



LAGRANGE
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News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 14, 2017

The LaGrange City Council Honors the Success of Mentoring Programs at Whitesville Road Elementary School

LaGrange, Ga. November 14, 2017 – The LaGrange City Council honored to the young men of the Empowerment Wednesday Program and the young ladies of the Girls in P.E.A.R.L.S Mentoring Program at Whitesville Road Elementary School Tuesday afternoon.



The council met at the school for its regular work session Tuesday.

The Empowerment Wednesday Dress for Success Mentorship Program, led by Jerome Cofield, began at Whitesville Road Elementary in August 2016.

When the program began in the fall of 2016 members had a collective seventy-nine referrals a month. By the end of the year, participants had only four referrals a month.

The Mission of the Empowerment Wednesday Program is to help build brighter futures for the students at the school, encouraging the young men to make things happen for themselves. Participants wear white shirts, khaki pants, and matching ties or bow ties.

Community leaders are encouraged to participate in this group too. Mayor Jim Thornton, LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, and Troup County Sheriff James Woodruff have participated in this program.

Jerome Cofield's program has been so successful the school recently created the Girl in P.E.A.R.L.S Mentoring Program. The acronym P.E.A.R.L.S. stands for Positively Empowering Aspiring Responsible Leaders & Sisterhood.



These programs are just a part of the success at Whitesville Road Elementary under the leadership of Principal Debra Brock. Whitesville Road Elementary School received an 80 out of 100 CCRPI score, the second highest in the Troup County School System. Just two years ago the school had a score of 55.

For more information on Empowerment Wednesdays you can go to its Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/empowermentwednesday/>

For more information on Whitesville Road Elementary School and its success go to <http://www.troup.k12.ga.us/18/Home>. Their Stake in the Ground Ceremony will be held Wednesday, November 15th at 3:30PM, 1905 South Davis Road, the future location of the school.

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