

*Prestige Academy
1121 Thatcher Street
Wilmington, DE 19802*

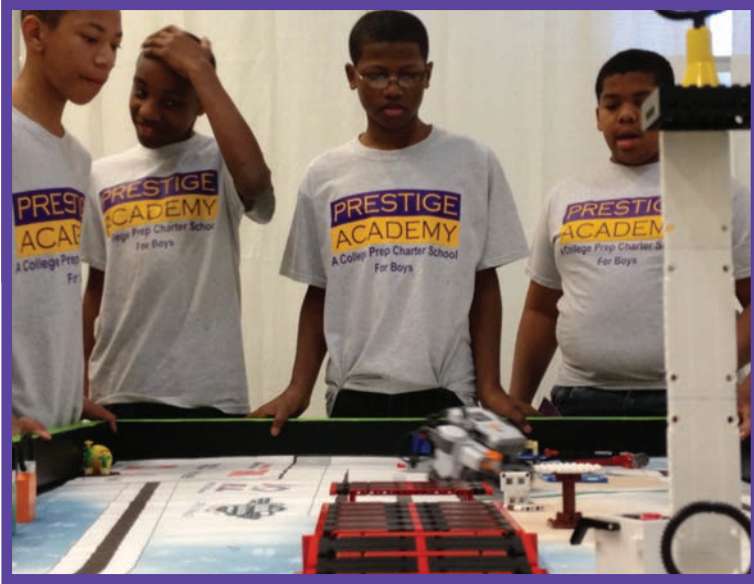
*Prestige Academy, A College Preparatory Charter Middle School for Boys
Giving Boys a Real Chance For a Real Future
Phone: (302) 762-3240 Fax: (302) 762-4782
On the web at www.prestigeacademy.org*

THE GOOD NEWS

**PRESTIGE
ACADEMY**

Spring 2013



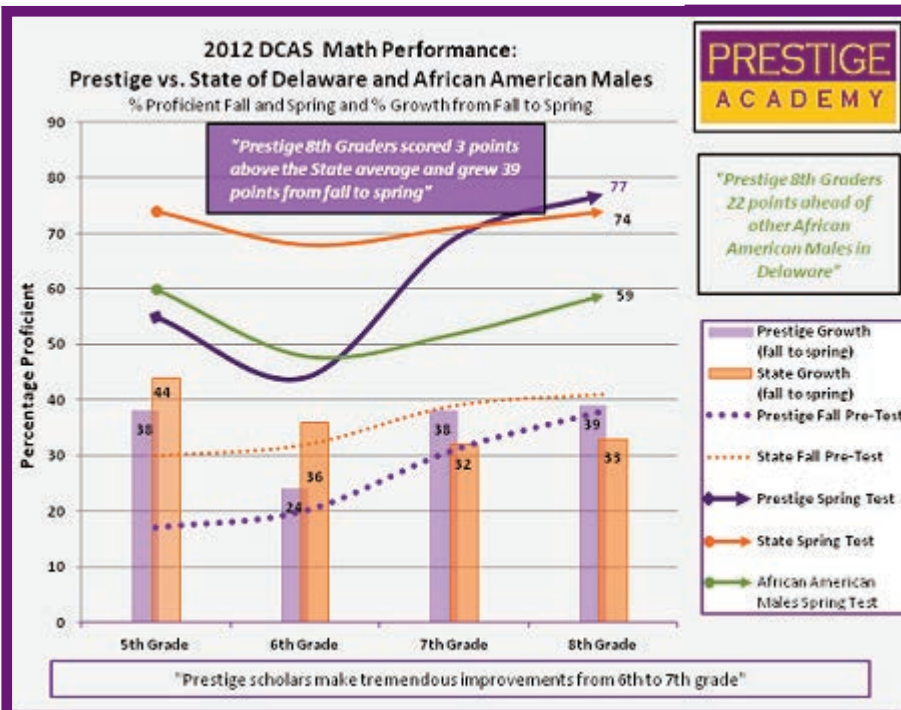


THE GO

Lego Robotics Team

Eighth graders Anthony Foster, Morgan Wright-Jones, Lamar Price, Maurice Wells and Malik Barnwell together with seventh graders Tyler Mitchell, Dymir Watson, Jared Mykoo and Eli-Jah Davis fielded our first Lego Robotics Team in the state-wide FFL Challenge. Led by Prestige teachers Emily Marsella and Lance Love and mentored by the Charter School of Wilmington team, the Prestige team MOEBulldogs made quite a good showing. With only three months to prepare, and as a rookie team, the MOEBulldogs made it through the qualifying round at Delaware State University to compete on the Tri-State level at the University of Delaware. This was an amazing and exciting feat considering their lack of experience and limited time.

