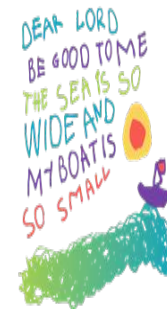


# CDF Freedom Schools

By: Dr. Darcel Hill, Executive Director



**Saint Paul**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**children's  
defense fund**  
Leave No Child Behind®

# Program Scope



- **The SPPS CDF Freedom Schools is a 6-week summer math, literacy, and cultural enrichment program that empowers K-8 scholars to “Make a Difference” in today’s society and plays a proven role in closing the multiple opportunities gaps experienced by many African Americans scholars and other scholars of color, Native Americans, and low-income families.**
- **The researched best practices of CDF Freedom Schools regards culture as a set of tools, perspectives, and capabilities that builds positive racial and personal identities of our scholars.**
- **Our culturally responsive approaches have strengthen the connection between academic achievement, self confidence, and resilience especially over time.**
- **We use these cultural attributes in curricular and instructional planning, instructional processes, classroom organization, motivational strategies and discipline, and assessment.**

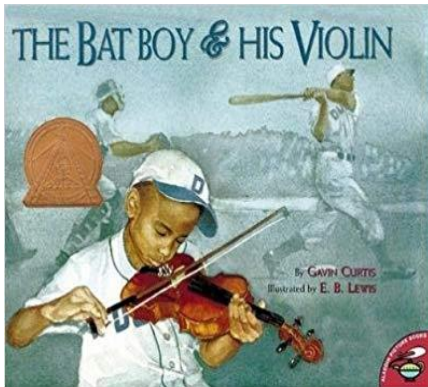
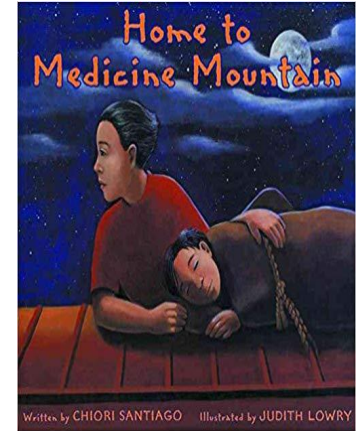
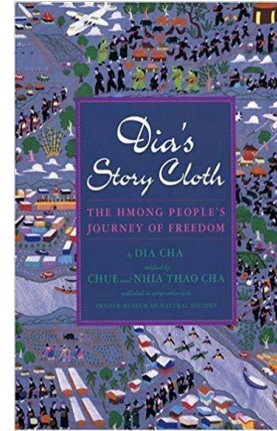
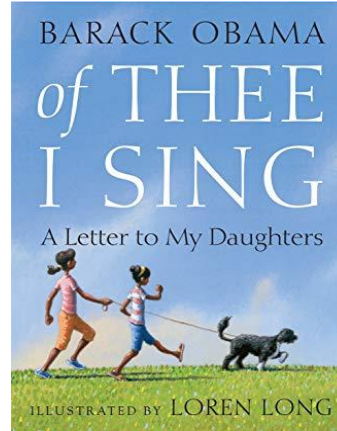
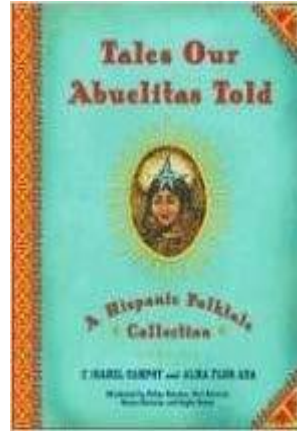


# Scholars See Their Cultures Represented in the Classrooms, Leadership, Staff, Volunteers, and Community Partners





# Scholars see their cultures represented in the CDF FS Integrated Reading Curriculum, Books and Activities





## Seven Essential Components

- **Standards-Based academics, character building and S.T.E.A.M. enrichment**
- **Parent and family engagement**
- **Community involvement and positive social action**
- **Intergenerational servant leadership development**
- **Health and Wellness**
- **Workforce development, and college and career readiness**
- **Weekly field trips—last year included virtual field trips**

# Science, Technology, and Engineering Applied Academics

## Exciting Workshops and Hands-On Projects Provided by Community Partners



- *Hero Elementary* transmedia universe integrates science and literacy to ignite children's natural curiosity and broaden their understanding of how the world works and empower them to make a positive difference in their communities. All materials are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and curriculum is completed through the use of iPads.
- Digital Art and Photography
- Robotics
- Music Studio Productions
- Participated in CDF Freedom Schools Youth Science Day at The Science Museum of MN





K-4 Scholars will engage with Group Awareness and Exploration Activities on the 16 Career Clusters in the National Career Clusters Framework, identify different jobs and careers in their neighborhoods and families, read stories about jobs, meet role models who share information, and explore skills and knowledge of various jobs and careers through the College Ready, Career Ready Opportunities Fair. Lessons are aligned with ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success, ELA Common Core

## **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-5) PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS**

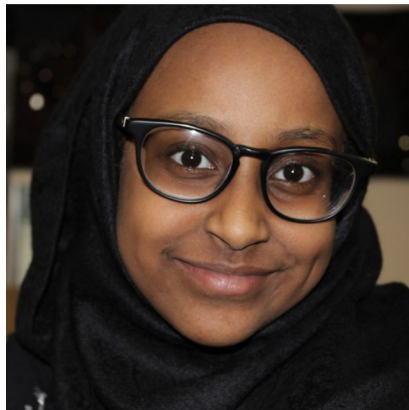
### **COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS**

