

DRURY SCHOLARS PROGRAM



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WHY DRURY SCHOLARS?

- Springfield History
- The Gathering
- African American Achievement Gap

SPS – WHAT IS MEASURED?

- **No. of students who take the ACT Exam**
- **ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores**
- **Drop Out Rate**
- **Graduation Rate**

SPS – WHAT IS MEASURED?

- 1006 - students take the ACT
- 40 - African American (the district averages 500 African American high school students)
- 8 - American Indian
- 804 - Caucasian
- 44 - Hispanic
- 27 - Asian American
- 2 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- 51 - Two or more races and 30 did not respond

DRURY SCHOLARS PRIMARY GOAL

CLOSE THE RACIAL ACIEHVEMENT GAP

THE MEANS:

- Build strong relationships between and among students:
 - Relationships with peers
 - Relationships with African American college students who serve as mentors, teachers and role models
 - Relationships with adults, including DUSP staff (Drury faculty, Program Coordinator and volunteers)

THE MEANS:

- Setting high academic expectations for students:
 - ACT prep courses
 - ACT practice tests
 - Self-directed academic goal setting, including GPA

THE MEANS:

Mentors play several roles:

- Help students set goals
- Follow through with students to see if they are making progress on their goals
- Develop relationships characterized by caring and trust, patience and understanding – the heart and soul of our work.

THE MEANS:

Developing Strong Peer-to-Peer Relationships

Students who develop strong friendships with other students committed to academic success are more likely to succeed in college.

THE MEANS:

Experiencing a College Campus

Students who have positive experiences on a college campus are more likely to go to college.

THE MEANS:

Enrolling in College Prep Courses

Students who take a rigorous high school curriculum are more likely to go to and succeed in college.

WHO ARE THE DRURY SCHOLARS?

- Middle School
- High School

WHAT IS THE DRURY SCHOLARS PROGRAM?

- College Bound Students
- Summer Program
- Year Round Program



WHERE DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE PLACE?

- Middle School
- High School
- Local Universities & Colleges
- Community Locations
- Local Businesses

WHEN DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE PLACE?

- Year Round Program:
Middle School – Once a Week & High School – Once A Week and Once a Month
- Middle School Program – One Day in May
- Summer Program – One Week in July

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS?

- Weekly Mentoring and Tutoring Sessions
- Regular Outings and Trips
- University & College Tours
- Community Service
- Educational, Cultural and Social Events

HOW ARE WE DOING?

- 149 students attended college tours
- 20 students attended Infinite Scholars
- 28 college applications – seven seniors accepted at colleges of their choice
- 17 of our students took the ACT exam - almost half increased their score by three points.
- Four seniors in the yearlong program will receive academic scholarships.

HOW TO START A SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- Identify the need
- Start small
- Determine focus
- Develop performance measures
- Connect need to WIIFM in the community for additional support

ONGOING CHALLENGES

- Funding if the program grows
- Resources for one-on-one mentoring
- Tutors

SUMMARY

- Identify Need (Achievement Gap)
- Four factors that have an impact on academic success:
 1. Active Mentors
 2. Strong Peer-Peer Relationships with High Achieving Students
 3. College Experience while in School
 4. College Prep Courses While in High School

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

QUESTIONS??

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