



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

WILLIAM SWANN
DIRECTOR-CHIEF

NASHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 196332
NASHVILLE, TN 37219-6332
(615) 862-5421

For Immediate Release

December 4, 2019

For further information contact:

Kendra Loney
BLAZE Program Coordinator
Community Services Officer
Nashville Fire Department
Kendra.Loney@Nashville.Gov

Phone: 615-862-4987

Fax: 615-862-5463

B.L.A.Z.E. Mentoring Program Donates 109 Hours to MNPS during Fall Semester

The time equates to a \$2,771 donation as calculated by MNPS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (December 4, 2019) – Breaking Limitations Accepting Zero Excuses (BLAZE) Mentoring Program dedicated 109 hours of volunteer mentoring to the Metro Nashville Public Schools during the 2019 Fall Semester.

The mentoring program's goals are to make a positive impact on the lives of MNPS High School Students and reduce any limits that students have relating to their future.

BLAZE volunteers focused this year's sessions on offering students lessons that they could carry into adulthood. Topics ranged from Bullying Prevention to Financial Literacy.

Kroger and Publix each awarded BLAZE with gift cards that allowed lunch and snacks to be provided for students whose club time overlapped with lunch. Students were able to attend sessions without the fear of missing their lunch.

BLAZE continues to partner 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 109 hours for Fall 2019 and according to PENCIL that is a monetary value of at least \$2,771.87

“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 is growing and continues to not only identify areas that the students need assistance in, but also find and offer them resources and resolutions.”

BLAZE announced they will begin a scholarship program in May 2020 and are expected to award four \$1,000 scholarships to eligible students who have participated with the program.

[Like BLAZE on Facebook](#)

[Follow BLAZE on Instagram](#)

[Check out BLAZE on Nashville.Gov](#)

###

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.



[@NashvilleFireDepartment](#)



[@NashvilleFD](#)



[@BlazeMentoringProgram](#)