



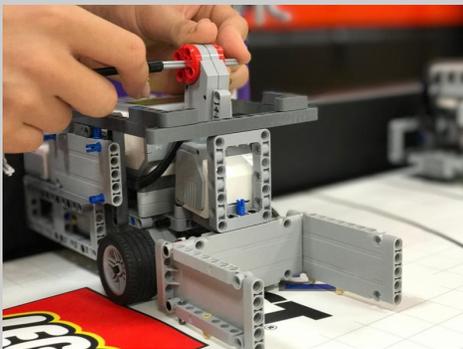
**November 2016**

Scholar News

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## SCHOLARS



### HSA Youngstown Wins FLL Tournament

The Young Hawks Robotics Team from [Horizon Science Academy Youngstown](#) earned first place in Robot Performance at the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) North Canton Regional Qualifier Tournament on November 19.

FLL introduces students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations, discover exciting career possibilities and develop essential collaborative character skills.

Horizon Science Academy McKinley Park is set to host another regional FLL tournament on December 10 in Chicago. Best of luck to all of our Robotics Teams.



## CMSA Liaisons Meet with Current CMSA Students

Recent graduates from [Chicago Math & Science Academy](#), currently undergrads at Loyola University Chicago, met with current CMSA students to establish relationships and share their experiences.



The alumni highlighted Loyola's Writing Center as a great location to seek guidance on various writing processes and to receive feedback on their writing. Moving forward, CMSA alumni will continue to serve as supportive mentors and liaisons to current high school.

For more information, visit [Concept Alumni Network](#).



## CMSA's Ms. Jazmen Moore Named National Educator of Color Award Winner

In November 2015, Ms. Jazmen Moore was awarded the Early Career Educator of Color Award offered by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)! It is a two year award with the expectation that after all of the celebration, a mentorship begins with a veteran teacher of color, and in the second year Ms. Moore presents at the annual NCTE conference.

That conference was held this past November 18th in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme for this year's four-day event was: Faces of Advocacy. Ms. Moore collaborated with an educator from Connecticut and another from Louisiana to develop a professional presentation on the topic of Digital Literacy, entitled: "It's Lit!: Exploring Digital Literacy As Advocacy."

The crucial piece was Ms. Moore highlighting her students' projects which comprised specifically of digital media public service announcement (PSA) campaigns.

What's next for Ms. Moore and her students? They are on to their next project by using art as advocacy and becoming involved in collecting coats for the indigenous Water Protectors in need in North Dakota.

To learn more or review current student projects, click [here](#).

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## COMMUNITY

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### US Senator Al Franken Visits Minnesota Math & Science Academy

On November 18, US Senator Al Franken visited [Minnesota Math and Science Academy](#) (MMSA). In light of a recent uptick in reported incidents of hate speech and non-inclusive behavior post-election across the country, Senator Franken assured our students that he is supportive of the local, national, and global Somali and Muslim communities.



Senator Franken shared the story of Muna Abdullahi, a recent high school graduate from central Minnesota, who was recently appointed by his office as the first Somali-American United States Senate Page. He motivated and encouraged MMSA students with his humor, wit, and passion for education.



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### Gateway Science Academy Celebrates our Veterans

On Veterans Day, family members and guests of students who served our



country were invited to a special breakfast and concert.

Gateway Science Academy (GSA) staff and students served several veterans breakfast, and students presented each veteran a small patriotic portrait that was painted by a GSA arts student as a token of our

appreciation.

After breakfast, the GSA Orchestra and Band each performed several songs for the whole school and the veterans, such as the Liberty Bell March, the Armed Services Tribute, and even a tribute to Journey. One father of a GSA student shared his story of how his military service changed the trajectory of his life and emphasized the value of military service.

## GSA Proudly Marches in Thanksgiving Day Parade

All three campuses of Gateway Science Academy marched together in the St. Louis Thanksgiving Day Parade. Several students, staff, parents and friends of GSA Smiley Elementary, South Elementary, and the Middle & High School were led by a float constructed with much help from the GSA Men's Club and high school art students.



