



A New Face at NLCP

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Six months ago, Dr. Robert Karpinski was hired to be the principal of North Lawndale College Prep; four months ago, Chicago Public Schools approved the opening of the North Lawndale College Prep-Collins campus for Fall 2007 along with a complete renovation of the Collins building; and, now, in March 2007, I have been selected to be the principal of the North Lawndale College Prep-Collins campus. My name is Evelyn Murdock and words cannot express how honored I am to become a part of the history that has been made at NLCP over the past nine years. I am even more

excited about the opportunities an additional campus will bring for the parents, community, teachers, and—most importantly—the students at NLCP. A Junior Mentor program, corporate-sponsored summer internships, parent involvement workshops, and an expanded college-prep curriculum are just the beginning of the many activities I want the students to experience as we prepare them to be global leaders. There are 57,255,000 square miles of land on the planet Earth and I believe it is our responsibility to prepare students to confidently lead every single square mile of it—because they are born to lead

and to transform this world. Therefore, their success and personal development is my only goal and I look forward to working with all of you in order to make that goal a reality!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Murdock

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Evelyn Murdock as the new principal of the NLCP-Collins campus. As you can see, she brings a lot of experience, energy and new ideas to NLCP. The regular principal's column written by Dr. Rob Karpinski will return next month.

Keeping the Peace

The peace committee was formed last fall in an effort to keep the culture of peace at NLCP. NLCP students have had difficulties keeping as many consecutive days of peace as they have in past years. The committee examined possible causes for the absence of peace at NLCP. Last fall they visited Kennedy and New Millennium High Schools to discuss the issue with students who were experiencing fighting in their schools. The committee recently expanded and came up with several new ideas to keep the



peace. The peace committee is led by seniors Curtis Barfield, James Fields, Levandis Gardner and Tashyana Wells, juniors Christina Castro, Skyler Dees,

Tierra Jackson and Daphne Riley, sophomore Krystal Murray and freshmen Aaron Bankhead, Lazavier Holden and Brandon Johnson. The committee is in the process of writing a grant to help instill the culture of peace at NLCP. They presented at an all-school assembly to address the importance of peace at NLCP and advertised incentives if students keep the peace. They hosted students from Kennedy, Al Raby and Young Women's Leadership High Schools to discuss how they can create a culture of peace at their schools.

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Important Dates & Upcoming Events:

- Parent Leadership & Planning Meeting March 20th 6pm
- THINK Day March 21st (12:30 dismissal)
- Freshman Phoenix Rising Meetings March 24th & 27th
- Honors Assembly March 29th 8am
- Spring Break April 2nd-6th
- No School April 13th
- Saturday School begins April 14th
- Progress Report Pick-up April 18th

THINK Committee Making History

North Lawndale College Prep is pleased to announce the third T.H.I.N.K. Day of this academic school year, which will take place on Wednesday, March 21st.

As in the past, T.H.I.N.K. Day is a day that allows students of North Lawndale College Prep to be educated about issues regarding sexual health by many of Chicagoland's professional providers. The day begins with an all-school morning assembly, which is followed by small group workshops.

This T.H.I.N.K. Day will revolve around the theme of storytelling and workshops will be tailored to this theme. In addition to

small group workshops, there will be a student-led Health Fair in the school gymnasium from 9am to noon, organized by Valonda Roberts, class of '07, with assistance from the T.H.I.N.K. Student Committee.

One more exciting element of this T.H.I.N.K. Day will be the launch of a mobile STI testing unit, sponsored by the Chicago HIV Risk Reduction Partnership for Youth (CHRPPY) and Connect to Protect Chicago (C2P), a project within the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine at Stroger Hospital. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will begin at 10:30am in front of the school, and HIV testing on the van will

launch promptly at 11:30am, ending at 3:00pm. After this T.H.I.N.K. Day, the testing van will be situated outside of the school every other Wednesday. **All Lawndale residents are invited to get tested, get results, and receive condoms and educational materials free of charge on the mobile van.**

For more information about T.H.I.N.K. Day, please contact Scheherazade Tillet (T.H.I.N.K. Coordinator) at Scheherazade Tillet stillet@nlcphs.org or Sooz Stahl (T.H.I.N.K. Day Consultant) at zoostahl@gmail.com.

Saturday School

The final Saturday School session for the school year will begin April 14th

Students from all grade levels are encouraged to sign up for the Saturday School Program.

Mrs. Murphy is finalizing the class offerings and will conduct registration before the end of the month.

Students should listen for announcements about registration.

Biehl's Blog

What can I do if I get stopped by the police?

This is the question I most often hear from NLCP students. All of us have had experiences either getting pulled over in cars, getting stopped by police officers while walking down the street, or even dealing with police officers at the doors to our homes. What are your rights? How can you protect those rights?

