Monday, August 17, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the Southwest DeKalb Ninth Grade Academy! We are so excited and look forward to meeting and working with you. The transition from middle school to high school can be difficult. The Ninth Grade Academy will provide a positive learning environment to help our ninth grade scholars transition successfully into high school by meeting their academic, social, and emotional needs.

This year, we will continue embracing the “Good Tradition” of Southwest DeKalb High School. This year’s theme will be “Panther Pride: Virtually Ready to Perform”. Our specific focus will be on Math, Science, Attendance, and Graduating Scholars with Options. The Ninth Grade Academy’s motto is “Scholars Today: Leaders Tomorrow.” Every scholar is an essential piece of our school success. Every scholar MUST DO SOMETHING! Every scholar is expected to get involved in athletics, clubs or activities while attending Southwest DeKalb HS. Research has proven that scholars who get involved are more well-rounded and successful in school and life. We have several new initiatives, assemblies and field trips planned for the upcoming school year.

A scholar should have the following characteristics if he or she wants to achieve success:

- Good organizational skills
- Manage their time efficiently and plan ahead
- Plan and set academic, career and life goals
- Get involved in school and community activities
- Monitor their own academic progress and goal achievement

We are in the sixth year of implementing a school-wide uniform policy to address student attire and dress expectations. Our scholars and families did an outstanding job embracing the new tradition and supporting this initiative. As we move into the 2020-2021 school year, we want to maintain the momentum and ensure our entering ninth grade scholars and families understand the importance of this school-wide initiative. Scholars should wear white, navy, gold or gray tops with SWD logo preferred. Bottoms should khaki, navy or black. Only SWD sweaters/hoodies or those in school colors will be permitted in the building.

In closing, I look forward to seeing many new faces and working with each of you. Success begins on Monday, August 17th, 2020. We are the Panthers of Southwest DeKalb; “Embrace the Good Tradition.” Please free to contact me by phone at 678-874-1913 or email at Marco_Jackson@dekalbschoolsga.org for any matters you want to address.

We are looking forward to a great first year with you and your child.

Educationally Yours,

Marco T Jackson
9th Grade Assistant Principal
Southwest DeKalb High

“We are Southwest DeKalb: Where a Superior Balance between Academics, Athletics, School Pride and Community Engagement Exists”.