

THE DELAWARE VALLEY MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CONSORTIUM



FALL 2008
MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

“POWER UP YOUR FUTURE”

November 17, 2008



University of Pennsylvania
Sheraton University City Hotel
Philadelphia, PA

FALL 2008 DVMSAC MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PROGRAM

8:15-8:45 **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
Lower Lobby

9:00-9:15 **WELCOME**
Ben Franklin Ballroom 3-4-5

*Dr. Robert L. Jarvis, Director
Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium
Penn Center for Educational Leadership
University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education*

*Dr. James R. Roebuck, Jr.
State Representative 188th Legislative District
Chairman, House Education Committee
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Harrisburg, PA*

9:15-10:00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Ben Franklin Ballroom 3-4-5

*Introduction
Alyse S. Halpin
Kennett Consolidated School District*

“UNLOCK THE POWER WITHIN YOU”



*Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL*

Mawi Asgedom has written four books that are used in thousands of classrooms across North America and spoken to over 500,000 students and educators. A nationally recognized youth educator, Mawi is the founder of Mental Karate, a training organization that challenges youth to create their own inspiring journeys.

As a child, Mawi fled civil war in Ethiopia and survived a Sudanese refugee camp for three years. After being resettled in The United States, Mawi overcame welfare, language barriers and personal tragedy to graduate from Harvard University.

Mawi's bestselling memoir, *Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard*, has been read as a one-book, one-community reading selection by hundreds of schools and communities including the cities of Philadelphia and Green Bay. His teen-success guides, *The Code*, *Win the Inner Battle*, and *Nothing is Impossible*, have also been used in thousands of classrooms. Citing the impact of his work, The Illinois Association of Teachers of English named Mawi the 2006 Illinois Author of the Year. Many prominent media outlets have featured Mawi including:

- The Oprah Winfrey Show, "One of the Twenty Best Shows of Oprah's Career"
- *ESSENCE*, one of "The 40 Most Inspiring African-Americans"
- *Ebony*, one of "30 Black Leaders Under 30"
- *Chicago Tribune*, *The Boston Globe*, *Harvard Magazine*

A graduate of the Kellogg School of Management, Mawi has also inspired audiences at Bank of America, Chase, Accenture, Kraft, Time Warner and other leading corporations.

10:00-10:45 BREAKOUT SESSION 1

1. "MENTAL KARATE: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU IS THE WAY YOU THINK."

PRESENTER: *Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL*

MODERATOR: *Chuck Malone, Assistant Principal
Wissahickon Middle School
Wissahickon School District*

ROOM: Ben Franklin 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: One does not "unlock the power within" by talking about it or reading about it. One unlocks the power within by APPLYING it. In this session, Mawi will challenge students to identify ways that they can show initiative, discipline, and courage. Attendees will also learn how they can create new, spectacular results by harnessing the power of their minds.

2. "TEAM IT!"

PRESENTERS: *Barry Broughton, Wissahickon MS ACE Parent
Tyrone Edwards, Wissahickon MS ACE Parent*

MODERATOR: *Lyn Fields, Principal
Wissahickon Middle School
Wissahickon School District*

ROOM: Ben Franklin 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will give you an overview of the exciting program that was started a few years back by eight Middle School dads in Wissahickon School District. The Excellence Academy for Men and Ladies (TEAL) provides boys and girls an opportunity to apply their special skills in a unique way on Saturdays. Students work toward completing special projects that are interesting and apply real life skills. Boys produced and made CD's for sale last year, while girls conducted a fashion show. Learn what it takes to take on top quality projects while applying your talents.

3. "ETHNIC NOTIONS OF THE MIND: AFRICAN AMERICAN STEREOTYPES AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP"

PRESENTER: *Dr. Crystal Lucky, Associate Professor of English, Africana Studies and Women Studies
Villanova University
Villanova, PA*

MODERATOR: *Bill Incollingo, Principal
Shafer Middle School
Bensalem School District*

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

4. "LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS"

PRESENTERS: *Ms. Jaye Pedante, Director of Student Services*
High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance Winters
Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA

MODERATOR: Kathryn Brion, Language Arts Teacher
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do's and don'ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

5. "HABITS FOR A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY THROUGH THE TEEN YEARS"

PRESENTER: *Dr. Barbara Moore Williams, Educational Consultant*
Philadelphia, PA

MODERATOR: Phillip Faiss, History Teacher
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Going through teenage years can be the most exciting times and the most challenging. The journey can be made less stressful and more successful by practicing a few important habits. In this session you will get an overview of several of the "successful habits of mind" that will lead to an improved self image, better relationships with peers and teachers, ability to resist negative peer pressures and tips on how to set and achieve your goals. Be a part of an exciting and interactive session that will help you in your *journey to a successful life*.

