History of NAAPID – The Founder’s Story

Inspired by the Million Man March, where 1.7 million African American men convened and made a vow to be more involved in their community.

In 1995, Joe (Dulin) attended the Million Man March in Washington, D.C. During the event, he witnessed a speech from a young orator who challenged the men in the crowd to go back to their communities and do more. That speech hit home for Dulin as he stopped to call his wife and tell her about the experience and the message he’d just heard. “Joe called me from the march and said, ‘that boy was talking to me’,” Yvonne recalled. When he returned home, he set about creating the first National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID). Going back to his days in Detroit, Dulin remembered how critical parent involvement was to getting kids into college. He thought by organizing a day where parents could learn just how important that involvement was, he could make a change in his community. “The more parents are involved in their children’s education, the more successful the student will be,” Yvonne said, adding that her husband believed parents and teachers are a child’s greatest ally.

Dulin launched the day in February 1996 and NAAPID has taken place on the second Monday of February every year since.

Purpose of NAAPID

“A day designed to stress the importance of African American parents and families getting involved in their child’s education and to celebrate the partnership between students, families and schools.”

- Promote African American parent involvement in their children’s education
- Promote and provide strategies for African American parents and students to take full advantage of educational opportunities at all levels while navigating the systemic barriers that exist
- Identify and develop partnership efforts in all sectors of the community
- Offer workshops, seminars and instruction to increase parent involvement and eliminate the achievement gap

SPPS will commemorate this day by holding individual school celebrations throughout the district, ending with a community-wide celebration and resource fair at Benjamin E. Mays Elementary in the evening.

For more information and resources, visit spps.org/naapid