

June 2017

Another Year Is In the Books!

The mission of Quest Charter Academy is to provide a diverse student body with an innovative, world-class education, rich in math, science and technology, focused on preparing students to become bold inquirers, problem solvers and ethical leaders.

Quest graduates will be skill ready for post-secondary education to meet the challenges of a competitive global workforce.



Middle School: 2612 N Bootz Ave., Peoria, IL 61604 Phone: (309) 222-8719 Fax: (309) 685-8801
High School: 2503 N. University, Peoria, IL 61604 Phone: (309) 402-0030 Fax: (309) 685-3001

www.questpeoria.org

From the Executive Director



Nicole Couri Wood, Ph.D. best!
Executive Director

As the 2016-2017 school year comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for your continued support and partnership in your student's education. As you will see from this quarter's newsletter, we have had many wonderful celebrations of achievement, and are gearing up for an incredible 2017-2018 school year with many enhancements to our educational program. A special congratulations to our 41 seniors who now join the Quest Alumni! These scholars earned more than \$2.1 million dollars in scholarship offers. We are so proud of them! We are also proud of our 82 eighth grade scholars who were promoted to high school. We wish you all the best of luck as you continue on your journey on your Quest to be the

Please take note of the balanced calendar for 2017-2018 that is included in this mailing. Our activity calendar will be updated online as well so please be sure to visit our website at questpeoria.org and sign up for Google calendar alerts so that you can always be connected to the latest activities.

As we progress in year two of our strategic plan, you will continue to see enhancements to the educational program your child participates in at Quest. Again this year, all students will be assigned their own Chromebook to use all day, every day. Our sixth graders will be a part of an exciting learning pilot with Summit Learning, made possible through a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The sixth grade students will take personalized learning to a whole new level through an innovative technology platform coupled with personalized and targeted, project-based learning with our team of teachers. We will also be launching our college and career academies for our Quest Freshman and Sophomores. Through the career academies, your student will get to experience hands on learning opportunities in the career interest of their choice.

To assist us with enhancing our program and making STEM even stronger, we have strengthened and extended partnerships with ICC, Eureka College, Bradley University, and the Ag Lab. These newly enhanced partnerships will open even more doors to our scholars. With the addition of the balanced calendar, we will also engage in two STEM camps this year. Your student will love this hands-on learning and field exploration!

We look back on this year with pride as we have made great strides forward and look to the future with even greater anticipation for what's to come! Again, we thank you for partnering with us!

I hope you all have a safe, relaxing, and fun filled summer with your families. See you on August 1st!



Dr. Nicole R. Couri Wood

Family Engagement—Quite a Year



Cheers to the 2016 – 2017 school year! It has been my pleasure getting to know everyone! This year has proven to be a very busy and eventful one. I spent the school year attempting to engage families by hosting monthly Family Learning Institutes covering topics I felt would be of interest and pertinent to our families. We've had some very fun events such as three of my most memorable—our fall Trunk or Treat, A Taste of Quest, and Black History Celebration, where we had the honor of hosting award-winning storyteller and author, Brian "Fox" Ellis. With each event I planned, it was my ultimate goal to boost and encourage our families to get involved in their student's educational journey. I also had the opportunity to do some home visits, which may have started off a bit rough, but always ended in improved understanding and relationships between our school and families. I sat-in on numerous parent meet-

ings and spent countless hours in my office with students, serving as a sounding board, interventionist, or simply providing them with a place to "cool down" so they would not get themselves into trouble. I've answered telephones, covered lunch duties and, on a many occasions, I spent time assisting teachers in their classrooms to provide support and simply lend a hand to help. All of these activities offered me the opportunity to get to know our Quest students and families. Finally, I want to congratulate the winners of the smart tv raffle—Valerie Anderson, mother of Lantez and Tylen Carpenter, and aunt of J'Chayla and J'Chantay Linwood; and Tiffany McCray, mother of Amya and Aaron, Jr.. You will recall, everyone who attended the final student led conferences for the year was entered in the drawing. As this school year comes to an end, I will be spending the summer strategizing about creative ways of bringing new ideas to Quest to continue to promote Family Engagement. I would love to hear any ideas you may have. Have a wonderful summer! I look forward to seeing you all next school year.

