

DAVID BRILEY  
MAYOR



## METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

WILLIAM SWANN  
DIRECTOR-CHIEF

NASHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
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### *For Immediate Release*

May 13, 2019

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### **B.L.A.Z.E. Mentoring Program Donates More Than 257 Hours to MNPS**

*The time equates to a \$6,222 donation as calculated by MNPS*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (May 13, 2019) – Breaking Limitations Accepting Zero Excuses (BLAZE) Mentoring Program dedicated more than 250 hours of volunteer mentoring during the 2018-2019 school year.

The mentoring program's goal is to make a positive impact on the lives of Metro Nashville Public School High School Students.

BLAZE volunteers aim to reduce any limits that students have relating to their future and to push students to be their best. BLAZE volunteers expose students to a variety of local career opportunities, guide students toward positive paths and build connections with students beyond the classroom.

BLAZE partnered with PENCIL and MNPS High School Academies to provide sessions in the core high schools.

PENCIL is an organization that links community resources to MNPS. The organization tracks the hours each PENCIL Partner donates and then calculates how much that volunteer time is worth in dollars and cents.

According to the latest calculation BLAZE mentors donated 257.75 hours during the 2018-2019 school year. According to PENCIL that is a monetary value of at least \$6,222.09

“As a department we are committed to being a positive force in our community, not just when we are resolving a crisis,” Director Chief William Swann said. “Our mentoring program has made a lasting impact on a number of students and we look forward to another great school year when the students return after their summer break.”

All of the NFD personnel who participate with the mentoring program do so on their off time.

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#### **Nashville Fire Department Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Nashville Fire Department is to provide high quality fire, medical and rescue emergency responses. The NFD also provides community support services to the citizens and visitors within Nashville and Davidson County. This ensures they can work and reside in a community where an all hazards response minimizes harm to life, property, and the environment.

#### **Nashville Fire Department Director Chief William Swann Vision Statement:**

My commitment to you is to work to make the Nashville Fire Department well-trained, progressive, and a highly respected fire department. We will continue to be committed to promoting inclusion, equality, and respect. My promise to you is to make sure we are all creating a safer community through prevention, preparedness, and effective emergency response.



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