A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

A year of social and academic learning is off to a promising start as we implement the system and school-wide focus on accelerated instruction, responsive instruction, and social emotional wellness.

The students were administered the Early Fall Assessment (EFA) and Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment to determine student learning needs and strengths. MAP assessments measure achievement in mathematics and reading and is MAP is one indicator of college and career readiness. Parents will receive score reports in the upcoming weeks. Please review areas of achievement and growth with your child.

A parent brochure is located on the SWA website. Contact the school testing coordinator, Ms. Hammel, your child’s counselor, or your child’s teacher for additional questions.

The grade level team leaders and assistant principals will be hosting our first quarter Hallway Party incentive to reward the students who consistently followed our P.O.U.N.C.E. Code of Conduct. Our goal is to have 100% participation in these special events. We will continue to recognize and celebrate the students are coming to school each and every day on time and for consistently displaying positive behavior; as well as provide consequences for students who are not making positive choices.

During second quarter, we look forward to continuing our momentum to accelerate learning.

AVID IN ACTION
FOCUSED NOTE-TAKING

AVID scholars created Focused Note-Taking (FNT) One-Pagers to showcase their knowledge of the FNT process.

AVID student, Jayla Smith, shares that the FNT process helps her to remember important information in her content classes! Reviewing her notes has helped her to improve her grades.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Q1 Hallway Party - Nov 23
Q1 Award Assembly - Dec 2
End of Quarter 2 - Jan 21
STEAM AND SEL IN SCIENCE 7

This school year has been special, having the majority of our students for in-person classes. In our 7th grade science classes (Dr. Gade’s and Mrs. Roy’s classes), we teachers are making sure to begin the lessons with social emotional learning activities in mind. It is made sure that the students are familiar with the steps of science and engineering practices. Students got the opportunity to explore paper chromatography and apply problem solving skill to find the solution.

For Unit 1, students faced with the challenge of designing a device that maximizes thermal energy transfer to cook a s’more. Student groups successfully completed their unit end project that involved Design Process to build a Smore oven. Specifically, they created and tested a prototype for a device that is able to transfer energy from a powerful lamp to make a s’more using repurposed materials. Currently students have transitioned to Unit 2, where they are exploring tools of magnification and cells.

MAGNET SPOTLIGHT ENGINEERING SUCCESS

What do a guitar, a bicycle, an eggbeater, and a sewing machine have in common? They all use gears to increase, decrease, or redirect power. Gears come in all sizes. Magnet students are exploring different gear configuration and their purpose. This information will come in handy when Dr. Gade’s classes designs and builds a pull toy for toddlers and factory assembly line projects for our imaginary clients this semester.

At Southwest Academy we see joy in among students are getting the chance to different technology/tools and learn each day.

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.
-Aristotle

FUN WITH WORDS

READING 7

Ms. Madden is very excited to see her students actively engaged in the Just Words program. In the beginning, they were a little hesitant; however, now they are enjoying the lessons. The program focuses on all learning styles. Ms. Madden has been able to supplement the lessons with videos that are culturally responsive.
SUPERINTENDENT, Dr. Williams joined the Southwest Academy for its Black Boy Joy and Genius mentoring program reception. This year’s mentoring program has partnered with Morning Star Baptist Church, and the Save Our Young Baltimore organization to provide life skills and academic skills to support our Black and Hispanic male students. Jahmil Glascoe, a 7th grade mentee, shared that the program allows him to share his thoughts and emotions, to catch up on schoolwork, and build positive friendships with other mentees.

“i've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

-Maya Angelou

Seventh grade Algebra I students defined and described exponents. Scholars multiplied numbers with the same base to create equivalent expressions.

Students used phase one of the Focused Note-Taking process to record their notes. Utilizing phase 2 of the FNT process, scholars connected their thinking by writing examples of exponents in their notes.

Seventh grade scholar, Myla Butler-McClanahan, shared that the real-world techniques provided by math teacher, Ms. Humphries, helped her to understand the concept of exponents and how to use them in every day life.