Kristina Divil

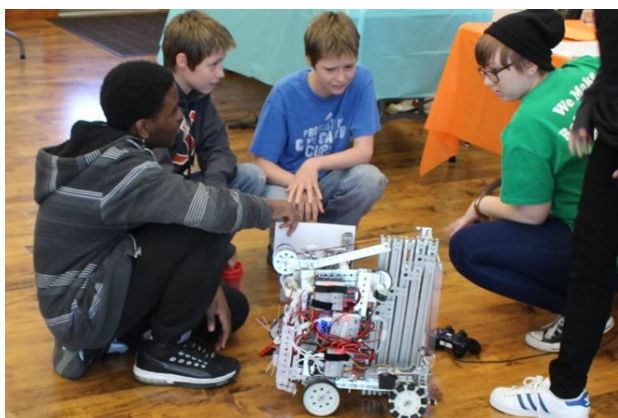
Continuing a Legacy



One of the ways Quest will remember and honor Mr. Glen Barton is through a new staff award - the Glen Barton Legacy Award - which will be awarded annually to a Quest Charter Academy staff member who has embraced Mr. Barton's vision for Quest and who embodies his passion and commitment to making that vision a reality so Peoria youth have a path to a successful future. Staff members will nominate fellow staff members and the Board Executive Committee will serve as the review committee. At a staff appreciation event in early May, the very first Glen Barton Legacy Award was presented to Quest High School social studies teacher, Mrs. Colleen Donlan. Here are just some of the comments from her several nominations: Colleen works tirelessly for her students; she cares for each student and puts in time and effort consistently to aid them all; she is the first one into school in the morning to ensure her lessons are top notch for her students; Colleen is always my go-to teacher with questions and concerns; since she started at Quest, Colleen has shown outstanding dedication to the students, parents and staff; she has such a passion for these kids and has always gone above and beyond for them; Colleen is all-around a vision of what a Quest teacher should be; she works tirelessly to make sure our kids are ready for life after graduation and will not rest until they succeed; Colleen is my role model as an educator and a role model for every student who walks through Quest's door; she is the true meaning of what Glen Barton had envisioned for Quest. We could not agree more.....CONGRATULATIONS, MRS. DONLAN!!

Robotics Season Ends on a High Note

At the beginning of our season both teams were entered into a lottery for a chance to compete in the World Championship in St. Louis. Quest team 9163—TechnaGators—was one of 11 teams chosen in the lottery to represent Illinois at this event from a pool of 168 active teams in the state. There were 128 teams from 10 different countries at the Championship. These students got to meet and share ideas with other students while competing with their robot. This year we went to a league format of game play. We had to do a bit of traveling to attend these meets. Next school year, these will all be local. They will be held in Washington, at Manual, and we'll have one here at Quest! We don't know what the game will be until September 9th, but we're going to be doing our homework



over the summer and get a better understanding of the programming language of Java. We also have been helping out with getting new FTC teams started in towns around our area. Brimfield invited us to the library to a “maker” event and to show their students what the FTC robotics program is about. There, Josh and Kaylee explain the functions of this robot to two Brimfield students. This new team will be competing with us in our league meets so we'll be on hand to help them be successful for their first year as a new rookie team. If you know of anyone with Java programming knowledge who

would like to help us out, please contact Darrin Munter, dmunter@advancedtech.com.

Throwin' It Back!