First, I always tell students that they are under no obligation to talk to police officers – whether they are under arrest, being stopped for questioning, or they are simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. Under no circumstances should you resist or become violent with a police officer, but you cannot be forced to talk to them (although you should always give them your name if they ask). Now, sometimes refusing to talk to the police may be a bad choice – it may cause the police to become suspicious that you are doing something illegal. It may give the police probable cause to arrest you. But refusing to talk to the police is not in itself illegal. So, think

carefully about what, if anything, you say to the police.

Generally, the Fourth Amendment of the US Constitution protects us against “unreasonable” searches and seizures. Often, this means that the police need a warrant before they can search you, your belongings, or your home. There are, however, several exceptions to the warrant requirement. The police do not need a warrant when you give them consent to search. If, for example, the police ask if you would empty your pockets, and you do so, you have consented to the search. Or, if the police ask whether they can come in and look around your home, and you step aside so that they can enter the door, you have consented to the search. A good rule is to always tell the police that you do not consent to their search (even if they search you anyway, you have protected your rights).

The police also do not need a warrant to conduct a “stop and frisk” if they reasonably believe that you may be carrying a weapon. The police do not need a warrant if they are in hot pursuit of a criminal and

that criminal runs into your home. The police do not need a warrant to search you if they are in the process of placing you under arrest. The police do not need a warrant if an object connected with a crime is in plain view (for example, they see a marijuana cigarette on the seat next to you in your car).

In NLCP's main office there are postcards entitled “What To Do If You're Stopped By the Police.” These cards are published by the American Civil Liberties Union and contain more detailed information about your rights. Stop by and pick one up the next time you are at NLCP!

This is the third in a series of articles written by Sarah Biehl, the lawyer who runs NLCP's Legal Clinic. Ms. Biehl is a staff attorney at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago who is available to help students and their families with civil legal issues. Ms. Biehl cannot help with criminal cases. All of Ms. Biehl's services are free. Parents can reach Ms. Biehl at (773) 542-1490, extension 177, or at sbiehl@lafchicago.org.

Phoenix Rising

Class of 2010

It's time to start planning for the Phoenix Rising Summer Program! All freshmen are eligible to participate in the program, however summer school does take priority. All interested freshmen and their parents/guardians must attend a mandatory meeting on Saturday, March 24th at 10am or Tuesday, March 27th at 3:30pm (immediately after school). See the enclosed letter for more information.

Class of 2009

All eligible students should continue to work on their Phoenix Rising applications. All applications are due to Ms. Kuhn by Friday, March 30th (before spring break). Ms. Kuhn will contact parents/guardians in

April and May to make travel arrangements and discuss final details.

Class of 2008

Eligible students that are applying to college/academic programs must complete applications by Friday, March 30th (before spring break). Students that are applying for internships will continue to work with Ms. Kuhn and Ms. Zuckswerth in order to make arrangements.

Feel free to contact Ms. Kuhn if you have any questions. She can be reached by phone at (773) 542-1490 extension 173 or by email at lkuhn@nlcphs.org. Her office is located in room 112.



"Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of the sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living."

—Miriam Beard

Important Reminders for the Class of 2007

The class of 2007 is cordially invited to three fun events!

The Senior Luncheon will take place on the Spirit of Chicago cruise ship on Wednesday, April 25th. The cost is \$40 per person. Payment is due to Mr. Kelly by March 23rd (the last day to buy tickets).

Prom will be held on Friday, May 25th. The cost is \$80 per person. Payment is due to Mr. Kelly by April 27th.

Graduation is Saturday, June 9th. The \$100 fee includes hall rental, speaker fee, cap and gown and student breakfast. The fee also applies to students graduating in

August. The \$100 fee is due to Mr. Kelly by March 30th. The graduation fee must be paid in order to buy tickets for prom.

All seniors and their parents/guardians are reminded to complete the FAFSA. This important document must be processed as soon as possible.

Student Achievements & Highlights

The Science Olympiad Team participated in the regional tournament on Saturday, March 10th. They competed against the biggest and brightest schools in the Chicagoland area. Despite fielding short-handed team, NLCP had perhaps its best year ever highlighted by a 4th place finish by Tashannia Profit, Kayla Davidson and Curtis Barfield experimental design, 6th place in technical writing by Hugo Gaspar and Tashannia in technical writing, 8th place finish in the robotics event by Hugo and Levandis Gardner, 8th place in the sounds of music event by Kayla and Curtis and 9th place in the physics lab by Kayla and Curtis. For the fifth consecutive year, NLCP was the highest ranked Chicago Public High School. Congratulations to the team for a great performance in the competition. The team was coached by Mr. Tom Cavanaugh and Mr. Sean Abernathy.

