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THE SABER LOOP

Quote of the week

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader." –
Margaret Fuller

Dear SEED Family,

Please join me in saluting our work this week as we chart another week of growth at the SEED School of MD. We kicked off this week with the HeBrOpen, our school's largest fundraiser of the year. The event is in its 7th year and raised more than \$100,000 to offset the cost of external opportunities, internships, and travel for our students. This year we were blessed to hear from Dakota Cromer, a SEED MD graduate from the class of 2017. Dakota is also a 2021 graduate of Salisbury University and is now in her 1st year of Law School at the University of Baltimore. Please join me in thanking Katie Byram for her leadership on this event and all our awesome student ambassadors and staff who assisted in the event. There were lots of opportunities for SEED MD scholars to network and make connections. It was a great night for scholars and the SEED School of MD.

OCT. 21, 2022

If you'd like to make a donation, [click here](#).

This week, we are having scholars complete the SEL (Social Emotional Learning) and YAPS (Youth and Programs Survey). These two important surveys help us measure how young people are faring in out-of-school time experiencing the program. This survey measures the program features and opportunities that define a high-quality program that can protect young people from risk while promoting resilience and thriving. Please continue to message the importance of completing this survey. Last week, we requested a sponsor to oversee the Student Government Association. This will be a role with a stipend, and staff with a deep interest in organizing youth are encouraged to apply. Please see the job description [here](#). Also, click on this [link](#) to see our updated Organizational Chart.

Feedback is one of the most effective teaching and learning strategies, and it



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immediately impacts learning progress. High-quality feedback is specific and ongoing. When delivered on time, education expert [John Hattie's research](#) shows feedback has an effect of 1.13 on learning achievement. Just like with students, feedback for faculty and staff can be equally impactful and help to improve performance. This year's theme is *Better Together. Connection, Collaboration, and Collegiality*. Within this theme lies a focus on increasing feedback to staff. Most of this feedback will be non-evaluative from a coach or mentor, and the balance will be in the form of formal and informal observations. Through these efforts, we would like to deepen our feedback culture and ensure that staff capacity is raised. Please complete this [survey](#) that captures your feedback experience up to this point.

We hosted our first annual SEED MD Legacy dinner for students on Thursday night. We will host the 2nd for the high school next Wednesday, October 26th. The purpose of these dinners is to foster pride in SEED's academic and boarding

experience and hear from alumni who are thriving in college and beyond. This is a formal dining experience meant to showcase the vision of our founders and raise the profile of our scholars. This would not have been possible during the pandemic due to our desire to remain socially distant. Now we know more than ever the importance that an event like this can have on the impact of how we foster school pride and message expectations for our scholars. [Click here](#) for the agenda from the event.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone to check [SABER One](#) if you ever need to review a weekly update and other school policies and procedures. Also, this week there were no reported cases of COVID-19. We have lots of events in the cue for next week, including [Trunk or Treat](#) for the middle school. Please see all of the events on [Calendarwiz](#) listed here.

Have a great weekend,
Kirk A. Sykes
Head of School

Better Together. Connection, Collaboration, Collegiality