Approximately 200 people who longed to re-live or re-do their high school prom or perhaps never went to their high school prom had the opportunity to do just that at Quest's first special fundraising event – Throwback Prom – where adults of all ages gathered for prom night, with an adult twist, while helping Quest provide a rigorous, college-prep, STEM-focused curriculum for Peoria youth. Guests enjoyed fantastic food including a 10:00 p.m. nacho bar in a fun atmosphere at the Warehouse on State while dancing to the musical stylings of one of Peoria's favorite bands—JammSammich; and, of course, the crowning of the very first Throwback Prom King and Queen! Thanks in large part to a great event committee including Quest High School teachers Allison Putt and Richie Benson, as well as our King and Queen candidates (pictured l-r above) - Jeff Griffin (Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce), Roxy Baker (WWCT 99.9), JD Dalfonso (Office of Congressman Darin LaHood), Lindsey Mills (anchor, WMBD), Sherneka Cagle (Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce), Zach Oyler (Peoria City Council), Michy Maloof (Preckshot Professional Pharmacy), Amy Paul (OSF Healthcare), Adam White (Running Central) and, not pictured, Carl Cannon (ELITE Youth Outreach and Peoria Park District), this event raised more than \$25,000 for Quest! If you missed this event, you want to make sure you are there next year!

A Showcase of Quest Fine Arts

We've always known we have tremendously talented students at Quest, but the Fine Arts Showcase held on May 18 at the high school really put a spotlight on just how talented they are in the fine arts, but also on the great talent we have in our fine arts teaching staff. Middle and High School student art work was on display and then the Middle School Choir and Band, and the High School Gator Choir and Gator Band performed for guests. The finale of the evening was the "Hamilton Review" conducted by High School music teacher Mr. Adam Drake, and choreographed by Mr. Drake and the High School cheerleading coach, Ms. Breiana Wells. The "Review" was a short version of the Broadway hit American Musical about the life of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, and it was quite simply, phenomenal! We were so impressed with the "Review" that the cast was act to perform a portion of it for the Middle School students. CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Drake, Miss Stapleton (Middle School music teacher), Mr. Walraven (Middle School art teacher) and Mr. Beintum (High School art teacher) on a very successful Fine Arts Showcase!



Middle School Scoop

From the Interim Principal



Nicole Couri Wood, Ph.D.
Executive Director &
Interim Middle School
Principal

As the year comes to a close, I would like to thank our Middle School families. I have been honored to get to know each of your students better as their principal this year. I always believe that opportunities present themselves in various ways and this unique opportunity to serve in this capacity this year has been extremely rewarding for me. I look forward to continuing on the journey with your child as your Executive Director. It will be fun to watch them continue to grow and achieve even greater success. Your outstanding partnership and commitment to our joint effort to make Quest the most amazing school for our scholars is deeply appreciated. Many of you have met our new Principal, Dr. Jason Surian, and Assistant Principal, Ms. Lisa Kurtz. What a blessing it has been to have them both working with our students and teachers during the last month of school. You will hear directly from them following my column. I wish you all a wonderful and safe summer. Enjoy every minute with your families! These are the memories and the moments you will look back on for years to come and cherish forever. As always, I thank you for your continued partnership on our Quest to be the best!



Jason Surian, Ph.D.
17-18 Principal

As the new principal of Quest Middle School, it has been my sincere pleasure and honor to become a member of this dynamic school community. Working at the close of the 2017 school year has allowed me to see the excitement for learning exhibited by our students, and the care, compassion, and dedication of our building faculty. I look forward to meeting all of our students and their families. I look forward to an amazing 2017-2018 school year. Before joining the faculty of Quest Middle School, my educational experience has spanned 17 years. Most recently I served as an Assistant Professor of Education at Central College in Pella, Iowa. Prior to stepping into higher education, I served as a school principal for 10 years and was a classroom teacher for 6 years in Michigan and Arizona. Originally from the state of Michigan, I earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Grand Valley State University, and have Masters degrees in Education, Educational Administration, and Early Childhood Education. I completed my Ph.D. at Western Michigan University in the spring of 2015. My greatest desire is to provide the instructional leadership that will facilitate a school environment to provide instruction to meet the needs of all students. The educational program at Quest must

be academically challenging, engaging, and exciting to promote further exploration. We all play a role in our student's education to encourage them to become active learners in the process. It is my desire to expand opportunities for parental involvement in the school process and to develop more avenues for our students to explore their areas of interest. I look forward to meeting all of our school families in the upcoming months. I anticipate an amazing 2017-2018 school year.



