



Liberty Hill Academy

For Immediate Release

October 17, 2024

Contact:

Corey Shaw (843) 566-8892

Media Release

Liberty Hill Academy students kick off Get the B.A.G. ReImagine Wednesday

Anita W. Huggins, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Luke Clamp, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent

Shavonna Coakley, Ed.D.
Executive Director of School Support
and Community Engagement

Corey Shaw
Principal

Charleston, SC – The Community Resource Center's partnership with Charleston County School District (CCSD) has launched a new opportunity for scholars at Liberty Hill Academy called Get the B.A.G. (Growth, Explore, Transform) ReImagine Wednesday.

This initiative will revolutionize student empowerment, cultivating a community-focused mindset and, paving the way for a brighter future.

Students from Liberty Hill will attend programs at the Center every other Wednesday for four weeks to receive training in industrial skills such as forklifting through Neal Brothers Charleston Inc., welding through Mercedes-Benz Vans Charleston, loading or offloading cargo to and/or from a ship [stevedoring] through Charleston Stevedoring Company, and much more. This two-in-one program introduces students to industrial disciplines and opens doors to employment.

The first session kicked off Wednesday, October 9, 2024 with business owner Raheim Arthur (Clipper Craft) teaching introductory sessions in barbering; Coach Flip (Flip the Script) guiding students through structured stages of emotional and physical intelligence; Karen Smalls Horlback (Momma Maddie's Sweetgrass Jewelry) teaching a lesson in sweetgrass basket artistry, history, and sewing; and Sterling Savage (Ready, Set, Educate) teaching financial literacy.

Principal Corey Shaw said that programs like this are essential to showing students the opportunities that await them.

"A lot of our students come from a disadvantaged social and economic home life," said Shaw. "In some cases, family members of our students have been through our alternative program. I truly believe that at Liberty Hill we have to close all gaps - academic, social-emotional, and informational gaps - so that our students will be college and career-ready."

Shaw said his number one goal is to make students aware of the industries and opportunities in their own backyard. He said community partners like Neal Brothers Charleston, Inc. are backing this effort.

Neal Brothers Charleston, Inc. C.E.O. Darryl Griffin has promised a job to any student in the Liberty Hill program once they turn 18 and graduate high school.

"It is commitments like this that instill hope and reconnect our students to the educational system so they stay engaged," said Shaw. "Our job is to keep them engaged and motivated so that they leave here with the knowledge about all of the opportunities at their fingertips."

According to Community Resource Center Executive Director Louis L. Smith, Get the B.A.G. Wednesday has been many years in the making.

"Get the B.A.G. Wednesday embodies the power of collective action for a better tomorrow," said Smith. "The Community Resource Center and Liberty Hill Academy are dedicated to equipping students with the tools for success. It is the goal of the Community Resource Center to bring these major industries together to help CCSD students learn specific skills to help them in their future and introduce them to these disciplines so they can reimagine and reinvent themselves."

Shaw believes students can leave the Liberty Hill program with a new outlook and a renewed sense of engagement.

"My hope is we get our students on the right track, and they stay there," added Shaw.

The Community Resource Center is a non-profit serving Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties. To learn more, visit their [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

For more information, contact the Principal Shaw at (843) 566-8892.

###

About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military; dual credit; and many more.