

Bethune Carver Scholars Monthly Newsletter

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

October 2008

Volume 2, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- High School Info Session, Oct. 4th at 10:00am!
- First 9th grade BCS monthly session Oct. 5th!
- College Day Trip—BCS 9th Grade, Oct. 13th!
- Turn in Progress Reports to TBC—ALL GRADES

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to our returning 8th & 9th Grade Bethune Carver Scholars (BCS)! We are excited to have you with us again, and welcome to our new scholars. This year we are pleased to make some changes to the program. Besides our new High School component for our 9th grade cohort, we have a combined Middle School cohort of 7th & 8th grade students.

We have added new students and support staff. The Beloved Community (TBC) has two new tutors William Blackman and Antoinette Brady who have joined the program.

We had a great orientation for 7th & 8th grades on September 6th. Sessions began September 23rd, and we have had three sessions already! This week scholars are working on a list of High Schools, identifying what they know, want to know, and learn about each. Parents, please take time to ask your children about the different types of High Schools—what they are and what they learned about each! We will be reviewing other schools in the coming weeks.

The 9th grade scholars reconvened with a retreat at the Thea Bowman Center on September 13th. The students spent time getting to know each other and sharing their new high school experiences. The Study Clinic drop in sessions began on September 16th.

All 9th grade scholars are welcome at any time to drop in to the Study Clinic. Attendance is not mandatory, and students may come and go as needed. Tutors are available to help in major subject areas. The Study Clinic is open to community members in High School.

In the next week, students will be sent home with slips indicating missing forms from their files. Please send the forms with your student. We want to make sure we have all the information necessary to serve your children.

Also, remember to turn in student Progress Reports to TBC staff.

Just a reminder the program ends at 6:30pm, and all 7th & 8th Grade student must be signed out by an adult. During the first month of program we are requesting as you or your selected family picks up your child, please try to come to the door to sign them out. Flashers may be used to temporarily park cars during pick up. As we have many new participants, staff members are still learning the scholars and their families. Please take time to introduce yourself and make sure we

know who you are!
We want to make sure your kids are safe and going home with the right people.



Don't miss the High School Information Session Oct. 4!



This year we are "Reaching for the Stars" in our goal for preparing BCS students for High School.

TBC will be hosting a High School Information Session, October 4th from

10:00am to 12:00pm at the St. Sabina Elders Village. The address for the Elders Village is 1222 W. 79th Street. During the session several different High Schools will be sending representatives to provide information regarding their schools and meet with students. This is a great opportunity to learn about a variety of schools, get to know admissions representatives, and get all your questions answered!

The CPS High School Fair will be held October 11 at McCormick Place. We strongly encourage parents and students to take advantage of this opportunity to pick up Selective Enrollment (SE) Applications from the Fair and talk to the schools represented to get additional information. SE Applications go quickly.

We strongly encourage each BCS 8th grade student who is eligible to sit for the Selective Enrollment Exam and to apply to as many selective enrollment High Schools as possible.

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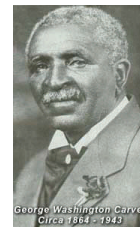
The purpose of a newsletter is to provide specialized information to our Bethune Carver Students and Parents. We hope it will be valuable to you, and you will share your opinions on the newsletter.



In September 2006, The Beloved Community launched the *Bethune Carver Scholars Program*, an after school college-readiness initiative serving middle and high school teens in Auburn Gresham.

The program is an outgrowth of the Rev. Dr. Michael Pflieger's longstanding commitment to youth development and is a proactive attempt to improve educational and economic outcomes for youth in the community.

Bethune – Carver Scholars meet twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm to 6:30pm and participate in several activities including, but not limited to: Academic Enrichment; Tutoring and Homework Assistance; High School information and Preparation; College and Career Exploration; Life Skills; Health and Nutrition.



First 9th Grade BCS Monthly Session October 5th!

College Day Trip BCS 9th grade

First 9th Grade BCS Monthly Session

Our first monthly student workshop for BCS 9th graders will be on SUNDAY, October 5, 2008 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. The monthly student workshops are **mandatory** attendance for scholars. This session will be held in Bethune Hall at the St. Sabina Academy located at 7801 S. Throop. The student workshop title for October is "Time Management/ Study Skills pt. 1."

College Day Trip BCS 9th grade

We will be taking our first College Day Trip on October 13th to the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana for Blue & Orange Day! We will be boarding the bus outside of the TBC office at 6:00am. We expect to return by 5:00pm. Don't miss this exciting day to explore U of I.

More Youth Programs: Teen Entrepreneurship and ACT Prep

Parents, we want to let you know about other youth programs offered through The Beloved Community (TBC). These programs are targeted for High School students.

The Teen Entrepreneurship Program (TEP) uses curriculum, materials, and trained instructor from the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE). Students learn the process for starting their own business. Some of the topics covered are: What is entrepreneurship; Marketing; Costs of Starting a Business; Negotiating; Economics; Public Speaking; and Writing a Business Plan. TEP's current session will begin in late October.

The ACT Prep course in partnership with TEST WATCH TEST PREP uses a curriculum to help students prepare for the exam. The course is open to High School Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors, and the cost per student is \$25.

If you know of any high school youth who would like to participate, please contact April or Thérèse at TBC's office.



Teens at Entrepreneurship class last year.