



Mary Coleman, Dazsha Brister, Algeria Jordan, Clarissa Lewis and Amesia Buckner; Back, Cynia Green, Myrie Caston and Lasaveon Holmes. (Photos: Meredith C. McGee)

Provine

to ensure every student makes it to every class.

For starters, the Academy of Business and Finance, the Academy of Health Services, and the Academy of Scientific Innovations improve teacher/pupil relationships by offering smaller classes, more one-on-one classroom instruction, and the opportunity for teachers and pupils to forge stronger bonds.

Two students: Adrionna Childress and Roger Mushi are the Academy of Health Services spokespersons. Childress said, "After high school I plan to major in Early Childhood Education at JSU." She added, "I like working with little kids."

Mushi's father, JSU Professor Richard Mushi, is a native of Tanzania, Africa. Roger was born in Peekskill, New York. Though Roger Mushi enjoys acquiring skills in the Health Care industry, he plans to major in Computer Science at Miss. State.

Wendy Warfield, the lead teacher, provides hands on and academic training to Childress and Mushi. Warfield is a former teacher at the Midtown Enrichment Center, and she discusses childcare development as a practitioner. Warfield said, "It has been a wonderful experience seeing the children explore different healthcare career options and actually being excited about their future."

Nimba Burgess, who has an Agribusiness degree from Alcorn and Laquanda Sims, a Tougaloo College Botany graduate are Scientific Innovations Academy teachers. Burgess doesn't mind getting her hands dirty teaching agricultural activities. Her best gardeners are male. She admitted she hasn't been able to peek much interest from her female students in gardening, but perhaps they will actively assist in the planning phrases of the Open Market Day which will be held on in the field off Ellis Ave. on the first Saturday in May of 2016.

Daniel Wilson, and Dámonté Morris are the two male ambassadors of the Scientific Innovations Academy. Both Wilson and Morris took a lot of pride in the garden. They even removed litter and adjusted soil near the plants. Morris is a Front Wide Receiver for Provine. He has set his sights on enrolling at Mississippi State after high school. "I am not sure what I want to major in yet," he said. Wilson appeared pleased with his new knowledge of food.

However, with a little help from the Academy Morris has his mind made up. He is going to be an Agriculture Man, and he is going to Mississippi State. He said, "I didn't know how plants die." Now Morris knows

plants need among other things: sunlight and water. Morris and Wilson attended the Freshman Academy last year. They are both in the 10th grade now. Morris said he enjoys the Academy more this year, especially going on field trips.

Burgess said, "We want students to gain knowledge

depict the learning concepts taught in the room. Algeria Jordan said, "I want to go into Banking." Then she paused and added, "I am trying to choose between banking and business."

Either way she is in the right classroom. Two of her aunts attended Mississippi State, and have inspired her to

learned the importance of developing good credit

- Clarissa Lewis, Pediatrician (135K to 175K), Mississippi State, learned to count her money and about banking

- Amesia Buckner, Army (20K to 100K), University of Southern Mississippi. She is Miss Business & Finance



Daniel Wilson, Nimba Burgess and Damonte Morris

of the Academy and if possible pursue a career in Agriculture."

Actually the field of Agriculture offers promising career opportunities. Production Development Coordinators earn an average of \$45K, while Sales and Marketing positions offer \$70K annually.

Hazel Coleman, a 27 year veteran teacher, heads the Academy of Business and Finance. "I've been in this classroom 27 years," she noted. There were 18 computers in her class. Along with teaching Principles of Banking and Personal Finance, she prepares students for the ACT test. Coleman said she teaches keyboarding today, but up until a few years ago she was teaching keyboarding on typewriters.

The Word Wall in her class included word like "Key," and "Accuracy" which

attend college there.

Myric Caston aspires to become a diesel mechanic. "Some of the men in my family are mechanics. I plan to go to Atlanta after high school." The average pay of diesel mechanics ranges from 28K to 53K which is a pretty decent income for a skilled labor position.

LaSareon Holmes writes rap lyrics and says some of his family members are local entrepreneurs. Music would be his backup plan. "I have a lot of talent," he noted. He also plans to go to Mississippi State. He admires several of his relatives: Jonathan Calvin and Malik Dear who plays football for those Bull Dawgs' and Ronald Walker who plays football for Ole Miss.

The following are the Name, Career Goal, College Pick, Comment:

- Cynia Green, Banking (16K and up), Hinds CC,

- Dazsha Brister, Business & Finance (16K and up), Mississippi State, learned how to keep track of her savings and to manage money

In the 2016-2017 school year, Provine will house JPS's first student led Credit Union sponsored by Hope Credit Union. Student bank tellers will process deposits and withdrawals during the lunch hour, and on Saturdays.

Hopefully, in the future, the private sector will launch more business programs and the Academy model will become a part of every public high school in our great state.

One of the city's seven high schools is preparing future teachers, entrepreneurs, doctors, food inspectors, computer programmers, lyricists, mechanics, bankers, and famous citizens. Well, the sky is the limit.



Survey: Majority of Consumers Susceptible to Holiday Giving Scam

Part I

With the holiday giving season approaching, a new survey from the AARP Fraud Watch Network found that 70% of consumers failed a quiz about how to stay safe from common holiday scams, and many are regularly engaging in risky behaviors which could leave them at risk of being victimized by con artists.

A report, "Beware the Grinch: Consumers At Risk of Being Scammed During the Holidays," details AARP's polling of consumers regarding the most common holiday scams, including those related to charitable giving, gift cards, package deliveries, and use of public Wi-Fi. The survey included seven questions about scams, with 70% of the survey participants answering four or fewer of the questions correctly.

"While most of us focus on family and friends during the holidays, fraudsters are zeroing in on our wallets and bank accounts," said Nancy LeaMond, Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer, AARP. "We're encouraging consumers to elevate their awareness of some emerging and popular scams, and to also share the information with their families to help keep them safe this holiday season."

Prompted by the survey results, the Fraud Watch Network has launched an education campaign, including a new web page, designed to educate the public about the top five holiday scams:

Charitable Giving? Ask and Check

Last year, Americans gave \$358 billion dollars to charity according to the National Philanthropic Trust. Government officials who regulate charities and fundraisers say that while most charities are legitimate, there are many fundraisers, especially telemarketers, who keep 85-90% of the money they raise.

AARP's survey found that 70% of the people who donated to a charity or fundraiser in the past 12 months did so without asking any questions about how that donation would be spent, and 60% made donations without verifying that the charity groups were legally authorized to raise money in their state.

About a third of consumers don't know (15%) or aren't sure (18%) that, in most states, professional fundraisers must be registered with the government and report how much they raise and how much goes to the charitable purpose. Less than one in ten (8%) could correctly name the government agency they should contact to verify the legitimacy of the charity or fundraiser (the Office of the State Secretary).

Gift Cards: Skip the Rack

Fraud experts report that thieves sometimes hit store gift card racks, secretly write down or electronically scan the numbers off the cards, then check online or call the toll-free number to see if someone has bought the cards and activated them. As soon as a card is active, the scammers drain the funds. By the time you try to use the same card, the money is long gone.

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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