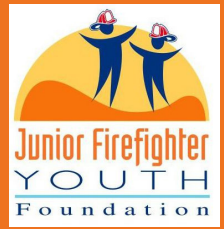


Junior Firefighter YOUTH Foundation NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 10, 2023
ISSUE #1



Anytime you see someone more successful than you are, they are doing something that you aren't.

~ Malcolm X

MONTHLY NEWS

The 2023-24 school year for the Los Angeles Unified School district will start on August 15, 2023. We are very excited to welcome our returning students back to Dorsey High School's Fire and EMS Magnet program.

We are looking forward to meeting the new students that plan to transfer in from other schools along with our incoming 9th graders. LAFD Inspector Gerald Durant, LAFD Firefighter Cliff Taitt and LACoFD Captain Burton (retired) along with Miss Akeba Jackson (Dorsey HS Magnet coordinator), are very eager to get this year's program started.

Our program will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at first period during the P.E. class. This will consist of "P.T. Tuesdays" and "Blue Thursdays". This translates to meaning the students will dress in P.T. attire for Physical Training on Tuesdays, which will include a light to moderate workout. On Thursdays, the students will dress in their Cadet uniforms to receive instruction on fire department operations, personal enrichment training, attend field trips and hear from guest speakers. The students will also be provided with an opportunity to make an oral presentation to their classmates on various agreed upon subjects. This year plans to be a great year for the Dorsey Fire and EMS Magnet program.

A WORD FROM CAPTAIN BURTON

Greetings everyone and welcome to the inaugural edition of the newsletter for the Junior Firefighter Youth Foundation (JRFFYF). I'll start from the beginning.

My name is Brent F. Burton, I recently retired from the Los Angeles County Fire Department after 37 years of service. In 2003, I founded the JRFFYF and our first director for a short while was then Deputy Chief Daryl Osby of the Los Angeles County Fire Department. Both Chief Osby and myself worked together for the L.A. County Fire Department for over 30 years. Ms. Juanita Smith was serving as a professional staff member for the LACoFD when she gave us this concept and assisted us in securing our non-profit status.

The purpose of the Foundation is to mentor and train our youth, preparing them for a productive future. Since the inception of the Foundation, we have operated youth development programs in 11 elementary schools, 2 high schools and through one community-based youth serving organization.

We have touched many lives with our Junior Fire Cadet and Future Firefighter programs. Today, we are committed to working with the students at Dorsey High school in their Fire and EMS Magnet program with our Future Firefighter Program. We provide funding, uniforms and other resources to this program to ensure the students are prepared to secure a career in public safety.

I am proud to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Junior Firefighter Youth Foundation. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and will consider supporting our organization with a donation.



Dorsey H.S. Fire and EMS Magnet Program Leadership Team

Left to right - Captain Brent Burton - Instructor, Inspector Gerald Durant - Instructor & President of the LA City Stentorians, Miss Akeba Jackson - Dorsey H.S. Magnet Coordinator, Firefighter Cliff Taitt - Instructor, Captain Robert Hawkins - LA City Stentorians Vice President.

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MORE MONTHLY NEWS

Earlier this summer, Captain Burton met with several firefighters from the L.A. area region that were very excited to learn about becoming a Junior Fire Cadet Program (JFCP) instructor. Our goal is to provide a JFCP in one or more LAUSD elementary schools this school year.

The JFCP is a 6-week after-school program that services fourth and fifth-grade students for one hour a week. The program offers the students a chance to meet with real firefighters and learn about the fire service and other life skill sessions such as civics, leadership, domestic violence prevention, nutrition, and physical fitness, and how to avoid self-destructive behavior. We can always use more caring adults to assist us with our program delivery.

If you are interested in learning how to become a part of our F.I.R.E. team (Firefighters Instilling Responsibility through Education), please contact us at info@jrffyf.org.

FORMER STUDENTS

Congratulations are in order for Nolan Smith-Robinson.

Nolan was the first student to serve as the fire chief for the Dorsey High School Fire and EMS Magnet program. This past May, Nolan received his degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta GA.

Captain Burton and his wife Toya, traveled to Atlanta to support Nolan and his family for his graduation.



Nolan and Captain Burton at Nolan's graduation party in Atlanta, Georgia



Nolan's graduation at Morehouse

HISTORICAL FACT

The African American Firefighter Museum was opened at old LAFD Fire Station #30 at 1401 Central Ave near downtown Los Angeles on December 13, 1997. It was once one of two segregated fire stations operating within the Los Angeles Fire Department from 1924-1955.



The "Colored Firefighters" (as they were called then) old Fire Station 30 when they were segregated (picture dated 1932).

Junior Firefighter Youth Foundation

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