February 8. Students will spend the entire day at the college and will have the opportunity to explore and learn about the institution.

One of our teachers, Mr. McFerren, and his group of Service Learning students in the University of Pennsylvania partnered with the Shelby County Rape Crisis Center to raise money to assist with testing backlogged rape kits. Their hard work paid off and earned them recognition from Mayor Jim Strickland, who visited the class to discuss the project and encourage them for their great work.