The FLL Challenge has a yearly theme. This year's theme was Senior Solutions, focusing on the needs of our senior citizens and novel solutions to improve their quality of life. Through the research and presentation it came to light that many of our scholars are living in multi-generational homes. Daily, their families are not only providing for themselves but also for their grandparents. For the project portion of the competition, the boys brainstormed a robotic assistant for elderly individuals. They conducted in-depth research and used creativity and humor in their presentation to the judges. While they did not win, it was a very positive experience for our scholars. We have already begun research for the next competition and hope to go even further. Special thanks to Charter School of Wilmington students, Rocky Bisciegia, Mahesh Gouru, Eric Jackson, and Alex Szostek as well as their teacher and Robotics Team coach Cheryl Potocki.



GOOD NEWS



Panjandrum and Ebullience?

These words finally stumped two of our scholars at this year's scholastic spelling bee. On Friday, February 15, at Salesianum High School, Prestige Scholars participated in the Arthur J. Turner Jr. Scholarship Foundation Spelling Bee. Our combined scores earned us 2nd place in the school category! Two scholars, Michael Brandon Arocho and Zion Anderson, finished in the top ten. This event invites talented scholars from New Castle County to challenge their spelling skills in a heated and entertaining competition. Congratulations to our entire team. Here are the Prestige students and the words that stumped them: Majaheed Lee - quadruple, Brandon Okeyo - debacle, Elisha Wells - callus, Zion Davis, - battalion, Michael Brandon Arocho, last round - panjandrum, Zion Anderson, last round - ebullience. Michael Brandon and Zion went on to battle in the Champion's Challenge on April 19, and again had impressive showings.

Graduation: Join us at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at Mt. Pleasant High School for our second annual graduation ceremony and celebration.

Volunteer: Prestige relies on regular and dedicated volunteers to help our school run and our scholars succeed. To find out more about volunteer opportunities call or visit our web page.

Tours: We invite you to take a tour of our school and meet our scholars. Regular tours take place on Monday's at 10AM, please call to make an appointment.

Wish List

- * 20 Lap Top Computers with Mobile Cart = \$10,000
- * Help Sponsor a Scholar in High School (call for details)
- * Bridge The Gap Scholarship = \$5,000 per scholar
- * College Trip Sponsorship = \$1,500
- * 8th Grade Blazers = \$100 each

see more items online at www.prestigeacademycs.org

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Prestige Academy Spring Appeal

I want to tell you about a scholar your partnership has nurtured. Khalid was one of many bright stars among our first graduating class last June. Khalid is from a challenging neighborhood, had an incarcerated father, a very difficult relationship with his mother's boyfriend, and an underemployed – yet dedicated mother of four. Despite these challenges, he was an eager learner and a delightful young man. Immersed in the unique and rigorous academic culture of Prestige, aided

by regular assessments and individual attention, Khalid rose to the challenge, quickly becoming a leader and academically gifted student. By the 8th grade he was moving well beyond the Delaware standards for 8th graders and had developed a love for learning. In September Khalid began his high school career at Wilmington Friends School on a full scholarship and has continued his strong academic performance. Khalid says, "I'm surprised how prepared I was for Friends. It's not that far off from Prestige, but I miss the close relationships."

As you may know, Prestige is a 300 student all boys college preparatory urban charter school created to address the growing achievement gap of low-income boys. The current trends dictate a 75% high school dropout rate and only a 2% college graduation rate for these boys. With your help, we are successfully and uniquely reversing the trends by providing an academically rigorous curriculum utilizing a data-driven instructional model and creating a culture of education that enables scholars to grow and perform at or above grade level by the 8th grade. Currently, Prestige 8th graders rank among the best in the state in reading and math - despite nearly a \$3,000 per student funding gap that exists for charter schools. We are doing more with less, but we need your financial support.

*We have plans to add foreign language, increase the art and music offerings, enhance the athletic program, and add to the professional development of our teachers. I hope we can count on your partnership as we continue to transform our community – **one scholar at a time.***

For our boys,

Jack L. Perry, Ed.D., Founder and Executive Director

