**Dr. James’ February Message**

**Special thanks to those of you who were able to come last night to our Annual Black History Program/Dinner. We were greeted by new LCS Superintendent Rocky Hanna; enjoyed wonderful, powerful presentations by our students; witnessed an awesome “surprise” display of thank you’s extended to Ms. Sha’Rhonda Brown for her commitment to the COE Family (she knew nothing about it); EXCELLENT representation from the Rickards High School BHBB Team as they were all inducted into the National Achievers/Believers Society. Miss Robinee Phillips did an outstanding job as the Presiding Officer; so polished in her skills. The festivities ended with a delicious and timely soul food meal; so much food! We also extend a special thank you to COE Board Member, Ms. Jennifer Anderson for arranging dinner for us!!!**

**I know several of you took videos/pictures last night and I am asking that you would email those to me as soon as possible so we can get them up on our website to share. Let me also hasten to add special thanks to all of the parents who stepped right in wherever you were needed, to help out last night. We are a family and we care about each other so we will keep working together to make this “machine” move better and better! Remember that your dues payments that were set up by the NASPA group (not me), help to provide significant treats and accolades to our kids for their hard work. So, if you have not paid your dues this year, the late fee included now will cost you $45.00 for the family, per Ms. Dorinda. If you are a new family inducted last night, your dues payment is $25.00 per family. Send payments to: NASPA; C/O Dorinda George; 4500 Eltham Park; Tallahassee, FL 32303.**

**We are completing plans for the Summit, scheduled for March 16 – 18, 2017; departing Tallahassee for Orlando on the morning of 3/16/17 around 8:30am for our first pick-up point and returning on Saturday evening, 3/18/17. If you intend to travel with the teams on the bus, I must hear from you by Friday, February 25th; no exceptions. I will be canceling hotel rooms that I am currently holding by the morning of 2/25/17, unless I find out that they must be cancelled tonight. If your check is in the mail, please email me asap to let me know if you have already indicated that you plan to go or just made the decision.**

**Almost finally, I am still trying to clean up the email group list. If you have received this message and you no longer want to be included or you have another email address preference, PLEASE let me know at once! Also, if your email is written without a clear delineation of your name – please email back with your name and your child’s name. For my COE Board members, please let me know that you have received the message as well. I have too many people saying they have not gotten emails and I am really trying hard to get this fixed.**

**Before the last note below, let me remind you that we do have a website that is up and running. Go to the Leon County Schools Web page under Departments; the letter “T”; the “Tallahassee Area Coalition Center of Excellence” should be listed first for you to click on to access the COE website. Don’t forget to share with friends and family that our next Induction for the general public is set for May 16, 2017. Info will be ready to go out soon.**

**Please see the two messages below (scroll down). The first one is for all students and the second one is for 9th – 12th graders only!! This is a simple competition that we CAN win!!**

**Dr. JJ**

 Malinda W. Jackson James, **Ph.D.**

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More Important information below-----Continue to read

**From:** Monica Montes [mailto:mmontes@fefonline.org]
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:41 AM
**To:** Dr. Malinda James
**Cc:** Lyra Logan; 'Turner, Eva'
**Subject:** Pass the Word & Win at the NAS Summit

 Hello, Dr. James, We’re continuing this year’s Best NAS Online Award contest, and there are two ways for your Center to win!

 **1)** **Help Choose the 2017 NAS Summit Design:** NAS members should login starting today to vote on this year’s Summit design, and rack up more points.

 Your Center will earn points toward the NAS Online award for each NAS member who votes **by Monday, February 27th**!

**2)** **Help Choose 2017 Teen Summit Topics:** NAS State President Taffany Brown has started a discussion @ NAS Online in the Members Only Forum, seeking input on the topics to be discussed by 9th through 12th graders at the Teen Summit.

 Please encourage all 9th through 12th grade NAS members to login, read her post at <http://fefaccess.org/edu/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=315>, click “Reply,” and chime in!

Your Center will earn points toward the NAS Online award for each high school NAS member who replies **by Monday, February 27th**!

 Thanks,

 **Monica Montes**

*Executive Assistant/Graphic Designer*

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