YOUTDEVELOPMENT

Positive Relationships Positive Experiences Positive Environments





2022-2023 Annual Report



Positive Relationships Positive Experiences Positive Environments





Newport News Public Schools' commitment to Positive Youth Development is an essential strategic support for Journey 2025, the division's strategic plan to prepare students for college, career, and citizen-readiness. NNPS is unique in that it is the only school division in the state of Virginia with a dedicated positive youth development infrastructure. The division's Office of Youth Development coordinates the efforts of dedicated staff in every school while also empowering student voice at all grade levels!

Preparing students academically is a priority, yet NNPS also recognizes that educating the whole child, preparing capable, contributing, global citizens is also needed to produce champions who exhibit the Profile of a Learner who is a Leader, Emotionally Intelligent, Academically Prepared, Resilient, an Innovator, Equity Minded, and Reflective. Youth Development plays a key role in producing these traits.

The 2022-2023 academic year was a year of extarodinary new initiatives and growth for NNPS Youth Development. We're excited to share in this annual report the year in review, with gratitude to a host of staff, community partners, and most importantly, students who continue to advance efforts to promote positive experiences, relationships, and environments for EVERY child in Newport News Public Schools.

With sincere thanks.

Newport News Public Schools Youth Development Team

Inside the Report





01

YD In Action

- Mission and Vision
- Youth Development Instructure

02

By the Numbers

• Youth Development At a Glance

03

Youth Empowerment

 Empowerment and Mentoring Programs

07

Special Programming

- Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention
- · Youth Development Initiatives

13

Community Connections

- Enhanced Partnerships
- Newport News Youth Collective

18

Everybody's Business

- Advancing Employee Expertise
- Looking Ahead





YOUTE EVELOPMENT In Action

"Positive Youth Development is an intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths." - Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs.

The MISSION of NNPS Youth Development is to promote positive experiences, positive relationships, and positive environments for every Newport News Public Schools student, staff, and family.

Our VISION is that every Newport News Public Schools student feels seen, heard, valued, loved, and affirmed.

Our GOALS align with the NNPS Journey 2025 Strategic Plan and our work, by design, supports student development that maps to the NNPS Profile of a Learner.

NNPS Positive Youth Development primarily supports three Journey 2025 Strategic Goals:
Student Success and Student & Staff Wellness.



Student Success



Provide multiple opportunities for students to develop and grow through extracurricular activities.



Student & Staff Wellness



Foster self-awareness and resilience to assist in the development of a positive self-image.



Instill a growth mindset through multiple experiences.



Nourish physical, mental, and emotional health.



Implement a social and emotional learning curriculum to support student needs.



Create and maintain a safe and supportive environment in which all students and staff thrive and all voices are heard and respected.



Address inequities in discipline practices.



2022-2023 Youth Development Goals

- Increase participation in extracurricular activities by 15%.
- Increase participation in mentoring and empowerment programs by 20%.
- Implement innovative youth development programming that builds student skills and improves student wellbeing and outcomes.

NNPS Positive Youth Development also supports the following Journey 2025 Strategic Goal:





Increase the number of collaborative relationships with stakeholders that foster authentic learning and cultural experiences.



Leverage the expertise of partners to create experiential learning opportunities that allow for enhanced career exploration.



Promote a one-city mindset through civic and social engagement to prosper a premier community.

2022-2023 Youth Development Goals

- Provide professional development opportunities that increase stakeholder understanding of Youth Development Theory and Practice.
- Increase collaborative relationships that create experiential learning opportunities for students.

The eight domains of the NNPS Positive Youth Development model align with the Journey 2025 Strategic Plan. Both are used, annually, to determine departmental goals, develop the division level program of work for all initiatives, and to evaluate performance on objectives.

