

Mr. Jerry Nash
2647 Lake Pointe Drive
Cookville, TN 38506

Dear Jerry:

We value our partnership with you to train the teachers in East Baton Rouge Parish School System. To date, over 250 teachers have participated in learning how to bring chess into their classroom and curriculum. Here are some ways that we believe you and the Foundation are impacting our 42000+ public school students.

1. **The value of chess in education:** The Foundation for EBRSS adopted chess as its first initiative for our Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM) focus. As a game of strategy, chess has been proven to teach students to focus, to think critically and creatively, to apply math skills and logic, to solve problems and to foster positive character traits. Our end-of-year surveys with teachers, parents and students supports this research. Students are showing improvement in math, but equally important have show increases in positive behavior and attendance. We are committed to ensuring that chess is offered in all 80 East Baton Rouge Parish public schools.
2. **The value of the training:** We have trained over 250 teachers in three years. Many walked into the workshop on Day One not even knowing the names of the chess men. At the end of the week, they had the necessary skills to incorporate chess into their curriculum, as well as to start chess clubs. One teacher comment sums it up: The possibilities are endless. Using chess to illustrate problem solving skills and thinking things through can be applied to life, school, everything! Looking forward to taking this to the classroom.
3. **The value of Jerry in the training:** Jerry Nash is the reason for our success in bringing chess to EBRP public schools. He is engaging with the teachers and instills confidence in their ability to teach chess to their students. The workshop uses proven teaching strategies that work. Jerry was with us from the beginning of our launch of chess to our school system and remains a valued partner in our journey. We could not "do chess" without Jerry.

With warmest regards,



Janet Pace
Executive Director