6. "THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD"

PRESENTER: *Mr. Christo Johnson, Educator and Author*
Lansdowne, PA

MODERATOR: David Poindexter, 6th Grade Teacher
Elkins Park School
School District of Cheltenham Township

ROOM: University

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

11:00-11:45

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

1. “MENTAL KARATE: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU IS THE WAY YOU THINK.”

PRESENTER: *Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL*

MODERATOR: *Demetrius Roberts, Social Studies Teacher
Morrisville High School
Morrisville Borough School District*

ROOM: **Ben Franklin 1**

SESSION DESCRIPTION: One does not “unlock the power within” by talking about it or reading about it. One unlocks the power within by APPLYING it. In this session, Mawi will challenge students to identify ways that they can show initiative, discipline, and courage. Attendees will also learn how they can create new, spectacular results by harnessing the power of their minds.

2. “TEAM IT!”

PRESENTERS: *Mr. Barry Broughton, Wissahickon Middle School ACE Parent
Mr. Tyrone Edwards, Wissahickon Middle School ACE Parent*

MODERATOR: *Lyn Fields, Principal
Wissahickon Middle School
Wissahickon School District*

ROOM: **Ben Franklin 2**

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will give you an overview of the exciting program that was started a few years back by eight Middle School dads in Wissahickon School District. The Excellence Academy for Men and Ladies (TEAL) provides boys and girls an opportunity to apply their special skills in a unique way on Saturdays. Students work toward completing special projects that are interesting and apply real life skills. Boys produced and made CD’s for sale last year, while girls conducted a fashion show. Learn what it takes to take on top quality projects while applying your talents.

3. “ETHNIC NOTIONS OF THE MIND: AFRICAN AMERICAN STEREOTYPES AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP”

PRESENTER: *Dr. Crystal Lucky, Associate Professor of English, Africana Studies and Women Studies
Villanova University
Villanova, PA*

MODERATOR: *Lynne Partridge, Gifted Support Teacher
Lower Merion School District*

ROOM: **Chestnut**

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

4. “LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS”

PRESENTERS: *Ms. Jaye Pedante, Director of Student Services
High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance Winters*

*Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA*

MODERATOR: Phillip Faiss, History Teacher
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do's and don'ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

5. "HABITS FOR A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY THROUGH THE TEEN YEARS"

PRESENTER: *Dr. Barbara Moore Williams, Educational Consultant
Philadelphia, PA*

MODERATOR: Kathryn Brion, Language Arts Teacher
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Going through teenage years can be the most exciting times and the most challenging. The journey can be made less stressful and more successful by practicing a few important habits. In this session you will get an overview of several of the "successful habits of mind" that will lead to an improved self image, better relationships with peers and teachers, ability to resist negative peer pressures and tips on how to set and achieve your goals. Be a part of an exciting and interactive session that will help you in your *journey to a successful life*.

6. "THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD"

PRESENTER: *Mr. Christo Johnson, Educator and Author
Lansdowne, PA*

MODERATOR: Chuck Malone, Assistant Principal
Wissahickon Middle School
Wissahickon School District

ROOM: University

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

**12:00-12:45 LUNCH, MIX AND MINGLE AND GROUP PHOTOS
Ben Franklin 3-4-5**

1:00-1:45 BREAKOUT SESSION 3

1. "MENTAL KARATE: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT YOU IS THE WAY YOU THINK."

PRESENTER: *Mr. Mawi Asgedom, Youth Educator and Author
Chicago, IL*

MODERATOR: Marty Bailin, Teacher
Upper Dublin Middle School
Upper Dublin School District

ROOM: Ben Franklin 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: One does not “unlock the power within” by talking about it or reading about it. One unlocks the power within by APPLYING it. In this session, Mawi will challenge students to identify ways that they can show initiative, discipline, and courage. Attendees will also learn how they can create new, spectacular results by harnessing the power of their minds.

2. “LESSONS WE HAVE LEARNED: FINDING & MAKING TIME FOR SUCCESS”

PRESENTERS: *Ms. Jaye Pedante, Director of Student Services*
High School Student Leaders
Sierra Council
Stephen Jones
Donald Peyton
Jasmine Roberts
Amelia Washington
Terrance Winters
Springfield High School
Springfield School District
Springfield, PA

MODERATOR: *Alyse S. Halpin, Reading and Language Arts Teacher*
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 1

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Student leaders from Springfield High School will come together to share the do’s and don’ts of navigating the sometimes slippery slopes of high school. The panel will discuss their own successes and struggles as well as give survival tips geared toward how their middle school audience might learn from their experiences. This workshop is student-centered, and will include interactive discussion and time for questions.