NNPS Youth Development Model



NNPS Profile of a Learner and Positive Youth Development

	Skill Building	Youth Empowerment and Contribution	Healthy Relationships and Bonding	Safe Space	Belonging and Membership	Positive Norms, Expectations, and Perceptions	Access to Services	Equity
	Develop soft and life skills through skill building skill building activities within individual, peer, and community settings.	Create opportunities for students to lead, serve, and to be involved in planning and decision making.	Identify and link youth to positive adult role models, mentors, coaches, teachers, health care providers and community leaders.	Create safe spaces that are tailored to the needs of youth, including physical infrastructure, social, and emotional safety.	Foster activities where people feel included regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ability, or other factors.	Have clear and consistent norms and expectations about health, relationships, and forms of engagement that provide youth with an increasing amount of responsibility and independence.	Make information available to youth and families, connecting and integrating school-based, division, and community-based services so there is a continuum of care and support at a community level.	Provide the right amount and type of resources that each individual needs to achieve his or her highest potential.
Leaders	1	1	1		1	1		1
Emotionally Intelligent	1	1	1	1	1	1	✓	1
Academically Prepared		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Resilient	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Innovators	1	1		1				
Equity Minded	1	✓	1		1			1
Reflective	1	1	1				1	1

To accomplish division-wide efficacy of Positive Youth Development practices and fidelity of program implementation, all school and central office staff should have an understanding of the 8 domains of the NNPS Youth Model and endeavor to ensure that school-based and division systems, practices, and programming support efforts to ensure that all NNPS students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

YOUT DEVELOPMENT In Action

During 2022-23, NNPS' unique youth development infrastructure included central office staff members and dedicated school-based staff members who implemented and coordinated youth development initiatives throughout the year in their schools, in addition to fulfilling their primary duties as classroom teachers, school counselors, and many other roles. This team contributed greatly to each school's ability to achieve and maintain positive school culture and to create a sense of belonging and membership for all students. Our schools also benefited daily from a growing number of volunteers who invested their time and talents to promote student well-being.



2022-2023 Youth Development Team



NNPS Youth Development assesses each year where to focus its priorities. The priorities are determined based upon student outcomes, program performance data, student and staff surveys, school-based quarterly reports and annual School Inventories (self-reflections) which identify the greatest areas of need. For the 2022-2023 year, the team focused on 3 "Big Ideas."



By the Numbers



2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- 8,139 secondary students participated in at least one club, sport, or activity.
 - Middle School 60%
 - o High School 62%
- 4,847 (41%) elementary students participated in clubs and activities.
- The percentage of secondary students involved in extracurricular activities increased 21% over the previous year.
- 96% of elementary and 100% of secondary schools offered a club, sport, or activity.
- Nearly 300 unique club offerings were available in NNPS schools.

Behind every number is a child with a story that makes him or her more or less likely to come to school, to behave, and to learn. Youth empowerment and contribution, made possible though healthy relationships and bonding with nurturing adults, builds skills, fosters a sense of beloning and membership, positive identify, and overall student well-being.



DATA MANAGEMENT

- Every student's participation in clubs, sports, and activities is entered as a part of their student record in the Student Information System.
- Student outcomes, including behavior, attendance, and academics are monitored by program to inform practice.
- School-based reports are used to provide quantitative and qualitative feedback on program performance.

BY THE NUMBERS DIVISION LEVEL PROGRAMMING

ELEMENTARY

Blossom Girls' Empowerment Program (536 students) RISE! Male Mentoring Program (214 students) - grades 3-12

SECONDARY

Bloom Middle School Girls Empowerment Program (273) Flourish High School Girls' Empowerment Program (247) RISE! Male Mentoring Program (335)

SPECIALIZED

Emerging Leader Institute (94) Level Up! Elementary (29) My Brother's Keeper/My Sister's Keeper (293)

92% increase in students participating in Mentoring and Empowerment Programs

21% increase
in secondary students
participating in
extracurricular
activities

436% increase in Blossom Girls' Empowerment Program membership

















More Than A Princess Conference



In My Feelings Workshop



Blossom Day Art Party

The Bloom Middle School Girls' Empowerment Program was founded in 2018 to build essential skills in girls to help them see themselves as global leaders. The program emphasizes positive identity, healthy relationships, and skill building through extraordinary opportunities. Fueled by strategic partnerships with strong female leaders ("Bloom Nation"), Bloom has created experiential learning opportunities that have introduced members to diverse career opportunities. Bloom saw it's inaugural members graduate with the class of 2023! Bloom chapters exist in every NNPS middle school and also in Jinja, Uganda. School-based Empowerment Coaches lead the chapters in each school, implementing the curriculum, sponsoring service projects, and extraordinary opportunities that reinforce program goals.

