



Thursdays Network
Greater Washington Urban League

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

Special Appeal to Thursdays Network Members
2010 Volunteer Opportunity
Slots Available January through May

January 19, 2010

Dear Thursdays Network Member,

Dr. Ernest Just Middle School has instituted a college-preparatory program where our middle school students will participate in a rigorous academic schedule and extra during school curricular opportunities to include college visits, Socratic seminars, Cornell note-taking, guest speakers, and weekly support from college tutors.

We are in our third year of operation and have seen great gains in English and math proficiency, as well as, social skills and college awareness. 97% of our AVID students passed the Algebra I HSA Assessment, which is traditionally a high school course. They have traveled to several colleges and universities from as far away as Atlanta, Georgia and Boston, Massachusetts.

The mission of AVID is to ensure that ALL students, and most especially the least served students who are 'in the middle':

- will succeed in rigorous curriculum
- will complete a rigorous college preparatory path
- will enter mainstream activities of the school
- will increase their enrollment in four-year colleges
- will become educated and responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society

As coordinator of the program, I am writing to request your participation as a guest speaker for approximately 30-50 students in a classroom setting. As part of your participation, we invite you to speak to our group about your college experience and share your journey to your career, whether you have reached your goal or still striving to achieve it. If you are available to speak with all 215 AVID students, we can make special arrangements for that as well.

Your role as a Thursdays Network member makes you uniquely qualified to talk to our students about the quest for higher learning. Our weekly meetings are scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the day. If your schedule does not permit those presentations, please contact me for an optional date. I look forward to talking with you further about this opportunity. Feel free to call me at (301) 808-8624 or email me at JUSTAVID@gmail.com to schedule a session during the 2009-2010 school year. Visit www.avidonline.org for more information about this phenomenal program.

Children First,

Ashanti M. Foster, AVID Coordinator
Deena Smith, Thursdays Network Vice President

*Thursdays Network is the Young Professionals Auxiliary of the Greater Washington Urban League
2901 14th Street, NW Washington DC 20009 * 202-265-8200 ext. 278 * www.ThursdaysNetwork.org*



DR. ERNEST E. JUST MIDDLE SCHOOL
Advancement Via Individual Determination
1300 Campus Way North Mitchellville, MD 20721
(301) 808-4040
JUSTAVID@GMAIL.COM



Information for Guest Speakers

What does AVID stand for?

- Advancement Via Individual Determination

Information you could share with the AVID students

- Background information about yourself
- Your educational experience
- Importance of setting goals
- Importance of a good education
- Explanation of your career field

What is an AVID student?

- A determined student
- Wants to go to college
- Student that is willing to work hard for the chance to go to college
- Possibly of a group that is underrepresented in college
- Possibly low income
- Possibly the first to go to college in their family
- Student that chose/asked to be in this class

How does AVID help the students?

- Class that helps improve students'
 - Reading and Writing skills
 - Questioning skills (Bloom/Costa)
 - Ability to work in collaborative groups
 - Note-taking skills
 - Organization
- Tutorials 2 days a week
- Weekly binder checks
- Field trips
- Motivational Guest Speakers
- Creates a support group that can help them when needed
- Supplies college information
- Reinforces a student's master plan

Carlton C. Carter, Principal

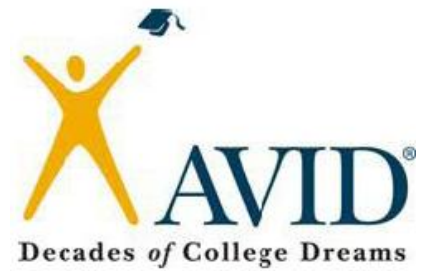
Ashanti Foster, Coordinator

'Avidly Seeking Success while Soaring High Like Eagles'

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Guest Speaker Information Sheet

Please select from dates below or contact Mrs. Foster for an alternate date.

CIRCLE AVAILABLE DATES

January – 20, 22, 25, 27, 29

February – 5, 8, 10, 12, 17, 24, 26

March – 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29, 31

April – 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 30

May – 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26

June – 2, 4, 7, 9, 11

Volunteers are also welcome Tuesdays or Thursdays at 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, or 2:00 PM.

Full Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Thursday Network Member Since: _____

Career/Profession: _____

What college(s) did you attend? _____

Special Technology/Other Needs: _____

THANK YOU FOR SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Carlton C. Carter, Principal

Ashanti Foster, Coordinator

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