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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Q1 Hallway Party - Nov 24
Q1 Award Assembly - Dec 3
End of Quarter 2 - Jan 21

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 all of her content classes! Reviewing her notes has helped her to improve her grades.

MAGNET SPOTLIGHT

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 among students who are getting the chance to use different technology every day.
BLACK BOY JOY AND GENIUS

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. Jabari Herriott, a 8th grade mentee, shared that the program allows him to share his thoughts and emotions and build positive friendships with other mentees.

STEM MAGNET

The program uses an innovative STEM curriculum that engages student in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through real-world, problem-based activities through hands-on projects based on authentic situations in STEM careers to help students discover their passions and explore pathways to a promising future. The new STEM curriculum provides cross-curricular, project-based learning that engages students in authentic lessons built around STEM-related careers. It also provides opportunities for students to deepen understanding and apply their knowledge in real world scenarios through phenomena driven, NGSS aligned and performance-based instructional activities.

Throughout the program, students develop skills in science, math and engineering practices that are transferable and applicable to all high school magnet and non-magnet STEM-related pathways and courses. In previous years, we have hosted a Ladies in STEM career fair to attempt to enhance the underrepresentation of females and females of color in the STEM careers. Because of our focus on STEM, we are privileged to have partnerships with Northrop Grumman.