

Laura Doherty Delivers Keynote at National DI Conference

BCP President Laura Doherty delivered a heartfelt guest keynote address at the 40th Annual National Direct Instruction Conference in July.

Doherty acknowledged that a conference that has been running for 40 years is a big deal.

"Nothing in education lasts for 40 years except for these fantastic programs that people will not give up, because they work."

The keynote highlighted BCP's successful use of Direct Instruction (DI) programs to improve student achievement and debunked many of the myths about DI.

Doherty encouraged teachers to persevere, saying that "if you do this work and you do it

well and you stick with it through lots of different challenges, your schools will experience incredible, joyful success.

The conference was hosted by the National Institute for Direct Instruction, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing continuous administrative and curricular support to schools and districts as they implement Direct Instruction (DI) programs and conducting, promoting and publicizing high-quality research on the effects of DI implementations.

View a video of Doherty's guest keynote and Zig Engelmann's opening keynote at: bitly.com/dikeynote2014



BCP President Laura Doherty Speaks at National DI Conference

Social Work Students Help BCP Students Get Laptops

Beginning this Spring, Baltimore City students in grades 3 through 5 will be required to meet new Common Core computer literacy standards and take the computer-based State assessment known as PARCC.

Students at both Wolfe Street Academy and Govans Elementary are in desperate need of additional laptops so that they can develop their computer and keyboarding skills.

In September a dedicated group of Masters level students from the Social Work Community Outreach Service (SWCOS) at the University of

Maryland School of Social Work launched a fundraising campaign to purchase 4 laptop carts for the schools.

The campaign is part of a fundraising class taught by SWCOS Assistant Director Becky Davis.

We would like to thank Anna Abbott, Becky Davis, Amanda DeStefano, Claire Rasberry, and William Renderos for supporting our students. Please consider donating at:

crowdrise.com/helpbcppurchaselaptops



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Govans
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



City Springs Student Meets First Lady Michelle Obama

City Springs student Chelsea Gilmer and Principal Rhonda Richetta met First Lady



Michelle Obama at a rally in Baltimore's War Memorial Building on November 3, 2014. Principal Richetta talks about this once-in-a-lifetime experience below:

Chelsea had an experience that she will not only remember for the rest of her life, but one that inspired her in a huge way.

We were standing right up front, and when Michelle Obama started moving through the crowd, she reached out to shake my hand and I asked her to talk to Chelsea.

She grabbed Chelsea's face in her hands and said "everything we do is for

you."

I selected Chelsea to attend because she is interested in public speaking (she is one of our top debaters) and wants to be a lawyer and a State's Attorney when she grows up.

As we were walking back to school, Chelsea looked up to the sky and said, "That was great! I am so inspired!"

We would like to thank the First Lady for taking the time to talk with Chelsea and Brooke Lierman for providing tickets to the rally.

Kevin Spacey Foundation Supports BCP

The Baltimore Curriculum Project and the Baltimore Urban Debate League were two of four local nonprofits that benefited from the *Kevin Spacey in Concert* Gala on September 29, 2014.

The evening featured Kevin Spacey singing standards from the swing area and popular classics from the Great American Song Book.

"It was a real treat to hear Kevin Spacey perform with a full Big Band," said BCP Executive Vice President Larry Schugam, who attended the event with BCP President Laura Doherty.

"We were pleasantly surprised when Jeff Goldblum joined Kevin Spacey on stage for a rendition of *Me and My Shadow*."

The Kevin Spacey Foundation (KSF) aims to train, support and mentor emerging artists in the performing arts and film.

We would like to thank Kevin Spacey and KSF Executive Director Steve Winter for supporting our work.

For more information about KSF visit: www.kevinspaceyfoundation.com.



BCP & Loyola Discover "The Cure for the Common Core"

On Wednesday, October 8, 2014 leading education experts from across the country gathered at Loyola University Maryland for BCP's 8th annual Leading Minds education

forum: *The Cure for the Common Core*.

The forum explored why teaching content knowledge is important, how to teach it, and the implications for Common Core State Standards.

Panelists included Dr. Lisa Hansel, Director of Communications, The Core Knowledge Foundation; Robert Pondiscio, Senior Fellow and Vice President for External Affairs, the Thomas B. Fordham Insti-

tute; and Dr. Marcy Stein, Professor, University of Washington Tacoma Education Program. Dr. Rachel Mazyck, President, Collegiate Directions, served as moderator.

We would like to thank our partner, Loyola University Maryland School of Education, for co-hosting the forum, as well as the following sponsors: Baltimore's Child, Chesapeake Employer's Insurance Company, Congressional Bank, Heaven 600, McGraw-Hill Education, and MECU of Baltimore.

View a video of the forum at: bitly.com/leadingminds2014



Weinberg Foundation Supports Wolfe Street Academy

Last spring The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation awarded the Baltimore Curriculum Project a two year grant of \$100,000 (\$50,000 per year) to support Wolfe Street Academy's after-school and summer programs.

Wolfe Street's after-school program is primarily funded by a generous grant of \$100,000 from The Family League of Baltimore and an \$84,000 ExpandedED 2.0 grant from The After School Corporation

(TASC).

The purpose of the Weinberg grant is to provide enrichment, academic, cultural and social supports to 25 additional and wait-listed students in the after-school program.

The expansion meets a need identified by seven years of historical data; allowing the school to serve a total of approximately 150 students in afterschool programs.

Comprehensive services and activities



such as tutoring, chess club, nutrition education, physical education, and the arts are provided in the after school program.

