



# Monday Morning Memos

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

Weekly Newsletter of:

**Nataki Talibah**  
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### KEEP IN MIND:

**Darvl Dickson Philanthropic**  
**All-School Project Kick-Off**  
Monday, September 26, 2011

**8th Grade Night**  
Tuesday, September 27, 2011  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Inside the Schoolhouse**  
**Open House**  
Thursday, September 29, 2011  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Inside the Schoolhouse**  
**Parent/Staff Reception**  
Thursday, September 29, 2011  
6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Gym

**Walk to School Day**  
Wednesday, October 5, 2011  
\* See page 10 for details \*

**COUNT DAY**  
Wednesday, October 5, 2011

**Parent Workshop**  
Thursday, October 6, 2011  
6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Caf 

**5th Grade Parent Meeting**  
Thursday, October 6, 2011  
5:30 p.m. in the Caf 

**Progress Reports**  
Friday, October 7, 2011

**Middle School Dance & Cheer**  
**Weekend Clinic**  
Saturday, October 8—  
Sunday, October 9, 2011 from  
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. in the Gym

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## A Word From Our Principal...

September 26, 2011

Dearest Nataki Families,

We are now in our third full week of school. It is exciting seeing all of the new and returning faces! Be sure to read the Monday Morning Memos (MMM) weekly to stay up to date with school programs, events, and activities in the Detroit community.

If you missed this workshop and because we know you are responsible for this information, we will repeat the session on **Thursday, October 6, 2011, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** A RSVP form is available in this week's MMM. Also, save the date for the **"Inside the Schoolhouse" Open House and Parent/Staff Reception for Thursday, September 29, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Our teachers have planned stimulating house warming activities to get you more acclimated to the classroom environment. In addition, the executive board of Taupe & Tan organized a gala filled with entertainment, food, and mixing and mingling opportunities. I am eager to see all of our parents support these annual events.

Thank you to Ms. Reid and Mrs. Taylor for allowing our students to participate in a Dance/Cheer Clinic. There was a grand turnout and we are expecting even more students for the middle school clinic. There is still time to register. Information is available in the kiosk outside of the Main Office.

Remember that count day is **Wednesday, October 5, 2011.** This is the day that determines our

school funding for the *entire* school year based on your student's attendance. Be sure to have them here on time for the duration of the school day. Please refrain from making any appointments on this day unless it is an emergency. On this day, students may wear Free Dress clothing for *free*, as long as it is appropriate attire.

We are still in the midst of Performance Series Testing. Our students in third through eighth grade have tested in Reading, and Mathematics. It is especially essential that they continue to get a good night rest and maintain healthy eating habits.

Lastly, Nataki Talibah Schoolhouse of Detroit was chosen because we are more than simply a school, but a family and community of learners that share the same values. As the school year goes by, let us remember the Seven Principles of the Psychology of the Norm and be sure to carry them with you--1) Introspection, 2) Broad-based knowledge, 3) Curiosity, 4) Tradition & Innovation, 5) SELF-centered, 6) Trust, and 7) Victor.

Best regards,

*Melita Smith*

Mrs. Melita Smith

## A Word From Our Founder...

Dear Nataki Families,

Welcome! As the school enters its 33<sup>rd</sup> year, it's important that we take a look at the last three decades just to make sure that our families understand the Nataki experience in greater depth. We annually show the school documentary that was filmed in 1998 that tells about the founding of the school. We also have the segment of the school on the Today Show in 2003. We hope that you will see both. Our Nataki Parent's Foreign Film Nights have been cited in recent educational discussions across the country as an example of how Nataki parents are in tune with the Social Studies programming of the school. The Philanthropy project (Darryl Dickson) has also been acknowledged because it teaches children how to give, which in turn teaches them that they obviously HAVE something TO GIVE.

I am excited to begin the second of a series of mini Parent Workshops on **Thursday, October 6, 2011.** I will provide materials for you to use at home to assist in developing specific skills that are needed for standardized testing, classroom performance, and social engagement. You will receive materials and strategies to practice specific skills to give you student practice in how to help your student *think* about thinking.

Our school began as a school of families. *All* parents, not just 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents, attend the 5<sup>th</sup> grade play since their child will one day be in the play or they participated in the past. Students have an even richer school experience when their parents are in tune with the school's educational philosophy and participate in school activities. Educational philosophy is what guides the choices of parents when selecting among private schools. Since Nataki Talibah Schoolhouse was a private school from 1978 – 1995 we are pleased to be able to offer our same philosophy as a public school and hope that you have selected Nataki Talibah because you are interested in learning more about our approach to child rearing and learning.

Carmen N'Namdi, School Founder  
Chief Educational Officer, Nataki Educational Services

YES!  I will attend the Parent Workshop on 10/6/11, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Signature of parent \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_