Ms. Lisa Kurtz
17-18 Assistant Principal

I am so happy to have been hired to serve as the Assistant Principal next year at Quest Middle School! I am a mom and an educator, and I look forward to the challenges that educational leadership will bring and look forward to giving back to the Quest community. I have 14 years of teaching visual arts in Illinois and Iowa and one year as the RtI Coordinator at Quest. I have an extensive background in Educational Leadership. I have a BA in Art and Education from University of Iowa, a MS in Teaching, Learning and Leadership from Drake University, and finally a MA in Educational Leadership from Western Illinois University. Most importantly, I have a passion for teaching, leading, and giving back to the educational system. Some of my strengths include working with new teachers, being creative with ideas for professional development and working with data. I hope to share my enthusiasm for teaching and learning with the staff at Quest. I am excited about the opportunity for students to experience a shift in mindset as we continue to change the culture at Quest. Please stop by the school and introduce yourself. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your students!

Onward and Upward



CONGRATULATIONS to the 8th grade class of 2017 on being promoted to high school! This class of 82 students were recognized and honored at a special ceremony on May 30. Austin Worley, a graduate with honors from Quest High School's class of 2017, who has received more than \$200,000 in scholarship offers, spoke to the students about what to expect in high school, encouraging them to work hard and take their education seriously, to embrace the unique opportunity they have been given by being a student at Quest, and he reminded them that they are responsible for their future and success. We are very proud of this group of students and all they accomplished during middle school. We hope they continue to shine and make us and their families very proud.

A Global Discussion About Cyberspace



Kudos to six of our student council members who participated in the 6th Annual Global Leadership Summit at Peoria Academy on April 28. They are: Shenise Bramley (8th); Mikheala Harvey (8th); Elizabeth Barragan (7th); Natalia Valez (7th); Serenity Parkman (6th); and Jerqhari Turner (6th, pictured here) represented Quest very well. The main topic of discussion was cyberspace and how to keep ourselves informed and protected. Each of our students participated in open forum dialogues with the presenters, as well as in 2-person groups with students from other schools. None of our students were seated together for table discussions & lunch, and this was a point of personal growth for them. One of the presenters, Detective Stevie Hughes, Jr., is the proud parent of three current Quest students!

Exploring Health Careers



Six of our 8th Grade girls were able to attend the 8th Grade Health Career Expo at the new Methodist College building, where they went through nine stations highlighting different careers in the Health/Medical fields. It was an absolutely amazing opportunity to see the new Methodist College facility which is *so* impressive. Students were able to practice what it's like to hold equipment during surgeries and even examine different blood samples. They had a blast! Thank you, Methodist College for this incredible opportunity!

Middle School Partnerships in Action - U of I College of Medicine at Peoria



The final University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria's GUIDES program (Guide, Understand, Inform, Drive, Educate and Serve) for the school year was held in April with continued learning and a mock graduation from pre-pre medical school. The medical students were in different rooms and acted out different scenarios which prompted the Quest students to put into action the skills they have learned throughout the year—assessing the situation, asking questions of the “victim” to determine the best way to treat them, taking vitals, etc. As students completed each activity, the medical students debriefed with Quest students on how they did, offering feedback and guidance. We could not be more appreciative to these

medical students for the time and energy they give in engaging our students and nurturing their interest in medical careers. Two of the medical students who have been instrumental in this program for the past few years—Sabirah and Jean—recently graduated from the College of Medicine and are beginning their residencies in other states. We thank them for continuing this incredible program and wish them well as they begin this next chapter. The program will pick-up again in the fall. If your student is interested in participating, please let us know!

Middle School Partnerships in Action - Peoria Area Association of Realtors



The Peoria Area Association of Realtors once again held a poster contest at Quest Middle School in conjunction with National Fair Housing month as a way to bring awareness to the community about fair housing. Through the contest, students learn what fair housing means, how everyone has the same rights, how it's important to be fair to everyone who wants to purchase a home, how it's important to be fair by placing families in homes where they would like to live, and the importance of family diversity. PAAR judges had the difficult task of choosing the top three entries in 5th/6th grade and

7th/8th grade. CONGRATULATIONS to Kouri (6th), Clareonna (5th), Estefania (8th) and Grace (8th) (not pictured are Devyn (5th) and London (7th)) who were chosen as the winners and each received a gift card to Target. THANK YOU, PAAR, for choosing Quest Middle School for this unique learning opportunity!