In 2019, the Flourish program was established as a high school version of Bloom to support the continuation of positive development of participants as leaders. Select 11th and 12th grade Flourish members serve as coaches to their younger peers and are expected to lead the work of their chapters. Like Bloom, Flourish is inclusive and open to all NNPS students.

The fastest growing program is Blossom, the elementary version of Bloom which had a record 536 members in the 2022-2023 school year in 15 schools, which is a more than 400% increase in student participation over the previous year! Because of the growth in all three programs, additional adult volunteers are needed to support school based staff for the 2023-2024 school year. Additionally, given the February 2023 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's report that teen girls in the US are confronting the highest level of sexual violence, sadness, and hopelessness than have ever been reported, these girls' empowerment programs will intensify their focus on the Bloom Creed tenet, "I will take care of myself and others emotionally, socially, and physically."



Bloom Chapter, Uganda



Conference Empowerment Rally



2022-23 Bloom, Blossom, Flourish Empowerment Programming

- 1,056 students participated in Bloom, Blossom, and Flourish programming.
- School-based chapters held empowerment sessions monthly to experience the program curriculum. School-based groups sponsored service projects, including many benefiting their younger peers or their local community.
- Nearly 600 Bloom, Blossom, and Flourish members attended the 2-day annual "More Than A Princess" Conference in November 2022, which included an empowerment rally, panel discussion, and 15 breakout sessions.
- Bloom members participated in the Dr. Christine Mann National Society of Black Engineers Jr. Chapter, meeting monthly with area scientists from NASA, Hampton University, and other community organizations.
- More than 100 Blossom members attended a performance of Mufaro's Daughter at the Hampton University Little Theater.
- Nearly 100 Bloom members watched the movie "Wonder" at the Movie Tavern in Williamsburg and reflected on the costs of bullying and negative relationships.
- Nearly 700 Bloom, Blossom, and Flourish members attended a performance of the Alvin Ailey Dance Ensemble at the Ferguson Center at Christopher Newport University.





Thanksgiving Boxes for Familiesl

Alvin Ailey at The Ferguson Center





RISE! Male Empowerment Conference



Jurassic Quest, Hampton Roads Convention Center



Warwick High School Football Players Mentoring Riverside Elementary RISE!



The RISE! Male Empowerment Program entered its 3rd year as a mentoring initiative for NNPS students. The 3-12 initiative aims to connect youth with nurturing adults in schools and the community who work with youth to build skills, positive identity, and a sense of belonging and membership. Like Blossom, elementary RISE! is growing as many families seek out mentoring opportunities for younger students.

RISE! is, also, coordinated by school-based coaches and supported by external volunteers who commit to regular participation in school-based programming and field experiences.

2022-23 RISE! Male Empowerment Programming

- RISE! is an umbrella initiative. All targeted programming for NNPS male students K-12 falls under RISE! and, as such, has access to shared funding and the division level program of work and activities.
- 549 students participated in RISE! programming.
- Nearly 400 8th-12th grade students participated in the annual RISE! Male Empowerment Conference in February 2023 at Heritage High School. The conference included a panel discussion and more than 20 breakout sessions.
- Fieldtrips
 - Jurassic Quest, Hampton Roads Convention
 Center
 - o Math Mania, Play Around Family Fun Center
 - Children's Museum of Virginia
 - Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab
 - 200+ Scholars Breakfast, Hampton Roads
 Convention Center

Youth Empowerment and Contribution is a key domain of the NNPS Youth Development Model. Through focused training and experiential learning opportunities, students strengthen their leadership skills and lead important youth development initiatives. In 2022, the Emerging Leader Institute (ELI) was launched to provide 11th and 12th grade NNPS students with demonstrated leadership abilities the opportunity to experience professional development with industry leaders. Over 90 students participated in the Emerging Leader Institute and 5 ELI members served as Youth Development Interns.









2022-2023 Emerging Leader Institute Programming

- ELI members participated in monthly 3-hour professional development sessions:
 - Community and Team Building
 - College and Scholarship Workshops
 - Business and Professional Etiquette
 - Writing and Public Speaking Workshops
 - Civic Engagement and Advocacy Workshop
- VA State Capitol visit and meeting with legislators; ELI was recognized on the floors of both the VA Senate and House of Representatives.
- Virginia Commonwealth University Tour
- Escape Room Social Outing
- Hamilton, Chrysler Hall
- NASA Langley Research Center. As guests of Director Clayton Turner, ELI members met with NASA leaders and completed specialized activities.
- ELI members served as the coordinators and volunteers for NNPS Youth Development sponsored events, including conferences.