We would like to thank the The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and the Family League of Baltimore for providing this critical support for our students.

Baltimore Orioles Treat BCP Students to Playoff Games

We would like to thank the Baltimore Orioles for treating students from City Springs EMS to Games 1 and 2 of the American League Division (ALDS) Series and for auctioning a pair of front row, field box tickets to support the Baltimore Curriculum Project.

We would also like to thank the Orioles and Living Classrooms for treating students from Hampstead Hill Academy to the ALDS games.

This fall the OriolesREACH Knothole Gang program gave nearly 1,400 at-risk children a



chance to experience Postseason baseball.

The program pays homage to the International League Baltimore Orioles' decision in 1930 to allow kids to see games at the old Oriole Park for free.

The children were allowed in at no charge as part of a group dubbed the "Knothole Gang," created when team management relented after years of children sneaking in (or "hooking in") to the ballpark by tunneling under or climbing over the fence to watch games.

Legg Mason Supports New Teacher Coaching Program

Legg Mason has awarded BCP a grant of \$25,000 to support Hampstead Hill Academy's participation in nature programs provided by the Patterson Park Audubon Center as well as a pilot program to train BCP teachers to become teacher coaches.

Since 2002 Legg Mason has provided a matching grant that supports Patterson Park Audubon Center (PPAC) educational programming for elementary students at Hampstead Hill Academy during the school

day.

Patterson Park Audubon Center connects students with nature using the many habitats that Patterson Park provides as a classroom.

The BCP Teacher Coaching Training Program will provide seven teachers from across the BCP school network with intensive Coaching training.

Training will be provided by the National Institute for Direct Instruction, (NIFDI) on a combination of eight Saturdays and school days throughout the spring of 2015.

The program will help BCP build

a cadre of skilled coaches who can fill vacancies as BCP expands and as veteran coaches retire.

We would like to thank Legg Mason for their generous support and their commitment to improving education in Baltimore City.



Principal Hornbeck Receives Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Award

By Gerri Swan, Director of Community Outreach, Hampstead Hill Academy

Each year, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and the Baltimore City Hispanic Commission present the Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Awards to honor members of Baltimore City's Hispanic community who have made outstanding contributions toward improving the community's quality of life.

This year Hampstead Hill Academy Principal Matt Hornbeck was honored with the award. He celebrated with HHA students and parents as well as his own family at a special reception hosted by the Mayor.

Special thanks to David and Evelyn Rosario, long-time HHA parents, local business owners and active leaders in the vibrant Latino community.



A Great Day For City Springs EMS!

September 15, 2014 was a great day for City Springs! We would like to thank the following people and organizations for participating in the City Springs Community Athletic Complex Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony: The Baltimore Ravens, NFL, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Justin Tucker, Morgan Cox, Baltimore City Public Schools, Baltimore City Hall, The Baltimore Ravens Cheerleaders, Legg Mason, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, Maryland General Assem-

bly, Baltimore Ravens President Dick Cass, U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings, Rev. Jerome Stephens from the Office of Senator Ben Cardin, Baltimore City Schools CEO Gregory Thornton, Maryland State Senator Nathaniel J. McFadden, Maryland State Senator Bill Ferguson for Maryland State Senate, Maryland State Delegate Luke Clippinger for Delegate, Baltimore City Deputy Mayor Dawn Kirstaetter, Baltimore City Council President Bernard C. "Jack"

Young, Baltimore City Councilman Carl Stokes, City Councilman James Kraft, Legg Mason Director Auburn Bell, Baltimore Curriculum Project President Laura Doherty, Baltimore Curriculum Project Board Chair George Hess, City Springs EMS Principal Rhonda Richetta, LISC Senior Program Director Beverly Smith, and City Springs Teacher Donnell Spedden, (Photos below by Max Hughes)



Constellation and Living Classrooms Support HHA



Hampstead Hill Academy is proud to implement Leaders Go Places (LGP), a middle school incentive program that rewards students for scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

We are grateful for the continued support

of the Living Classrooms Foundation staff, especially Scott Raymond and Elizabeth Josowitz, and Constellation Energy. For the second year in a row, Constellation has provided a \$10,000 grant to support the program.

McGladrey Holds School Supply Drive for BCP

We would like to thank McGladrey for donating hundreds of dollars of school supplies to the BCP schools. Special thanks to Megan Kelly, Kim Griffin, and all of the employees who donated.

McGladrey supports charitable causes

through volunteer activities, fundraising and donations. They offer many options for their employees to get involved in their communities.

For more information visit: http://mcgladrey.com/content/mcgladrey/en_US/who-we-are/corporate-responsibility/community0.html.



Kyle Garrison Prepares Kids for Success On and Off the Court

In addition to working as a paraeducator at City Springs EMS and coaching the City Springs basketball team, Kyle Garrison serves as Director of the Baltimore Lil Dribblers Basketball League (LDBL).

LDBL, which was founded by Rob Moore in Wilmington, Delaware, prepares boys and girls ages 3-12 for success on and off the court. The program teaches basketball skills, science, and reading comprehension.

During a recent City Springs door-knocking event in Douglass Homes, one

of the community members praised Coach Garrison for his community involvement.

Every week last summer Coach Garrison spent time in the neighborhood teaching kids to play basketball.

We would like to thank Coach Garrison for everything he does for our students at City Springs.

For more information about the Baltimore LDBL visit:

<http://www.ldbl.us/page/show/1279950-baltimore-area>



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