Quest in the Community



Kudos to these Quest Middle School students along with Mrs. Rose and Miss Uftring, who gave back to the community by participating in Comcast Cares Day (left) and the Great American Cleanup with the Central Bluff Neighborhood Association (right).

A Visit to the Hilltop



Just before their last day of school, the 8th graders traveled to "the hilltop" to visit Bradley University. They were given a tour of the campus, explored different academic buildings, and even got to play around in the recreation center. Many of them saw a college dorm room, a lecture hall, and a college library for the very first time!!! Many students in Peoria are not offered a college visit until they are juniors or seniors in high school, so for eighth grade students to be able to visit such a prestigious school is pretty awesome! They each received a Bradley t-shirt at the end, so they were VERY happy! Thank you, Bradley!



GATORS ATHLETICS Middle School



Congratulations to Coach Readecker and her assistants, Miss Trammell and Miss West, on an amazing job this year with the boys' and girls' soccer teams. If you attended any of their matches you likely noticed the family atmosphere built by Coach Readecker and her staff with the team. They have managed to build a growing girls program that provides a foundation for beginning a girls soccer program at Quest High School. The boys team they have developed is equally impressive, finishing the with five wins and one tie.

High School Happenings

From the Principal



**Robyn S. McCracken, EdS
Principal**

We have had an amazing and successful year due to the collaborative partnership between students, staff, and parents. We must recognize our students for their perseverance, hard work, and effort displayed throughout the school year. This would not have been possible without our committed and enthusiastic faculty and staff who work tirelessly to provide a quality education for our students. Quest Charter Academy High School is a place where a sense of pride and community is evident in everything we do! This shows through in the classroom, on the football field and basketball court, at the music concert and through all our community service projects and job shadowing opportunities. We continue to put our students first and strive for continuous school improvement. As we prepare our students in College and Career Readiness, please mark your calendar for October 18-20 when students will be participating in Quest STEM Camp opportunities, community service projects, job shadowing, and college visits. Teachers and counselors are collaborating to determine core competencies that students need to be successful in higher education and the workforce. In addition, teachers will provide education interventions and enrichment as well as career planning to ensure post-secondary readiness. Enjoy the change of pace that the summer brings. Have a happy,

relaxing, and safe summer with your children. We look forward to seeing everyone upon our return for the 2017-2018 school year. Our Strategic Planning committee determined that a balanced calendar was best for our students. Next year students will begin their first day of school on August 1. The school day begins at 8:30 with their first period at 8:45. Our teachers and students are really excited about this change. Thank you for all your support this year, it has meant the world to our staff, teachers, and students, and me! We cannot do it without you. Feel free to contact us should you have any questions in preparation for the upcoming school year. My best wishes for a safe, restful, and fun-filled summer vacation.

Robyn McCracken

Recognizing Excellence...

...in Teaching



Please join us in congratulating Quest High School math teacher, MRS. SAM STENSON, on receiving the Kiwanis' Club of Peoria's annual teacher of the year award! Six area high school teachers and eight primary and middle school teachers were selected by their peers for the award which is underwritten by the family of Russell and Gordon Peters. CONGRATULATIONS, MRS. STENSON, on this well-deserved honor.

...in Coaching



For the second year in a row, head boys' head basketball coach, MICHAEL "FERGIE" JENKINS, earned the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association co-coach of the year honors for his success on the court and contributions to the game. In only its third varsity season, the varsity Gators finished the season with a record of 28-5. For the second year in a row, the Gators won the Peoria Heights Thanksgiving Tournament, Monmouth United Holiday Tournament, won an IHSA 1A Regional Championship, and made it to the Sweet 16 Sectional Championship. This team beat three state-ranked teams: #7-4A East Moline, #9-3A Morton, and #10-1A Mendon Unity, which are also program-firsts. No team in the Peoria-area has won a Regional Championship the last two years in a row, let alone making it to the Sweet 16 in their respective class. As a program, the Gators freshmen, JV, and Varsity teams were a combined 52-17, which is absolutely outstanding feat for any program to accomplish. CONGRATULATIONS, COACH JENKINS!!!