Special Programming





Skill Building Jamestown 4-H Educational Center



Sports Career Day, Washington, DC



Service Project
Peninsula Foodbank

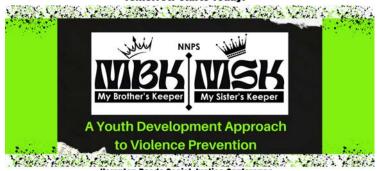
In December 2021, NNPS Youth Development partnered with Heritage High School to implement a pilot program, My Brother's Keeper (MBK), to address an increase in community and school violence. The program welcomed unconventional speakers and mentors, including previously incarcerated men, a hospital trauma manager, entrepreneurs, and representatives from local agencies, such as the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. The initial success of the program and student interest prompted the launch of a parallel program, My Sister's Keeper (MSK) in the Spring of 2022.

In June 2023, the City of Newport News awarded a Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant (GVIP) to NNPS Youth Development in the amount of \$92,703 to expand MBK/MSK into Denbigh, Menchville, Warwick, and Woodside high schools for the 2022-2023 school year. The program focused on 4 growth areas: Mental Health, Empowerment, Future Orientation, and Academics. During the year, dedicated Site Directors at each participating school coordinated participation for nearly 300 students.

A number of diverse community partners and vendors, including mental health professionals, expanded the system of support for participating students and helped fulfill an extensive program of work that included:

- A minimum of 180 minutes of monthly empowerment programming which focused on building student skills:
 - Skill Building, Jamestown 4-H Educational Ctr.
 - Trauma and Coping Strategies
 - Academic Reflection/Development of Academic Career Plans and Tutoring
 - Job Readiness Training
 - Service Learning/Service Learning Projects
- Regular mental health check ins and small groups
- Extraordinary field trips and opportunities for experiential learning
 - Norfolk State University Foootball Game
 - Hip Hop Nutcracker, Chrysler Hall
 - Sports Career Day at the Washington Wizards, Washington, DC
 - Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab
 - North Carolina A&T Tour, Greensboro, NC
- Family Night Event with a resource fair and parent workshop on the effects of trauma
- Some participants attended the 200+ Mens Scholars Breakfast
- End of Year Closing Ceremonies and/or Activities
- Active program members received over \$16,000 in stipends.

"Tomorrow Starts Today!"



The NNPS Youth Development Team, Site Directors, students, and community partners presented at the Hampton Roads Social Justice Conference at Chrstopher Newport University. The program was featured on the front page of the Daily Press and Virginian Pilot. A key factor of the program's success was the number of community partners who helped to fulfill the Program of Work. Qualitative feedback from program participants was shared, including results from a participant survey. The City of Newport News has awarded NNPS Youth Development \$158,750 for FY24, an increase of 71% over the previous year's funding.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

- Abu Unity Foundation
- · All Smilez Clothing
- Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab
- Children's Hospital of the King's Daughter, Trauma Services
- Christopher Newport University Center for Crime, Equity, and Justice Research and Policy
- Give Back to the Block
- Gun Violence Intervention & Prevention Outreach
- Denbigh High School
- H/NN Community Services Board
- Heritage High School
- Hummingbird Counseling Services for Women
- Ketchmore Kids

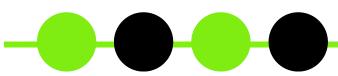
- Let Our Voices Empower
- LJS Enterprises (Sean Slaughter)
- Menchville High School
- Newport News Department of Human Services, Youth Services
- Newport News Police Department, Community & Youth Outreach
- Newport News Public Schools, Career and Technical Education
- Newport News Public Schools Student Advancement
- · Parents Against Bullying
- Paul Taylor, S.A.N.I.T.Y
- · Quality of Life Counseling Center, LLC
- The Black Elephant Alliance
- Violence Intervention & Prevention
- Warwick High School
- Woodside High School
- Youth Volunteer Corps Hampton Roads

The state of the s	
Scale 1= Strongly Disagree , 5 = Strongly Agree "Since participating in MBK/MSK, I feel that my attitude and	
mindset, in general, are more positive."	3.93
"Since participating in MBK/MSK, I feel that my self-image	3.97
(how I think of myself) has improved."	
"Since participating in MBK/MSK, I have more self-control."	3.84
"Since participating in MBK/MSK, my behavior has improved."	3.88
"Since participating in MBK/MSK, my confidence has improved."	4.03
"Since participating in MBK/MSK, my grades have improved."	3.53
"I feel that more students would benefit from participating in	4.30
MBK/MSK."	4.30

What students said about MBK/MSK

What did you like most about MBK/MSK?

