

Middle School Personal Development Program

September 2014 - January 2015

Bridges' Weekend Mentoring Program, now branded the Personal Development Program, provided bonding opportunities for students and coaches and exposed students to a variety of new skills and opportunities this past fall. Below are a few highlights from the start of the year:

Sixth Grade Highlights

- Communication Strategies: Elementary/Middle School Program Director Mr. Lindsay led a workshop on effective ways to interact with new adults in preparation for meeting their coaches.
- Orientation: Sixth grade students met their coaches, a group of eight adults they will be working with through the end of high school, for a day of fun and games at St. Paul's School.

Seventh Grade Highlights

- Arts Workshop: Arts Every Day hosted an event where students tried their hand at crafts, reviewed grades with their coaches, and discussed opportunities to pursue the arts in the Baltimore community.
- Problem Solving and Communication: At the Junior League, coaches and students engaged with a special project and then participated in a workshop designed to help students better communicate with teachers.

Eighth Grade Highlights

- Back to School Dinner: At their back to school dinner, students, parents, and coaches gathered to bond and have a discussion about academic habits.
- Financial Literacy: Junior Achievement welcomed Bridges to a workshop on financial planning and budgeting. Afterwards, students and coaches reviewed first quarter grades and set goals for the second quarter.



7th Grade Trip to Arts Every Day: Rob helps Calvin build a kinetic sculpture



6th Grade Orientation: Regina talks to Jazmin and Tariq about skills they want to develop during the Personal Development Program



8th Grade Budgeting Workshop: Kaelyn and Sydney receive guidance from Liz on how much to budget for groceries



7th Grade Teacher Communication Workshop: Bernie and Will help students plan a skit about communicating with teachers