KEY CLUB



Service is the Key

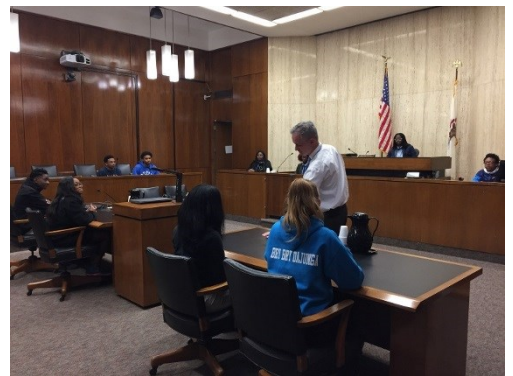
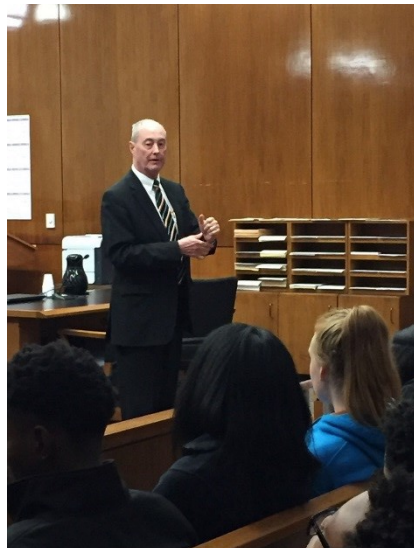


Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. My name is Anna Rosenberger and during my sophomore to senior years, I have been actively involved in Key Club and have enjoyed helping the Peoria community. During my sophomore year, I was a Key Club member; during my junior year, I served as the vice-president, and during my senior year, I was president. My favorite event was when I had the opportunity to be a delegate to attend the Illinois Eastern Iowa District Key Club Conference. At the conference, I helped elect the new district leaders, learned about other projects, met other members, and I gained experiences and built skills to be a stronger leader. As Quest's Key Club president, I planned

agendas, organized volunteer events, worked alongside board members, reviewed the membership roster, and established committees. Key Club has impacted me by improving my communication skills among Key Club members and the community, by thinking creatively for service projects, and by enhancing my time management skills. All the experiences from service events like volunteering at Special Olympics, the Peoria Riverfront Museum, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the peanut drive at Schnucks allowed me to be hands-on in making an impact to improve the lives of others. I am proud to have been a member of the Quest Key Club and I hope other students join to develop their leadership skills and gain experience working alongside the school and the community.

**Anna Rosenberger, Class of 2017
17-18 Key Club President**

Learning in Action



situations. Students had learned of the importance of an impartial jury and was able to sit in on a jury selection and see how the process worked. They were also able to hear from and ask questions of many different people about their role in the courthouse and potential future employment opportunities: Courthouse Security, Court Reporting Services, Circuit Clerk's Office, Probation and Court Services, and State's Attorney's Office.

Uniquely Eureka



In front of Quest students, staff, board members and Eureka College staff, a press conference was held to announce a unique partnership between Quest Charter Academy and Eureka College that will further enhance Quest's goal of preparing students for success in college and skilled careers by providing them with a road map for success in earning a four-year degree. Furthering the vision of Quest founder, Glen Barton, the early phase of the partnership will focus on programming for first-generation college students and those interested in teaching. Through the partnership, a pipeline program will be established to enable Quest graduates to become full-time Eureka College students. College credits earned by Quest students in high school will meet requirements for graduation at Eureka College. Eureka College will be supporting a global and diverse pool of talented students who

will endeavor to return to Quest and invest in the future of its students and Central Illinois. In addition, Quest will serve as a student teaching site for students enrolled in the education program at Eureka College. Eureka College has developed a legacy of educating teachers, placing more than 90% of its education students with a full-time job within a year of graduation. That outstanding legacy, in conjunction with Eureka's first-generation student program that includes peer mentorships and parent education, works to ensure the success of first-generation college students. In addition, college visits to Eureka will help Quest students visualize positive outcomes for their futures. Thank you, Eureka College President, Dr. Jamel Santa Cruze Wright. We could not be more excited!