The opportunity to meet more people.	64.47%
Being able to connect with positive adults.	69.74%
The relationship with my Site Director!	39.47%
What I learn from the sessions.	65.79%
Feeling supported!	63.16%
The out of school activities.	59.21%
How it has helped my mindset/the way I think.	63.16%
Nothing. I can't say that I like anything about it.	5.26%



Special Programming













Shortly after the MBK/MSK program launch, in October 2022, a My Brother's Keeper parallel program, Level Up!, was piloted in 3 elementary schools: Newsome Park, Sedgefield, and Stoney Run with 29 students.

The goal of Level Up! is to engage elementary male youth in grades 3-5 in evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies that develop and strengthen skills, including de-escalation, decision making, and prosocial skills, that connect youth to caring adults and activities. The Program of Work, which focused on 2 key areas, Empowerment (Skill Building) and Mental Health/Mindset, was administered as part of the RISE! Male Empowerment program, in collaboration with internal NNPS Departments and community partners.

NNPS Youth Development staff, in collaboration with the Newport News Police Department and community partner, Carlton Ashby, led monthly empowerment sessions at each school which focused on multiple topics, including positive identity, accountability, trauma and support systems, reacting vs. responding, and coping strategies. Level Up! included monthly Fun Friday events during which NNPD Officers and their Community and Youth Outreach Department visited the cafeteria to build relationships with all In addition to monthly empowerment students. sessions, Level Up! program members participated in all RISE! field experiences. The program culminated with a closing ceremony which included an etiquette lesson and student speeches. Level Up! participants had marked improvement in behavior and attitude.







Closing Ceremony

Youth Development Initiatives









In addition to specialized programming, NNPS Youth Development coordinates a number of initiatives that are designed to fulfill the youth development model and promote positive school culture. Many initiatives are presented annually, are student-led, and are supported by local community partners.

NNPS Youth Development believes that the best bullying prevention strategy is one that is student-led and which intentionally and proactively reinforces positive behavior and relationships among students and staff. STAND is the division-wide campaign to discourage bullying and harassing behavior and to promote positive school culture. STAND activities are designed to create a sense of belonging for all students, as well as spaces that are emotionally, socially, and physically safe for every student.

2022-2023 STAND Programming

- Annual STAND Month recognition
 - Division-wide recognition of World Bullying Prevention Day
 - Daily theme days for all schools to conduct activities that support STAND principles
 - STAND Night at Todd Stadium event to raise awareness and provide an opportunity for student athletes to stand against bullying
- High school students participated in the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities annual Project Inclusion Diversity Dialogue Day.
- Operation Kindness Week, a division-wide event, encouraged all schools to conduct activities that promote kindness and inclusion.
- Celebrate Me! Week, a recognition of cultural heritage, promoted a sense of belonging for students and staff.
- Students and staff from each high school were invited to compete in the Kickin' It to Violence Annual Kickball Tournament in recognition of National Youth Violence Prevention Week.
- Student-led Bullying Prevention training, paired high school student trainers with middle school student leaders who had been selected to serve as STAND Ambassadors in their schools.
- The Annual STAND Award recognized two elementary, one middle, and one high school for their demonstrated commitment to STAND principles.

SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.



2022-2023 STAND Award Honorees

<u>Elementary</u>
Dutrow Elementary School
Palmer Elementary School

Middle
Crittenden Middle School

<u>High</u> Denbigh High School



Heritage HS Student Leaders
Present Bullying Prevention Training
Booker T. Washington Middle School



Celebrate Me! Denbigh High School Staff







Annual Kickin' It To Violence
Kickball Tournament

SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.

Each year, NNPS Youth Development hosts two special recognition events, the Secondary and Elementary STAR Awards to celebrate the extraordinary work and contributions that students, Youth Development Leads, Activities Directors, club advisors and others make to promote positive culture in their schools and communities.

