

HABSE UPDATE



HABSE MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: DORETHA EDGECOMB, HCPS BOARD MEMBER

Please share all the positions you've held in the district. Which was your favorite position and why?

In 1964, I began my career as a junior high school English teacher at Just Jr. High, which is now an elementary school. When the first ESEA Title I program became a national initiative, I was among the first Title I reading teachers in our district. My career has also included- Middle

School Learning Specialist and a Tutorial Teacher at Tampa Bay Technical High School. At the district level, I have served as, Coordinator of Secondary Drug Education, Title I Parent Coordinator, Coordinator of Title I In-Class Reading Program, and Supervisor of Title I Reading Program. I ended my career after 33 years as the PROUD principal of Robles Elementary School. Without a doubt, being a principal was my most challenging position, but it was one that was for me life changing and the place where I believe my staff and I had the greatest impact.

What are your greatest concerns about the achievement gap for African American students in Hillsborough County?

My greatest frustration is that despite all of the efforts, commitment, resources, and support to close the achievement gap, we have not been able to sustain the success and in too many instances, we have only been able to make significant gains in one or two schools at any given time.

What do you believe is your greatest contribution, thus far, to our school district?

What I hope people will remember about me is that I was someone who was willing to help, to listen, to be a voice, and that I was approachable and perhaps most of all that my focus was always on ensuring that ALL children had the opportunities, resources and supports to help them get the best education possible.

On a personal basis...what do you believe is your greatest personal achievement?

I hope I have made my parents proud for their great sacrifices, for the values they instilled in my sisters and me, and that I have become the adult that believes in being a service to others. My daughter, Allison, is also my pride and joy.

What is your number one advice to black teachers?

Be prepared and ready so when opportunities come your way you will be ready to seize them.

What is your number one advice to black administrators?

Show what you know, ask for help when you need it, find a mentor, and use his or her experiences, advice, and insights to help you be successful.

HABSE

Encourage Your Students to Take AP Classes....

The College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a nationwide program consisting of more than 30 college-level courses and exams offered at participating high schools. Subjects range from art to statistics. Students who earn a qualifying grade of 3 or above on an AP exam can earn college credit or advanced placement or both, depending on the college or university. Students in Florida's public secondary schools enrolled in AP courses do not have to pay to take the exams.

	A	B	C	D	F	Bonus Pts	GPA	
Student 1	28	0	0	0	0	0	4.0	Took all regular classes and made all A's.
Student 2	27	1	0	0	0	0.08	4.08	Made a B in the one honors class he took.
Student 3	27	0	1	0	0	0.16	4.09	Made a C in the one AP class he took.
Student 4	0	20	8	0	0	1.28	3.99	Made a C in 8 AP classes and a B in 20 regular classes.
Student 5	0	12	16	0	0	1.92	4.35	Made a C in 8 honors and 8 AP classes; made a B in 12 regular classes.

As you can see above, although students may not make all A's in upper level classes, the benefits towards a student's GPA is greater because of the bonus points. Additionally, upper-level courses better prepare students for college.

STUDENTS: MENTORING/TUTORING OTHER STUDENTS...

HABSE is reaching out to African American high school seniors who have earned a 3.0 grade point average or higher. There is a great need to develop stronger readers in every grade level (K-12th Grade). By tutoring in the area of reading, writing, math and/or science, you will have a direct impact on our district's top priorities which is closing the achievement gap and increasing the graduation rate. This will indeed help towards our District Vision of "Preparing Students for Life". At our annual **African American Achievers Scholarship Awards Ceremony**, recognition will be given to all of our student volunteer tutors and mentors. We look forward to your support with this program. We are extremely confident it will make a difference in your life, and in the lives of other students. To get involved, or for more information, please contact Karen Fletcher, 3rd Vice President of HABSE, at (813) 468-0268, or via email at Karen.fletcher@sdhc.k12.fl.us.



"I believe it is important that they understand that you will be with them throughout high school and beyond," said Burch.

HABSE MENTEE PROGRAM...

Emanuel Burch, AP at Gary Adult High School, is pictured above with Elijah Anderson, senior at Spoto High School (L) and Prince Farrington, student at Gary Adult (R). Burch has been their mentor for the past 2 years. They spend quality time talking about school, family, and their personal lives. Burch especially enjoys celebrating their academic accomplishments by taking them out to dinner/lunch or taking them to sporting events.



Hillsborough Alliance of Black School Educators
Will Host
**1st Annual Black History
Brain Bowl Competition**

When: March 26th (3 – 5:30PM)

Where: Seminole Heights Branch Public Library

4711 N Central Ave, Tampa, FL 33603
(813) 273-3652

Please Contact: Mary Dance –HABSE President @ 813-484-4045/
mary.dance@sdhc.k12.fl.us or

Tressa Jones -2nd Vice-President & Event Coordinator @ 813-956-4390/