A Special Visit



Heartland Festival Orchestra Music Conductor, David Commanday, brought their guest artist, renowned cellist Patrice Jackson, to Quest High School on May 18 to share her talents and story with students. Originally from St. Louis, Miss Jackson has achieved an outstanding reputation in her young career, earning rave reviews for performances ranging from classical to jazz to hip-hop. A graduate of The Juilliard School and the Yale School of Music, Jackson has performed with the Atlanta, Detroit, Dallas, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Nashville symphonies, as well as the Philadelphia Orchestra. Jackson is associate professor of strings on the faculty of the Berklee School of Music in Boston. Miss Jackson demonstrated her amazing talents for students and staff, and shared her powerful story about hard work, commitment and passion. It was an honor to have her and Maestro Commanday visit us.

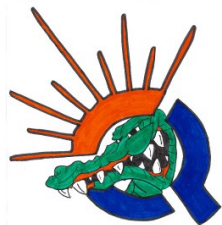
EXPLORING™ DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

A Chance to Explore



While graduating from high school is exciting, it can be very intimidating - even scary; however, Quest juniors and seniors are feeling much more confident in their futures after spending a considerable part of the 16-17 school year exploring multiple career fields! Students participated in 'EXPLORING' - an official program of Learning for Life (a Boy Scouts of America subsidiary company), that provides exciting activities & one-on-one mentorship for youth ready to discover their future. A Learning for Life Exploring Executive, generous local businesses/organizations and most importantly, Quest High School's faculty, staff and administration worked cooperatively to create hands-on experiences in over 25 career fields for upper class students including Emergency Medical Response (Advanced Medical Transport); law enforcement (Peoria Police Department); Pre-

licenSE, BSB, RN-BSN, Healthcare Administration/Management, Behavioral Healthcare and more (Methodist College); HVAC, electrician, dental assistant, pharmacy technician, massage therapy, medical coding and more (Midwest Technical Institute); nutrition, food safety/quality, animal production and plant products, natural resources/sustainable agricultural systems and more (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture). Thank you, Boy Scouts' Learning for Life for providing these awesome opportunities for our students!



GATORS ATHLETICS

High School



The girl's had a great season this year. We have two relay teams (the 4x100 and the 4x200) that went to state held at Eastern Illinois University. They did not move on to the finals, but left with their best times and a desire to return next year. The team that went to state was: Jordan Doss-Watson, Jaia Morris, Trinity McDonald, Haniah Davis and Danisha Washington. The best times for this season are:

100m : Audrey Foster – 13.23 F

200m : Haniah Davis – 27.91 F

400m : Amari Thomas – 1:11.92 F

4x100m

Jordan Doss-Watson, Jaia Morris, Trinity McDonald, Haniah Davis – 51.75 F

4x200m: Trinity McDonald, Jaia Morris, Danisha Washington, Haniah Davis – 1:50.27 F

4x400m: Jordan Doss-Watson, Madisen Jones, Nellie Mitchell, Amari Thomas – 5:26.57 F

Shot Put : Kenya Rutherford – 28'03"

Discus : J'Chantay Linwood – 57'08"

Long Jump : Amanda Rucker – 10'6.5

High Jump : Danisha Washington – 4'03"

We congratulate the entire girls' track team on the fantastic season! WAY TO GO!

Welcome to our New Athletic Director



Hello, my name, is Elmer Dickerson, I am the new Athletic Director for the Middle School *and* High School here at Quest Charter Academy. I must admit, I am excited to be afforded the opportunity to work with the families and student athletes of Quest. Becoming an Athletic Director has always been a dream of mine and, while I understand it will come with some challenges, working together as a Quest family will help us to continue the great tradition of sports that Quest has established. As a student athlete myself in both high school and at the collegiate level, I understand the commitment that one must have first in the classroom, and secondly on the field or court and those are the two things that I hope to continue to instill in each of our student athletes. One of the best parts of school athletics is the sense of community pride that athletics gives to students. We will always take the time to communicate direction, expectations, and accomplishments of our programs. It is of utmost importance that a community spirit is fostered within our program; one that not only our students, but families, school, and community alike can be proud of as well. Looking forward to getting to know and working with everyone.

