HERMAN J. RUSSELL WEST END ACADEMY 8TH GRADE - PROMOTIONAL CEREMONY PROGRAM FY 21-22

FLYING FIRST CLASS towards a legacy of excellence













DEMY RAM FY 21-22 ASS







ORDER OF CEREMONY

- **1. Pledge of Allegiance Fred Freeman**
- 2. Black National Anthem Emory Arnold
- 3. Welcome Allura Poss
- 4. Reflection Valedictorian & Salutatorian Cadence Gilyard & Kennedi Robinson
- 5. Introduction of Keynote Speaker London "Lyric" Willis & Justin Pointer Jr.
- 6. Keynote Speaker: Herman J. Russell Jr.
- 7. Special Awards
- 8. Early College Mrs. Stembridge
- 9. Presentation of 8th-grade Students 8th Grade Level Director & Counselors
- 10. Closing Remarks Assistant Principals Ms. Glover & Dr. Smith
- **11. Principals Address Principal Mrs. Crooms**
- 12. Recessional







RUSSELL WEST

REACH BEYOND

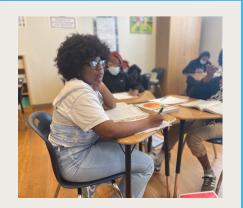
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AARNOLD JR., EMORY ARNOUX, SARIYAH ATKINS, DEASIA BARNETT, JAIDEN BEBEE, DEANTHONY BENTON, ZUHR BERRY, DERRICK BOWMAN, RAJANAI BROWN, JAYLA BROWN, TIONNA BUICE, TYRIC BUNDRAGE JR., XAVIER CADEAU, WIHTLLEY CALDWELL JR., ANDREW CARTER, ALEXIS **CARTER, JARVIS CARTER, JAWON CASEY, ROMIYAH CHAPPELL, TAVORIS CLAY, JERMOND CLAY, JIAHANNA CLEMENTS, JOMARIE CLOUD, CHANDERIA COGGINS JR., MARIO CONWELL, JAKEVIA COOK, JEFFERY COOPER, ZYMIR COTTON, VYCTOREYA CROFF, SHAWNTAY** CRUTCHFIELD, ALEXANDER **CULLINS, DORIANA DAVIS, AKELEEN DAVIS, DAVION DAVIS, JOHNAYA** DAVIS JR., PAUL "PJ" **DENNIS, DEONTAE** FARMER, MARQUIS **FINCH, KENTRELL**

FOSTER, DONTAVIA FREEMAN JR., FRED FREEMAN, LAWRENCE **GEDDIS III, WILLIE GENTRY, JEREMIAH GILL, JUSTIN GILSTRAP, ZION GILYARD, CADENCE GLASS, SHANISE GLASS, ZIPPORAH GONZALEZ, AZARIA GRIFFIN, JAKELA** HEARD, DEREON HILL JR., MATTHEW **HOLLOWAY, ANIYAH HOOD, SHANIYA HUBBARD JR., CARLIETO HUNT, SINCERE** HUNTER, JA'NYAH **IRBY, GEONTAE JAMESON, SAKARA JOHNSON, ANTHONY** JOHNSON JR., CHRISTOPHEISMITH, O'KENNO **JOHNSON, JAYDEN JONES JR., DEMARCO JORDAN, BA'JANE** KNOX, KENIYAH LEE, DEMARIOUS LEE, MAKAYLA MACK, TA'SEAN MARTIN, M'KAYLA MARTIN, TAJUAN MATTOX, TYLER MAYS, JAMES **MCCLENDON, JHAKIA MCKINNEY, CAM'RON MINES, BRYCE MITCHELL, ALTON**

