

20
YEARS
of
DREAMS
ACHIEVED



AN ACHIEVABLE DREAM

Breaking the cycle of poverty through social, academic, and moral education.

Dedicated to the belief that all children can learn and succeed, regardless of their socioeconomic status, An Achievable Dream operates two nationally recognized schools for grades K-12 through a unique partnership with Newport News Public Schools. A third school, for grades K-2, will open in Virginia Beach in July 2014, with subsequent grades added each year.

An Achievable Dream offers a quality education in a nurturing environment, the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with caring adults, and the chance to take part in engaging enrichment activities during both the academic day and hours spent outside of school. The faculty and staff of An Achievable Dream go beyond academics to provide students with a well-rounded education through the comprehensive SAME® (Social, Academic and Moral Education) curriculum. The program stresses that college is attainable and desirable. With a 100% on time graduation rate, On average 95% of students attend college and 4% join the military.

Without An Achievable Dream, many of our students would not have the opportunities they need to succeed in school and in life.

Demographics of An Achievable Dream Students

- 1,250 students in kindergarten through 12th grade
- Upon entry, 100% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch
- 9% live in guardian-led (other than parents) households
- 78% live in single parent households
- 98% are African American

“ There were numerous times while I was growing up that I heard that the odds were against me. Because of my background and where I was from, society had already forecast my future. I chose not to believe anything that would go against my goals and dreams, utilizing the resources and character-building lessons from An Achievable Dream.”

Shukita Whitaker
Class of 2001

“ An Achievable Dream meant opportunity, exposure, resources. We were one big family and we knew what was expected of us. I liked the structure. Other students in high school wanted to be a part of it.”

Snoe Powell
Class of 2002

1992: An Achievable Dream is founded as a summer and after-school tennis and tutoring program for 95 rising 4th graders

1993: Summer and after-school program continues for 200 rising 4th and 5th graders

1994: An Achievable Dream becomes a full-time, extended day school for children in grades 3-5 at the former Dunbar-Erwin Elementary School

Soldiers from Ft. Eustis begin to volunteer every morning for character development program

1995: An Achievable Dream adds middle school students (grades 6-8) at Dunbar-Erwin

Break the Mold School (Business Week and McGraw-Hill Educational Publishers)

1997: American Heroes in Education Award (Reader's Digest)

1999: National School of Character (National Association of Character Education Programs)

Excellence in Education (College of Human Resources and Education Award, Virginia Tech)

2000: Virginia State Board of Education Resolution of Recognition

An Achievable Dream Academy becomes a year-round school with establishment of the Summer Intersession

Kindergarten through 2nd grade students are zoned to Dunbar-Erwin

Newport News Sheriff's deputies join Ft. Eustis soldiers to volunteer every morning for character development program

Our Success

- 100% on-time graduation rate
- 95% of our students attend college and 5% join the military
- An Achievable Dream students annually score equal to or better than top Virginia students on state SOL exams. In 2012, students earned record breaking scores in writing and science.
- An Achievable Dream Academy and An Achievable Dream Middle and High School are both fully accredited by state and federal standards
- An Achievable Dream has received numerous local, state and national awards for excellence in education
- 100% of students graduate with the expectation of promoting productive citizenship
- Class of 2013
 - 100% were accepted to a college/university
 - Graduates received a total of \$2,216,000 in scholarship funds
 - Completed 68 advanced placement courses
 - Completed 45 dual enrollment courses
- 26 Saturday Schools for remediation and enrichment
- Summer Intersession dedicated to enrichment, accelerated studies and field trips
- Uniforms for students in kindergarten through 8th grade; high school dress code
- Social education curriculum including Ethics; Etiquette; Peaceful Conflict Resolution; Healthy Living; Financial Know-How; and Speaking Green™, which teaches students standard business English and public speaking
- Enhanced school health clinic serving students and families
- Tennis instruction and facilities for all students
- Additional teaching staff and tutors
- State-of-the art classroom technology, including SMART boards, SMART tables, iPads and iPods
- Snacks and nutrition for students in late afternoon and Saturday school
- Extensive extracurricular, experiential and cultural activities that challenge students to think and grow
- National exam fees for the PSAT, SAT and ACT exams and college application fees
- Time for students to participate in a variety of clubs, including chess, photography, poetry, modeling and simulation, music, tennis, yearbook, and more.
- Community service required of all students
- *What it Takes* program that emphasizes workforce readiness skills
- Support for Dreamers throughout college

An Achievable Dream provides

- An extended school day of 8.5 hours compared with the standard 6.25 hours a day at traditional public schools
- Character education curriculum integrated into the daily routine of all students

“ If it were not for An Achievable Dream, I know I would not be where I am today: a naval officer currently in the beginning stages of the submarine officer pipeline.”
Franklin Roberson
 Class of 2004

“ An Achievable Dream has been with me every step of the way. The teachers believed in me and encouraged me to never let my dream die and to never give up.”
Amon Everett
 Class of 2006

“ For many years, your helping hands have helped to create a path to a bright and successful future. I cannot express my appreciation enough to show you how truly grateful I am. With your help, I truly do have an achievable dream.”
Lache Spence
 Class of 2009



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- 10858 Warwick Blvd., Suite A, Newport News, VA, 23601
- 757-599-9472
- www.AchievableDream.org

• **2001:** An Achievable Dream's first class graduates from high school

• In partnership with Newport News Parks & Recreation, An Achievable Dream opens a Tennis Center for students and the surrounding community

• United States Tennis Association (USTA) President's Award

• **2002:** An Achievable Dream students close the achievement gap on state Standards of Learning (SOLs) and the Academy earns full accreditation by Virginia Standards

• Distinguished Merit Citation Award for "humanitarian leadership which enriches the life of the community," (National Conference of Community and Justice)

• **2003:** Community Partnership Award (Mutual of America)

• **2006:** Neighborhood Builders Award (Bank of America)

• **2007:** An Achievable Dream Middle and High School opens

• **2008:** United States Army soldiers at Fort Eustis received the Kathy Canham-Ross Award of Distinction (the highest award for Community Relations) for their daily work at An Achievable Dream Academy

• **2011:** First class graduates from An Achievable Dream Middle & High School

Community and Corporate Partners

Business Community
of Hampton Roads

City of Newport News

City of Virginia Beach

Ferguson Enterprises

Huntington Ingalls
Industries

Newport News Police
Department

Newport News Public Schools

Newport News Sheriff's
Department

Riverside Health System

Rotary Club of the
Virginia Peninsula

Smithfield Foods, Inc.

The College of William & Mary

Thomas Nelson
Community College

TowneBank

U.S. Army at Fort Eustis

Virginia Beach
City Public Schools

W.M. Jordan Company



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