The Secondary STAR Awards recognizes individual student organizations who have been selected by their schools as making significant contributions to the school community. The Elementary STAR Awards showcases the school community's youth development work. Both events are completely led by student presenters. The ceremonies, which welcome hundreds of students, staff, and families, also provide a showcase for student talent.

Secondary STAR Awards Marriott City Center





Elementary STAR Awards
Heritage High School









Community Partnerships







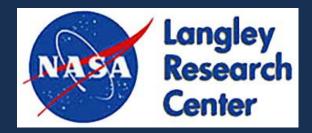




NNPS Youth Development intentionally pursues and welcomes collaborative relationships that increase student access to experiential learning opportunities. Every day, community partners, including non-profit and faith-based organizations, businesses, government agencies and caring citizens contribute to positive youth development efforts in our schools. Many also leverage their expertise to provide extraordinary experiences for students at all grade levels.

2022-2023 Experiential Learning Opportunities

 The Newport News Chapter of The Links, Incorporated (Virginia) sponsors the Dr. Christine Mann Darden National Society of Black Engineers Jr. Chapter. NNPS Middle school students met monthly at the Brooks Crossing Innovation Center to learn from leaders in STEAM from various organizations to prepare for the national competition in Kansas City, Missouri.



Key leaders at the NASA Langley Research
Center partnered across departments to craft a
special visit for 60 high school students which
included specially designed simulations, a tour,
and lunch with Center Director, Clayton Turner,
scientists, and various operations leaders.





SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.HEARD.LOVED.VALUED.AFFIRMED.SEEN.







SENTARA®



Sentara Health Career Camp FOR 7th - 9th GRADERS

Sentara Health Career Camp is a no-cost program designed for students entering 7th-9th grade who have interest in science and/or health-related careers. Hands-on learning includes:

- ✓ CPR ✓ Heart/lung/stomach sounds
- Making healthy meals
- Pharmacy robotics
- How to place a simulated IV
- ✓ How to do labs, like blood sugar
- How to suture (on oranges)
- Setting casts
- Bandaging simulated wounds

At Sentara Health Career Camp, students will learn about careers like medical doctor, nurse, physical therapist, X-ray tech, and emergency service personnel. Camp Locations & Important Dates Sentara CarePlex Hospital

Camp: June 19-23, 8:30 – 2:30 pm Orientation: June 12, 5 pm Graduation: June 23, 5 pm

ntara Obici Hospital

Suffolk, VA Camp: July 10-14, 8:30 - 2:30 pm Orientation: June 29, 5 pm Graduation: July 14, 5 pm

Sentara RMH Medical Center

Harrisonburg, VA Camp: July 10-14, 8:30 - 2:30 pm Graduation: July 14, 5 pm

SENTARA"

• The University of Virginia Youth-Nex Center for Effective Youth Development has served as an advisor and resource for the NNPS Youth Development Team for nearly two years. The Center provided technical assistance for the design of a Positive Youth Development training module for NNPS staff. Additionally, UVA graduate students created the initial design of the Emerging Leader Institute.

• An Achievable Dream High School graduating senior, Kiara Alexander and Youth Development Program Administrator, Bridget Adams, served on a panel with national researchers and practioners at the 2-Day Youth-Nex Conference, "Pass the Mic:" Amplifyig Student Voice."

• For the second year, Sentara Health partnered with NNPS Youth Development to offer a free week-long Health Career camp for middle school students at the Sentara Careplex in Hampton. Students explored various departments and learned about anatomy, nutrition, and how to prevent health conditions, such as stroke.



Participants learned about the parts of the brain and what happens before and during a stroke.



2022-2023 Newport News Collective

- Alternatives, Inc.
- Boys and Girls' Club of the VA Peninsula
- Catholic Charities
- C. Waldo Scott Center for H.O.P.E.
- Newport News Department of Human Services
- Newport News Parks and Recreation
- Newport News Police Department, Community & Youth Outreach
- Newport News Public Schools Extended Learning
- Newport News Public Schools Youth Development
- Youth Volunteer Corps, Hampton Roads





In 2021, NNPS Youth Development partnered with several youth-serving organizations to create the Newport News Youth Collective. The Collective collaborated to meet the needs of youth with greater efficiency by sharing resources and information and co-sponsoring initiatives to avoid duplication of work and to increase the number of extracurricular and out-of-school time activities available to Newport News youth.

