August Martin High School
“Where Dreams Take Flight”
Rory Parnell, Principal

Roundtable on Health Literacy:
“Developing Health Literacy Skills in Youth”

November 19th, 2019
Who am I?

- White
- Female
- Affluent Neighborhood
- Medical Household
- Catholic/Private School Education
- Catholic/Private College
- Career
Who are my scholars?

- African American/Black (67%)
- Below poverty line (Title 1 School)
- Displaced housing (ats: 14-16%/reality: 70%)
- Below Average Reading/Math Level: 2
- Working Parent
- 3 or more siblings
- Average 45 minute school commute (2 buses + train)
- First to go to College (Majority)
What determines who is worthy of success?
Our “Old” Reality

- 98% of parents do not attend/engage in school activities
- 63.2% Attendance Rate/174 LTAs
- Incoming 9th Grade enrollment 44 scholars
- June Graduation Rate 23.7% (4 year graduation rate)
- Scholars had no access to Mental Health Services in school
- 1 school nurse, 3 days a week
Health Literacy Partnership

CBO

Scholar + Family

Clinic

School
CCNY Services

• Vision screening and free eye wear
• Family and Individual counseling
• Lunch Groups - GSA, Mindfulness, Yoga, Leadership, Conflict Resolution
• Immigration Services - Clinics
• Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP)
• Attendance Outreach/Interventions/Support
• Restorative Justice Advisory
• Resiliency work - Scholar
• Nutritional Snacks (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)
Health Clinic Medical Services
Cohen Children’s Medical Center - Northwell Health System

- Physicals for registration, sports, working papers or college
- Immunizations
- Flu shots
- Urgent visits for illness and injuries
- Laboratory screenings
- Reproductive health care
- Asthma care

- Weight management and nutrition counseling
- HIV testing/ Pregnancy testing/ STI screenings
- Diabetes care and management
- Health education counseling
- Referrals to specialists
- Collaboration with primary care physicians for better outcomes
Health Clinic *Mental Health Services*
Cohen Children’s Medical Center - *Northwell Health System*

- Clinical assessment and evaluation
- Individual, group and family therapy
- Reproductive health counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Classroom education
- Trauma-informed care
AMHS Values

• High Expectations: Academically/Socially/Emotionally
• Scholar Centered (Voice, Choice, Leadership)
• Unity: Uniform, Community Gatherings
• Academics: College and Career, as well as Art and Music
• Restorative Justice: Scholar Ownership
• Hands-on Leadership
• Extended Learning
• Trust
Culinary Arts CTE (Career & Technical Education)

- Culinary Arts CTE Program
- Course Sequence: Nutrition & Food Literacy
- Scholars cook for their families
- Food Scholar Advisory Council
Building Health Literacy at Home

- Parent Workshops: Nutrition, “Who is your child?,” Stress Management
- Family Counseling
- Medical Clinic Open House-Orientations
- Father’s Cooking Event
- Community Schools forum-Wellness Fair
- Dinner with your Scholar
True Health Literacy Partnership

Scholar + Family

SCHOOL

Clinic

CBO

Trust

Relationships

Communication
Impact

2014 - 2015

- Community School Forum Attendance: 7
- Grad. Rate: 23%
- Attendance: 63.2%
- Scholarship data: 61.6%
- Overall Regents Passing Rate: 17%
- 1 School Nurse

2018 - 2019

- Community School Forum Attendance: 347
- Grad. Rate: 84.0%
- Attendance: 91.6% (94.7%)
- Scholarship data: 88.7% (SWD 89.8%)
- Overall Regents Passing Rate: 54%
- Full Medical and Mental Health Clinic
Healing
Nutrition
Partnership
Pride
Well-Rounded
Voice
Perseverance
Final Thoughts

- Resources are only as good as the relationships
- Health literacy is not everyone’s first language, we need to teach it
- Health literacy in youth opens the door to overall health and well-being of an adult
- Health literacy knowledge inspires lifelong advocacy
- When you teach a child the language of health, you teach the family
“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

-- Nelson Mandela
Thank you!

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