

Link Community School
120 Livingston Street
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Serving Newark's Youth for 40 Years

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DR. GEORGE JENKINS ADDRESSES YOUNG MEN
AT LINK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Newark, NJ (March 3, 2009) - **Dr. George Jenkins** of the **Three Doctors Foundation** encouraged and inspired the 52 young men at Link Community School today. Dr. Jenkins, whose life story is recounted in *The Pact, Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream*, co-authored with Dr. Sampson Davis, Dr. Rameck Hunt and Lisa Frazier Page, held students to rapt attention with his important message.

Dr. Jenkins stated that that it is important to “dream...to think about the future” for it was his dreams that “kept him out of trouble.” Growing up in a crime-ridden area of Newark, NJ with so many negative distractions was not easy, but he had encouragement early on – from a third grade teacher who exposed him to many new things in life and a dentist who took time to talk to him about his aspirations. He began to believe in himself and realize that his dream was within reach if he was willing to work at it. He told the boys that “now is the time to prepare yourselves for the future”...to take advantage of their education and all possibilities that might come their way.” He avowed that “education is key...the harder you work, the more you’ll succeed.”

Besides a basic belief in one’s self and preparation, Dr. Jenkins encouraged the boys to surround themselves with positive people. He considers himself very fortunate to have found two friends, Sam and Rameck, with similar hopes for the future and the work ethic to succeed. Through high school, college and medical school, they pushed each other and learned from each other. “If one (of us) raised the bar; the others rose to meet it,” he averred. They recognized the uniqueness in each other and decided they could figure life out better and faster together than going it alone. In addition, through their pact or bond, they shielded each other from negative influences.

Dr. Jenkins notes there may be a lot of obstacles along the way, but it's important to "take the hand you are dealt and move on. It's your fault if you don't take advantage of opportunities offered you, no one else's." "Don't get thrown off...focus on what really matters," he continued, "and find out what you need to succeed— from your environment and from your resources - and then do it."

"We needed to hear Dr. Jenkins message," stated 8th grader Justin Eke," since it is so easy to just consider the day-to day rather than to think about the future." "Dr. Jenkins was awesome and encouraging. I now think anything is possible for me if I stay focused and work hard," said 7th grader Baheem Wise.



Photo caption:

Dr. George Jenkins, of the Three Doctors Foundation, inspired the young men of Link Community School today with his story and advice for the future. He told the boys to dream and prepare for the future, to believe in themselves, surround themselves with positive people and stay focused on their goals.