

# HOWARD Scoop!

Our 6th Grade Advisory classes collected 2000 pairs of socks for donation! Great job 6th graders!



## Welcome to Ms. Tekeshia Hollis! 2023-24 Principal

I am honored and excited to serve as Principal of David T. Howard Middle School. Over the past 18 years I have worked as a mathematics and computer science teacher, instructional coach, assistant principal, and interim principal. I am also the mother of both middle and elementary students. I am a native of Georgia, specifically Decatur. I began my educational journey at Georgia Institute of Technology where I received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. I received my Master of Business Administration and Educational Specialist degrees from Georgia State University and my leadership certification from Kennesaw State University.



## STEAM @ HOWARD

All of our faculty participated in a Technology professional learning during the month of December in order to learn some amazing new resources to engage students during class!

Students have been working on Design Thinking projects over the last 3 weeks during Enrichment and they have been so creative in their ideas! One student explored the possibility of creating a device that can improve lung strength to help COVID patients recover. Another student wanted to create an app for your phone that will detect false health facts. Finally, one student wanted to create a new lunch box that will reheat your food at school! We are so proud of our innovative thinkers! Students will be learning more about Digital Citizenship in Enrichment in the coming weeks!

## HOW CAN FAMILIES BE INVOLVED?

- Volunteer for the Tardy Desk: [tinyurl.com/HowardTardy](https://tinyurl.com/HowardTardy)
- Check your child's Google Classroom and Parent Portal at least once weekly to know what is happening with their academics and attendance!
- Visit [donorschoose.org](https://donorschoose.org) to fund a project for D.T. Howard Middle School!

Shout out to Ms. Hughes' 6th grade Advisory class for leaving special notes of encouragement in 8th grade lockers as they prepared for the PSAT!



## SPOTLIGHT ON 6TH GRADE!



- Math has begun exploring expressions and equations and completed a mid-unit assessment on solving equations; next, they will be working equivalent expressions. AC math just wrapped up working on percentages and were able to explore their learning through a real-world shopping and budgeting activity, next they will learn about proportional relationships.
- In science, students recently began their Meteorology unit! Students have been exploring the layers of the atmosphere using diagrams and graphing activities as well as modeling with legos and completing a puzzle scavenger hunt. Students will soon be learning about heat transfer.
- Students have begun exploring Latin America in social studies and have wrapped up their unit on economics and Europe!
- In ELA, students have begun their Mythology unit and will be exploring Prometheus and Odysseus' Journey as well as writing argumentative essays.

## SPOTLIGHT ON 7TH GRADE!

- ELA classes are going to be reading poetry and fiction (D.H. Lawrence, Emily Dickenson, Edgar Allen Poe among others) in order to understand imagery, figurative language, and narrator's point of view. Our next book report will be due on March 8th.
- Science will be studying how life is classified by comparing historical models to modern methods of taxonomy.
- Math is finishing up with percentages. Next week, we will start working on the scale drawings unit. AC math will be taking a mid-unit quiz on functions and slope and completing the unit with Association in Data and Systems of Equations.
- In social studies this week, we will be evaluating both the war in Iraq, (Operation Desert Storm) and the War in Afghanistan. (Operation Enduring Freedom) We will understand the causes and effects of the U.S. involvement in the Middle East.



## SPOTLIGHT ON 8TH GRADE!



- January finds 8th grade ELA reading Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, studying his use of figurative language. After the test at the end of the month, we will be doing a Holocaust: Meaning & Memory Unit until Spring Break.
- Students are studying the events of the 20th Century in social studies, including WWI, the Great Depression, and WWII. Students are exploring how Georgia contributed to each of these events in history.
- Math students are learning what makes a relationship function, and how comparing multiple representations of linear functions can be used to determine which is changing at a faster rate. Students will finish the unit on understanding the volumes of a cylinder, cone, and sphere are related and how the volumes apply to real-world scenarios.

## SPOTLIGHT ON CONNECTIONS!

- Welcome to Sgt. Cain, our new JLC teacher! We are excited for her to join the Connections team!
- Students taking Spanish chose a word that would represent their theme for the year! Students explained why they chose their particular word and how it would guide their goals in the New Year! Check out their posters in the picture above!
- Our Band, Orchestra, and Chorus students have a busy semester coming up! They are preparing for Large Group Performance Ensemble, 5th grade transition, and Spring performances!
- Our Media Arts students have been doing an incredible job creating our daily announcements to keep our school in the loop!