Celebrating our Seniors

Congratulations to all of the members of the Class of 2017 on their achievements! We achieved our vision of 100% college acceptance to either a four year or two year college/university and 62% were accepted to a four year college/university. This class of 40 students earned more than \$2.1 million in scholarship offers! The graduation ceremony was incredibly special with an impassioned keynote address about grit given by Pastor Devereaux Hubbard. We are so proud of each of our graduates and know great things are in store for them!



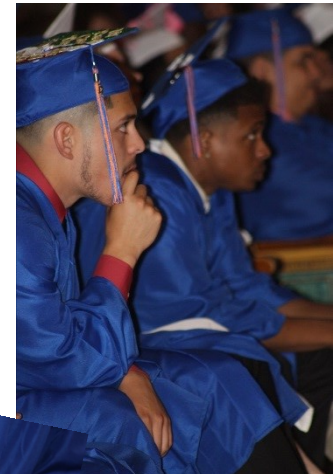
Lincoln Senior Award
Recipient—Lantez Carpenter



Sterling Merit Award recipients (l-r):
Emma Wyckoff, Austin Worley,
Lindsey Spigelmyer, Anna
Rosenberger.



Awards Day



Awarding of special tie
signifying acceptance to
a four year college/university.



Senior etiquette luncheon at the Warehouse on State



STUDENTS! Don't let the summer sizzle your brain! Stay up to speed with Lexia and Dreambox. You can login using your id and password from the 2016-2017 school year.

Lexia: www.lexiastrategies.com

Dreambox: <https://play.dreambox.com/play/login>



Mark your calendar for College for Kids 2017!

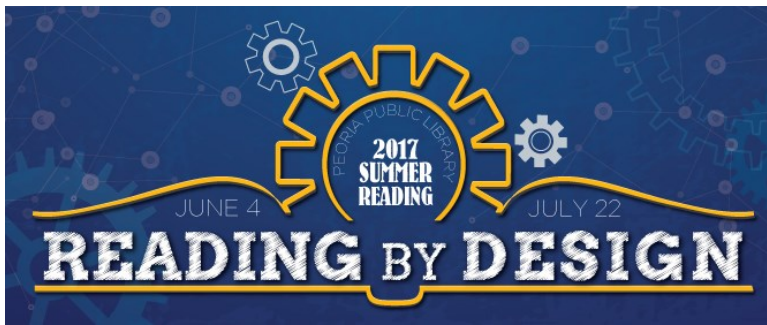
College for Kids 2017 Schedule:

Session I: June 12 - 22

Session II: July 10 - 20

<http://cce.icc.edu/youth/cfk/>

It's the Peoria Public Library Summer Reading Program!



Summer Reading is for everyone! From infants to seniors, everyone can sign up and earn weekly prizes and a Party Pass for the big Summer Reading Party! Read as a family, read with your friends, read with your team or your club. Choose the Peoria Public Library Branch you visit most often, sign your contract and then report back weekly between Sunday, June 4 and Saturday, July 22. All you have to do is read, or be read to, for three hours a week! Read anything you like, it all counts. Summer is the time to read for enjoyment, to try something new and explore the amazing worlds open to you through books. Ask library

staff for help finding your favorites or use the What To Read Next link on this website. Download e-books with your library card and PIN, use the catalog to place your favorites on hold and relax and read. Finding great books has never been easier. Every week when you sign in you will receive a reward. Then when you have read six of seven weeks you will receive your Party Pass to the big Summer Reading Party on Tuesday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m. at Peoria Riverfront Museum and Caterpillar Visitor Center.



Mark Your Calendar:

- July 31 - advisory meetings (watch for information on your appointment)
- August 1 - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

PEORIA
CHARTER SCHOOL
INITIATIVE