The Debate Team has had a successful season thus far. This year's debaters are

Darian Thomas, Brittany Hummons, Brandon Hummons and Lachrisha Mitchell. Darian and Brandon were awarded conference champions at a recent tournament. The next step is the city tournament which takes place March 30th and 31st. Wish them well!

Valonda Roberts has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a state-level Certificate of Excellence from the 2007 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program. She also has received a President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, which recognizes Americans who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country. Valonda earned her awards through her leadership in the THINK Program last school year.

The Soul Child Hip Hop Dance Team was awarded a fifth place finish in the state competition hosted at Illinois State

University. Congratulations to Ms. Nikki Williams and the team!

The NLCP Poetry Slam Team participated in the "Louder Than A Bomb" poetry slam the weekend of March 4th. Paris Brown was recognized for her fortitude to write and perform personally significant work. Victoria Roberts was recognized for her strong sense of theme in a piece about the tension between innocence and experience. Valonda Roberts was recognized for her dramatic intensity within each performance of a poem about a parent and child. Javon Harris was recognized for his incredible poem about the "death" of hip-hop and whether it represents the death of music (one's spirit). Thanks to Lachrisha Mitchell for her willingness to film the event. The team was mentored by Mr. Barry McRaith.

Congratulations to the boys basketball team on their second place finish in the class A state tournament!

We Need Your Support: Say “No” to HB 466

North Lawndale College Prep needs your help. The Illinois state legislature is currently considering a bill (called HB 466) that would prevent charter schools like us from opening any more campuses. Other students around the city would lose the opportunity to get the great college preparatory education that your child currently enjoys.

We are asking you to contact Representative Art Turner and Senator Rickey Hendon to help them understand why they should support *more* great public charter school choices. Students will be bringing home handwritten letters for you to sign. In addition to these letters, you can contact Representative Art Turner and Senator Rickey Hendon in one of three ways:

1. You can write a letter to Representative Turner and Senator Hendon. We have included a sample letter. It explains how NLCP has made such an important difference in your child’s life. You can use this letter and sign it in order to share your concerns with our lawmakers.
2. You can call our representatives. Just dial (217) 782-3944 for the Illinois General Assembly, and ask to speak to Representative Turner or Senator Hendon. Tell them you're very concerned about HB 466, and explain one or two of the reasons why our school has made such an impact on your student's life.
3. You can get on the internet and log in to <http://votervoice.net/target.asp?id=incs:12773858> and send your message.

Thank you for your support on this important issue. Help us stop HB 466 and provide more great schools like NLCP.

If you choose to write a letter, the mailing addresses and a sample letter are included for your convenience.

Representative Art Turner
9th Congressional District
3849 W. Ogden Ave.
Chicago, IL 60623

Senator Rickey Hendon
5th District
2928 W. Madison
Chicago, IL 60612

Dear Representative Art Turner/Senator Rickey Hendon:

1. I am a resident of your district and my son/daughter attends North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School (NLCP).
2. I am writing to ask you to oppose House Bill 466 that limits the opportunity for families in our district to have the education that my son/daughter has received at NLCP.
3. List 3-5 great things about NLCP. For example, explain how NLCP has prepared your son or daughter for college, made them feel safe and involved them in important programs like Phoenix Rising or Minority Men Exceeding the Norm.
4. End it by asking the legislator to please oppose House Bill 466 because there is nothing more important in our community than a great education.

Sincerely,
Your Name

Update Your Contact Information!

It is extremely important that your contact information is updated. Often times staff try to communicate with parents/guardians and find that phone numbers and addresses have changed.



NORTH LAWDALE COLLEGE PREP

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Where Excellence Prevails!

Parents and guardians are invited to attend
an HONORS ASSEMBLY

Thursday, March 29th at 8am

Students who made the honor roll during
second trimester will be recognized

**All NLCP parents and guardians are invited to attend
a parent leadership and planning meeting**

Tuesday, March 21st at 6pm

Food and drinks will be provided

Contact Mr. Brandon Lenore for further information

(773) 542-1490 x109 or blenore@nlcphs.org

Photo Gallery: Students in Springfield



Forty students and teachers braved the cold and joined a crowd of 15,000 people in Springfield to see Barack Obama announce his presidential candidacy on February 10th. After the historic announcement, the students visited New Salem and ate lunch at a lodge in Petersburg. The trip was made possible through a generous donor. Pictured left: Shauntrell Williams, Percy Carter, Louvina Davis (back), Ms. Liz Kuhn and Bennard Hall (front). Pictured right: Freshmen Jonathan Miller, Brandon Johnson, Randy Lipscomb (back), and Bennard Hall (front).