MURRY, ZA'NIYA OVERTON IV, MARVIN OWENS, KIMORA PARKS, DAISHA PARROTT-SMITH, RESHAD PINKETT, DE'MARRIE PITTMAN, JAYLIN **PITTS, DAMARKUS POINTER JR., JUSTIN PONDER, ZARIA POSS, ALLURA PRESSLEY, CHRISTOPHER PRINTUP, ZYRIA RAINEY, ZYON REDWINE, KY'VON ROBINSON, ANDRE'A ROBINSON, KENNEDI** SANDERS, DARNELL SHAW, ALONNA SHELLMAN, RAYMOND **SIMMONS, JAQUAWN** SIMONS-DWYER, JOVI SOLOMON, KELLYA **SPIVEY, KRISTIAN STARGELL, SHAKAYLA STEWART, MAKAIYA TAYLOR, MARLEY TEASLEY, MADISON TEASLEY, TITYANNA** THOMAS, SAVEON WARREN, KAMERAN WATKINS, MYANA WATSON, KENTAVIOUS WHITE III, LACARIO WILLIAMS, JERMANIE WILLIAMS, JOSHUA WILLIAMSON, RASHAD

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER H. JEROME RUSSELL BIO

H. Jerome Russell is President of H. J. Russell & Company and Russell New Urban Development, LLC where his focus is on the firm's strategic direction and new business development. Over his career, he has experience with beverage distribution, consumer marketing, banking, construction and real estate for over 25 years which has led him to his current role as the lead Owner over the \$250M real estate portfolio and Chairman of the newly formed Herman J. Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurship.

After earning his B.S. in Business Administration and Management from Georgia State in 1985, Jerome headed to Chicago, where he worked for City and Suburban Distributors as Assistant to the General Manager. In 1986, Jerome returned to Atlanta where he managed City Beverage, a \$15 million beverage distribution company. There he managed a beverage distribution/logistics company and oversaw the entire local consumer marketing for the various national brands. In 1990, along with his responsibilities as President of City Beverage Company, he began to integrate himself into real estate development by serving as a Project Manager for Gibraltar Land, Inc., a H.J. Russell-owned development firm, where he oversaw multi-million dollar urban residential and retail developments. In 1995, he was named President and COO of H.J. Russell focusing on the firm's strategic direction and new business development. During this tenure, the company's earnings increased 20% every year He started Russell New Urban Development, LLC in 2003 to provide high quality in-town developments that stimulate economic growth and excite people about urban living. Recently, Jerome is focusing his energies into the opening of the Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurship (RICE). RICE is an economic mobility engine geared towards Black entrepreneurship.

Like his father, Herman J. Russell, Jerome has an entrepreneurial flair, he is involved in various business and civic pursuits. In 1997, he was named to the Board of Citizens Trust Bank. As an active board member, he was part of two (2) successful mergers taken on by Citizens Trust Bank. In 2005, he was named Chairman of the Loan Committee at Citizens Trust Bank. He currently continues to reside as Chairman of the Loan Committee and is an active board member. He also serves on the board of H. J. Russell & Company, Concessions International, Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurship (RICE), Chairman of the West End CID, Metro Atlanta YMCA, Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Historical Society and Central Atlanta Progress. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute, Atlanta Rotary, Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Tiger 21 and Board of Councilors of The Carter Center.

Jerome is a native of Atlanta. He is married to Stephanie and, together, they have four children.



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8TH GRADE ACADEMY TEACHERS:

MR. DAVIS, MR. DUNSTON, MS. K. GREEN-WINGFIELD, MS. JORDAN, MS. MALONE, MS. MANNING, MR. MEADE, COACH TROY, MS. VALDEZ, AND MR. WHITAKER

8TH-GRADE CONNECTION TEACHERS:

MS. COMBS, MS. DARKE, MS. ECHOLS, COACH JONES, COACH PARKER, MR. SCOTT, AND MS. WARD

FACULTY & STAFF:

MS. BURNS, MS. BIVINS, MR. BROUGHTON, MS. BROWN, MS. BROWNING, MS. BURNETTE, MR. FEARS, MR. G, MS. LEVERETTE, MS. LEWIS, MS. MCGHEE, MS. NORRIS, MS. PATTERSON, MR. PERRIMAN, MS. PORTER, MS. M. **ROBINSON, MS. V. ROBINSON, MS. SIMS, MS. THOMAS,** NURSE WARNICK, MS. WATKINS, MR. WHITE, MS. WILLIAMS, MR. A. WILLIAMS, AND MS. YOO

