

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MINORITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM ISSUES “CALL TO ARMS!”

Now that the Minority Scholars Movement has spread to all corners of Montgomery County, **the student leaders are issuing a “call to arms” for the 7th Annual Intra-County Minority Scholars Program Retreat.** In a moment of candor and introspection, the leaders are asking of themselves, and the movement, a simple, yet profound question: **What Next?** The Minority Scholars Program (MSP) continues to be one of the fastest growing youth movements in the county, having currently expanded to twenty-two high schools and ten middle schools. It continues to draw considerable interest from numerous other schools and school districts within the state of Maryland and around the country. Student leaders continue to challenge themselves and their peers. But after 12 years in existence, MSP is ready to leave a lasting and more permanent legacy. What does being part of “The Movement” really mean? How does one usher a movement to the point of lasting and true change? How do we really know we are tackling the Opportunity and Achievement Gap? “What Next?” asks all this and more!

Saturday, March 3rd at Watkins Mill High School will witness the manifestation of this “call to arms.” This year’s theme, **“What Next?”** combines the essence of last year’s renewed commitment with a promise to take things to the next level. Twelve years ago, the Minority Scholars Program began organically as a student driven initiative aimed at tackling the opportunity/achievement gap. It has now proven to be the fastest growing youth movement within Montgomery County Public Schools. **The 7th Annual Intra-County Minority Scholars Program Retreat** seeks the deliberate entrenchment of the MSP legacy by taking things to the next level. **Events begin at 8:00am and continue to 4pm on Saturday March 3rd, 2018 at Watkins Mill High School in Gaithersburg, Maryland.** Come witness MCPS youth lead the way to a brighter future where race is no longer a predictor of opportunity or achievement. Observe student leaders carrying on the mission of positively changing school culture and creating true and lasting change. And be on hand as they cement the legacy of the movement and issue their 2018 call to arms- **“What Next?!”**

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