# Middle School (5-8) Programming Highlights

## College and Career Readiness

### College and Career Exploration Field Trips

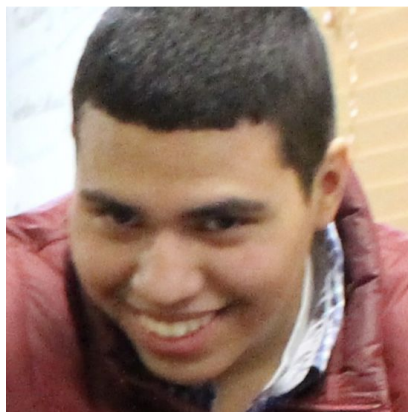
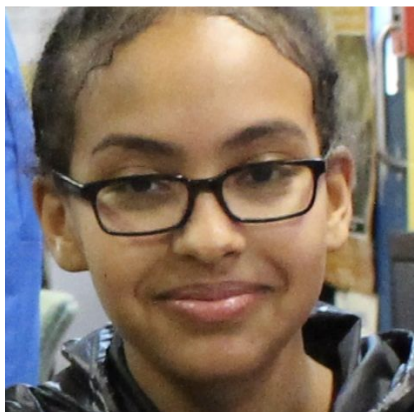
- Como Park Zoo and Conservatory exploring Zookeeper careers.
- Illusion Theater to explore careers in Acting and Theater.
- Metropolitan Council to explore careers in Facilities Administration, Bus Mechanic and Transit Police
- MRP Radio Station to explore careers in Communication and Information Systems.
- Ramsey Fort Snelling State Park to explore careers in Natural Resources.
- Minnesota State Capitol to explore careers in public service, human services and politics
- Foshay Hotel and Museum to explore Hospitality careers County Courthouse to explore Human Services careers in law enforcement.
- Air National Guard to explore government careers in National Security
- Each middle class completed a research project on a college or university of their choice and presented their project during one of the Parent Empowerment Workshops – College Ready, Career Ready Opportunities Fair.





# Middle School Programming Highlights

## Workforce Development Readiness



- **We support 5-10th grade scholars workforce development through social-emotional learning and teaching and modeling Employability Skills**
- **Paid and Unpaid Internships: CDF Freedom Schools Junior Servant Leader Internship I and City of Saint Paul Right Track**
- **Student Panel from Historic Black Colleges and Universities shared experiences living on Campus and how to be a successful student**
- **Culturally diverse community leaders presented their career and work experiences**
- **Allow Opportunities for Youth Voice and Leadership**
- **Collaboration with the Office of College and Career Readiness**

## Health and Fitness Minnesota CHILL Foundation

- Studies show that healthy, active youth learn better, perform better academically, and experience fewer behavioral problems
- Programming is aligned with the National After School Alliance Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Standards
- Families are also engaged in fun, intentional physical activity and play during our Annual Health and Wellness Resources Fair
- Healthy habits are essential to disease prevention and wellness
- Physical movement is an integral part of the day, starting with Harambee, Recess, and Afternoon Activities





## Some Field Trip Photos



# More Field Trip Photo





# 2014-2019 Results

% of Outcome Results (changes in CDF Category)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Measured by
<b>Self-empowerment</b>	Scholars= 74%  Parents = 96%	Scholars= 75%  Parents= 97%	Scholars = 89%  Parents= 99%	Scholars = 89%  Parents= 99%	Scholars = 100%  Parents= 100%	<u>Scholars = 92%</u>  <u>Parents = 100%</u>	Scholar & Parent Surveys
<b>Academic engagement</b>	Scholars = 88%  Parents = 96%	Scholars= 81%  Parents= 97%	Scholars= 89%  Parents= 99%	Scholars= 89%  Parents= 99%	Scholars= 100%  Parents= 99%	Scholars = 86%  Parents = 99%	Scholar and Parent Surveys
<b>Self-identity, cultural pride and respect for diversity and inclusion</b>	Scholars = 74%  Parents= 98%	Scholars= 75%  Parents= 97%	Scholars= 89%  Parents= 99%	Scholars= 89%  Lost Parent Surveys when moving	Scholars= 100%  Parents= 100%	Scholars = 92%  Parents = 99%	Scholar and Parent Surveys
<b>Prevention summer learning loss as measured by the Basic Reading Inventory (BRI) (maintained/improved reading) with average gain 12-18 months in just 6 weeks</b>	96%	80%	80%	80%	84%	86%	Pre- and Post-Test
<b>Completers</b>	99%	85%	80%	80%	98%	98%	SPPS REA
<b># Parents served</b>	150	244	180	163	182	242	Attendance
<b>Parents feeling engaged in education at CDF FS</b>	83%	100%	75%	80%	99%	100%	Parent Surveys and Attendance

## THANK YOU!

Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood, Saint Paul Children's Collaborative, Unity Unitarian Church, CDF-MN, Keene Sense of Rhythm, SPPS Community Ed./Flipside, SPPS Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships, MN CHILL Foundation, St. Paul Black Ministerial Alliance, and Parents and Community Volunteers for Enabling SPPS CDF FS to Make a Difference

It takes a big  
**heart**  
to help shape  
**little**  
**minds.**

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