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PRESENTER: *Dr. Crystal Lucky, Associate Professor of English, Africana Studies and Women Studies*
Villanova University
Villanova, PA

MODERATOR: *Demetrius Roberts, Social Studies Teacher*
Morrisville High School
Morrisville Borough School District

ROOM: Chestnut

SESSION DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will investigate the origins of African American stereotypes and consider their legacy in contemporary American culture. The session will ask students to think about visual and literary examples in their everyday lives and will require some reading, writing, and small group discussion. Students should come to the session with a pen or pencil.

4. "HABITS FOR A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY THROUGH THE TEEN YEARS"

PRESENTER: *Dr. Barbara Moore Williams, Educational Consultant*
Philadelphia, PA

MODERATOR: *Phillip Faiss, History Teacher*
Kennett Middle School
Kennett Consolidated School District

ROOM: Fairmount 2

SESSION DESCRIPTION: Going through teenage years can be the most exciting times and the most challenging. The journey can be made less stressful and more successful by practicing a few important habits. In this session you will get an overview of several of the “successful habits of mind” that will lead to an improved self image, better relationships with peers and teachers, ability to resist negative peer pressures and tips on how to set and achieve your goals. Be a part of an exciting and interactive session that will help you in your *journey to a successful life*.

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Shafer Middle School
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ROOM: *University*

SESSION DESCRIPTION: This workshop will focus on the perseverance of African American culture, pursuing goals, and analyzing society through the art of spoken word poetry. Mr. Johnson will perform original poetry and engage students in conversations about their power to create change. Students will be encouraged to share their poetry at this workshop.

6. "NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE"

FACILITATOR: *Reverend Dr. Allyn Waller, Senior Pastor
Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA*

MODERATOR: *David Poindexter, 6th Grade Teacher
Elkins Park School
School District of Cheltenham Township*

ROOM: *Ben Franklin 2*

1:45-2:30 **WORLD CAFE**
Ben Franklin 3-4-5

2:30-2:45 **BUSES DEPART**

Special thanks to Ms. Alyce Halpin, Kennett Consolidated School District and Mr. David Poindexter, Cheltenham Township School District, for their leadership in organizing this event with support of many dedicated teachers, counselors and school administrators from our Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium school districts

2008-09

*Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium
Member School Districts and Affiliate County Intermediate Units*

Abington School District

Amy Sichel, Superintendent
Abington, PA

Brandywine School District

James Scanlon, Superintendent
Claymont, DE

Centennial School District

Sandy Homel, Interim Superintendent
Warminster, PA

Cherry Hill Public Schools

David Campbell, Superintendent
Cherry Hill, NJ

Hatboro-Horsham School District

William Lessa, Superintendent
Horsham, PA

Lindenwold Public Schools

Geraldine Carroll, Superintendent
Lindenwold, NJ

Moorestown Township Public Schools

John Bach, Superintendent
Moorestown, NJ

North Penn School District

Robert Hassler, Superintendent
Lansdale, PA

Princeton Regional Schools

Judith Wilson, Superintendent
Princeton, NJ

Rose Tree Media School District

Denise Kerr, Superintendent
Media, PA

Springfield Township School District

Roseann Nyiri, Superintendent
Oreland, PA

Upper Merion School District

Melissa Jamula, Superintendent
King of Prussia, PA

West Chester Area School District

Alan Elko, Superintendent
West Chester, PA

Bensalem Township School District

James Lombardo, Superintendent
Bensalem, PA

Bristol Township School District

Ellen Budman, Superintendent
Levittown, PA

Cheltenham Township School District

William Kiefer, Superintendent
Elkins Park, PA

Collingswood School District

Scott Oswald, Superintendent
Collingswood, NJ

Kennett Consolidated School District

Rudy Karkosak, Superintendent
Kennett Square, PA

Lower Merion School District

Christopher McGinley, Superintendent
Ardmore, PA

Morrisville Borough School District

Elizabeth Yonson, Superintendent
Morrisville, PA

Norristown Area School District

Janet Samuels, Superintendent
Norristown, PA

Perkiomen Valley School District

Cliff Rogers, Superintendent
Collegetown, PA

Springfield School District

James Capalupo, Superintendent
Springfield, PA

Upper Dublin School District

Michael Pladus, Superintendent
Maple Glen, PA

Wissahickon School District

Judith Clark, Superintendent
Ambler, PA

Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22

Barry Gallaso, Executive Director
Doylestown, PA

Chester County Intermediate Unit # 24

Joe O'Brien, Executive Director
Downingtown, PA

Delaware County Intermediate Unit #25

Barry Ersek, Acting Executive Director
Morton, PA