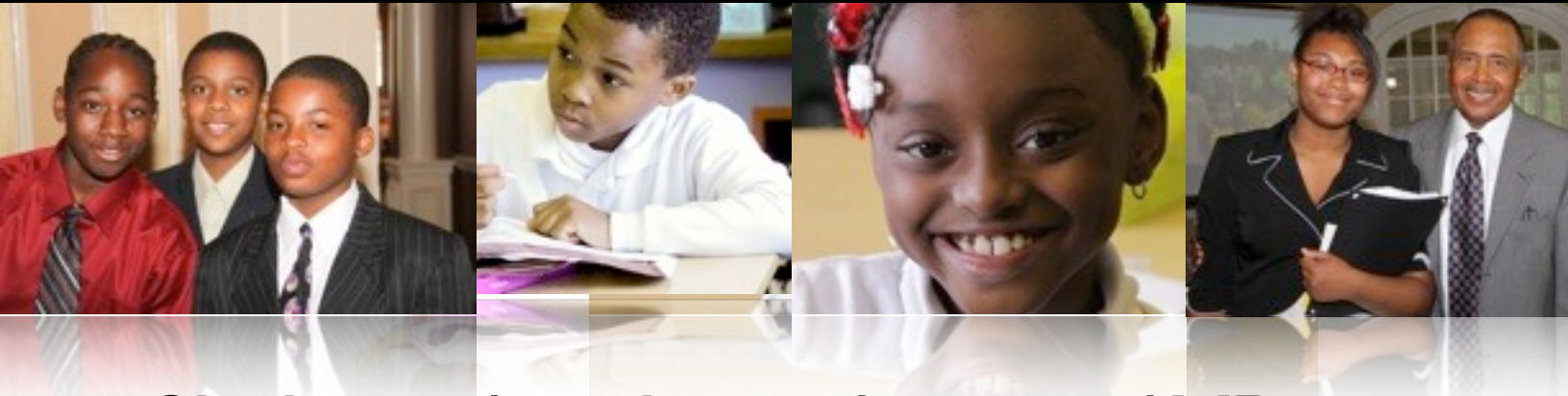


# Shabazz Updater

July 2009

Heart Heritage High Aspirations



## Shabazz Academy Attains AYP

For the fourth consecutive year, Shabazz Public School Academy has been awarded “Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)” status by the Michigan Department of Education. This important designation means that the school is on target to meet the national education standards set by the No Child Left Behind legislation of 2002.



In order to make AYP, schools must meet the following requirements: 1. Attendance rate or graduation rate must be at a minimum of 80% for all students and subgroups; 2. Participation rate (the percentage of students who are tested using MEAP) must be a minimum of 95%; 3. The school must meet established proficiency targets in English/language arts and mathematics for all students.

The school can also meet this requirement by reaching “safe harbor”, which is accomplished by reducing the previous year’s percentage of students identified as “not proficient” by 10% in each subgroup.

In addition to awarding AYP status to schools, the Michigan Department of Education gives each school a grade. Shabazz Public School Academy’s grade for the 2008-2009 school year improved from **C** to **B**. These two important measures of school success come as a result of Shabazz staff’s hard work and commitment to its Eight Pillars of Success (continued on next page):

# Eight Pillars of Success

1. A Clean And Safe Student-Centered Learning Campus That Involves Family And Community Members
2. A School Where Teachers Teach And Students Learn
3. A Commitment To The Academic And Social Development Of All Students
4. A School Where Data Drives Decision Making
5. A School That Embraces African-Centered Education
6. A Partnership With Families And The Community
7. A School Where Technology Is An Integral Part Of Instruction And Building Management
8. A School Where Staff And Parents Assume Responsibility For Students' Education

## Pac Mac Spelling Contest Winners

Haywood Edwards, Jr. and Jone'e McKinney were recent Pac Mac Spelling Contest winners. Haywood, a second grader placed third in his division and 5th grader, Jone'e, placed third in her division.



# Job Fair



## Helping Our Community

Shabazz Academy hosted its first job fair as part of the school's 2009 **Malcolm X Week** activity. Following the spirit of the school's namesake, Malcolm X, who said that, "Community institutions should help those in need", the fair attracted nearly 200 job seekers from the greater Lansing community. Twenty Lansing employers were present to help make this a successful event.

## Helping Our World

During **March is Reading Month**, Shabazz Academy participated in a program called **Read to Feed**. Heifer International has created the **Read to Feed** program in which students around the globe read to friends and family and in return ask for a small donation which goes toward the purchase of a service or animal that will be given to a family in need in a struggling part of our world. Heifer has set the goals and/or mission of ending world hunger, poverty, and caring for the earth through this program. In **March is Reading Month** our school did its part by accumulating donations equaling over \$240.00, through which we chose the donation of two goats and the planting of trees. Thank you to fourth grade teacher Ms. Jennifer Jones for her leadership in this project. Thanks also are extended to our Shabazz family of students, teachers, friends, and parents for their contributions toward helping those in need.



### **Spotlighting “Nate” Lynn**

Nathaniel Lynn, of late, has been dazzling audiences throughout our city with his stirring rendition of Martin Luther King Jr’s I Have A Dream speech. His presentation of this memorable oration has garnered praises from near and far. What is so remarkable about his presentation is his calmness and focus in making sure that his listeners know clearly what Dr. King said on that hot August day in 1963.

“Nate”, as we know him around the school, is an outstanding student who reads far beyond his second grade level. His teacher, Ms. Callahan, says that his academic potential is limitless. He is also one of our African drummers and a stellar soccer player.

### **Gym Renovations**

The school’s gym recently received new lights causing one summer school student to remark that “ It’s like daylight in here”. In addition to the new lights, the gym walls were painted. A new floor should be in place by opening day. These changes will certainly ‘brighten” the spirits of those who enter the gym.

### **Off to Harvard University**

Shabazz Academy’s curriculum director, Dr. Valarie Bellas will attend a one week national conference for urban schools at Harvard University, the nation’s oldest university. While there, Dr. Bellas will interact with curriculum leaders from across the nation as they tackle critical issues in urban schools. Upon her return, Dr. Bellas will share the information gained from the conference with her colleagues throughout the school year.



**We Made The Honor Roll For Four Consecutive Quarters!!!**

### **2008-2009 Malcolm X Scholars**

Largest group of scholars to-date

**Congratulations!!!**

**Congratulations!!!**

**Congratulations!!!**

**Congratulations!!!**