Throughout the year, Collective members supported each others programming by sharing information with youth and families about opportunities and, also, partnered to create meaningful youth development experiences for Newport News youth. To provide summer learning opportunities, members of the Collective sponsored a summer camp for middle school students, Camp Connections, in the summer of 2022 and 2023. The Summer 2023 camp was held at the Mariner's Museum and Park in Newport News and featured a variety of daily experiential learning opportunities provided by Collective members, special guests, and the museum staff including:

- Online Safety Workshop, Federal Bureau of Investigations
- Financial Literacy, Bayport Credit Union
- Relationships, NNPD Domestic Violence Unit
- Daily Ice Breakers and Team Building, NNDHS
- MonArt, Alternatives, Inc.
- Mindfulness and Yoga, NN Parks and Recreation
- Service Learning, Youth Volunteer Corps HR
- Leadership, NNPS Youth Development
- Kayaking
- STEM Challenge
- Museum Tour
- Closing Ceremony and Field Trip







Committed to our Youth



HAMPTON ROADS
CHESS ASSOCIATION

Advancing Employee Expertise



Secondary School Youth Development Team



Elementary School Youth Development Team





- The Newport News Department of Juvenile Services (NNDJS) launched a Youth Justice Diversion Program ("Youth Court") to provide an opportunity for youth offenders to avoid court involvement by participating in a special court process directed by their peers. NNPS Youth Development recruited high school volunteers who served as jurors and in other capacities. Student volunteers learned about the criminal justice system and the court process, practiced public speaking, and performed a valuable service to the community.
- NNPS Youth Development partnered with the Hampton Roads Chess Association to introduce Chess Clubs at Deer Park and Newsome Park Elementary Schools. Students met weekly to learn the game and to practice for local competitions.

Youth Development is "everybody's business." All school and division staff, including, teachers, administrators, counselors, bus drivers, security officers, community partners, and families play a role in creating positive experiences, relationships, and enviornments for students in Newport News Public Schools.

NNPS Youth Development is committed to continuous improvement and growth through an increase in understanding and application of evidence-based theory and practice. During the 2022-2023 school year, the following training opportunities were afforded to NNPS staff:

- Josten's Renaissance Conference (School Culture)
- NNPS iNNovate Conference, Student Panel Discussion
- Monthly Professional Development Sessions and Labs for Youth Development Leads
- Training and Curriculum Overview for Empowerment Program Coaches
- MENTOR National Conference, Relationship Centered Schools
- University of Virginia, Youth-Nex Center for Effective Youth Development Conference, "Pass The Mic: Amplifying Student Voice"
- MENTOR VA Mentorship Training, NNPS Youth Development Leads
- Full-day Youth Development Retreat for Activities Directors, Youth Development Leads, and Student Council Association Advisors
- National Forum for Youth Investment Conference

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023-2024

Newport News Youth Development will continue to lead the important work of promoting positive experiences, relationships, and enviornments for all students during the 2023-2024 school year. To advance the work, the following actions will be added to the program of work:

- Establishment of a Youth Development Advisory Council made up of strategic partners who can assist NNPS Youth Development with achieving division goals.
- Addition of one Youth Development Specialist to the Youth Development Leadership Team.
- Expansion of My Brother's Keeper/My Sister's Keeper to two middle schools.
- Implementation of the Level Up! Elementary intervention and prevention program in 6 schools.
- Implementation of Youth Development Programming in the NNPS Early Learning Centers.
- Addition of a Mentoring Coordinator Position in each school to manage school-based mentoring initiatives and to support the rapidly growing mentoring and empowerment programs.
- Implementation of the MENTOR National Relationship Centered Schools Framework in three schools.
- Partnership with MENTOR Virginia to provide technical assistance and training for all mentors.
- Introduction of YPAR (Youth Participatory Action Research) for Emerging Leader Institute Year 2 program members.

It is with sincere appreciation that the NNPS Youth Development Team would like to thank both internal and external stakeholders who contribute daily to the success of our schools, students, and families. We look forward to continuing the work of creating schools in which all students thrive!





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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Positive Relationships Positive Experiences Positive Environments



Learn more about NNPS Youth Development at http://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/youthdevelopment/