The float carried several members of the high school band who played holiday music throughout the parade route. It was the first time GSA Gators entered the Thanksgiving Day Parade. Given the great success and the community time enjoyed by all, plans are already under way for the 2017 Thanksgiving Day parade.





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## NETWORK

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### IMSA North Charter Extended Through 2023-24 School Year

On November 9, the Indianapolis Charter School Board approved the charter renewal for Indiana Math and Science Academy North for an additional 7 years! Along with the Concept Schools administrative team and IMSA School Board members, roughly 40 staff members, students, and parents attended the hearing to share their support.

During the hearing, 12 students and teachers shared their personal stories about how special the staff are and how important the school is in their lives. It was a proud moment for all involved.

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### CEO Visits Ohio Schools

Concept CEO and President Mr. Duman visited Horizon Science Academies in Dayton and Cincinnati.

"It was great to be back to Dayton where I once served as principal at HSA Dayton from 2007 to 2009. The schools have grown since then and expanded to three schools," Mr. Duman said. "I enjoyed all my school tours and my conversations with school

student ambassadors, students, and staff in both Dayton and Cincinnati HSA schools."

Click [here](#) for more.



Visiting a Kindergarten class at HSA Dayton Downtown



## The Reason for the Season

DonorsChoose.org allows individuals to donate directly to public school classroom projects. The organization has been given Charity Navigator's highest rating every year since 2005. As of September 2016, donors have contributed over \$400 million to fund more than 750,000 classroom projects posted on the site, reaching 19 million students in public and charter schools across the United States.

Dozens of Concept Schools classroom projects are currently posted online, and we ask for your financial support to help fund them. Every donor gets a thank-you letter from the teacher, photos from the classroom, and a report of how each dollar was spent. Concept Schools is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, so donations are tax-deductible.

All staff members are encouraged to post your innovative projects today!

To find a classroom project that inspires you, click [here](#), and search for Concept-managed schools: *Horizon Science Academy, Chicago Math & Science Academy, Indiana Math & Science Academy, Minnesota Math & Science Academy, Michigan Math & Science Academy, Gateway Science Academy, Milwaukee Math and Science Academy, and Noble Academy.*

## Network Teacher of the Month

We are very proud to announce that the recipient of Concept Schools Teacher of the Month Award for October is Sarah Buchanan.

Ms. Buchanan is the physical education teacher and athletic coach at [Horizon Science Academy Dayton Downtown](#). She teaches essential life skills by incorporating sportsmanship and respect in her lessons. She is enthusiastic, has a positive attitude and is well respected by all students, staff, and parents. She works hard to make sure her students are doing well both in sports and academics. She is a true team player and an amazing teacher!

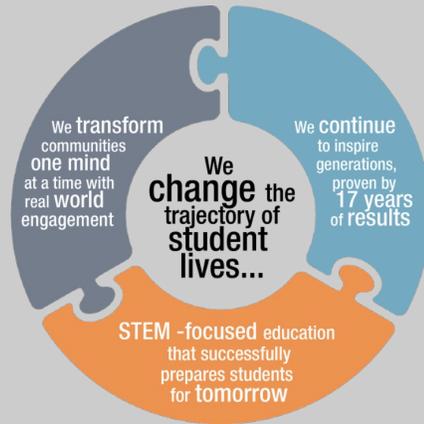


Please join us in congratulating Ms. Sarah Buchanan for serving as an inspiration to us all through

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## CONCEPT SCHOOLS

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[CLICK TO LEARN MORE](#)

### Who are we?

We are a nonprofit charter school management company that manages or operates 30 public charter schools across the Midwest.

Our college-prep curriculum is STEM-based, and each school in the Concept Network regularly collaborates with its respective school district and charter authorizer or sponsor. Schools within the Concept Network are continuously recognized for their excellence in education.

[We change the trajectory of student lives...](#)

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STAYCONNECTED

