McKissack Middle School has identified 4 priorities as part of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) for the 2019-20 school year:

1. Increase student proficiency and achievement in the subject of ELA
2. Increase Student Proficiency and achievement in the Subject of Math
3. Reduce the number of students chronically absent
4. Create a safe and supportive culture by reducing the number of out of school suspension

As a community school, McKissack Middle School strives to improve conditions for learning through collaborative work with our partners to bring community support to the school, as organized around four pillars of support that we believe are important to preparing the whole child for success:

- Family Engagement
- College and Career Readiness
- Health and Wellness
- Social Services and Adult Development

The purpose of this strategic plan is to present (1) a brief snapshot of our school’s data and other information to demonstrate the need to coordinate resources within the pillars in support of the priorities, (2) information related to how the school currently (2018-19) coordinates resources within the pillars of support, and (3) information about how the school wants community partners to support the school in its efforts to achieve goals for students in 2019-20.

**SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS & KEY DESCRIPTORS**

- 306 students enrolled
- 89% African-American
- 20 partners (5 Pencil and 15 Community)
- 153 behavior incidents
- 94% avg. daily attendance - 16.2 chronic absences
- 306 working laptops
- 20 interactive white boards
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for family engagement support

McKissack Middle hosted 8 family events, where sign-in was recorded, and an academic standard was attached. We had a total of 246 event-based parent sign-ins with 165 of those being unduplicated. 54% of McKissack parents attended a family engagement event. Our highest attended events are events where student work and talent are on display. We hope to double that number this year and attract partners that will help us attract and feed parents. Each November, MNPS holds parent teacher conferences. Last year 30 conferences were held. This does not include one on one conferences, of phone conference that were scheduled in-lieu of an in-person conference.

What was in place in 2018-19 to support family engagement

- Walk to school day
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Family education night
- Project Lit

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support family engagement

- Addition of Family Involvement Specialist to implement monthly parent meeting
- A functioning Parent Advisory Council.
- An established PTO
- At least 2 partner sponsored parent nights a semester - 4 total.
- A budget for partner and parent incentives
- Community Canvas Walks

What we are ASKING of our community

- Funding or gift cards to incentivize parent participation (gas and food)
- Individuals and/or organizations to sponsor parent night(s). Sponsorship could involve welcoming parents to the school and the event, hosting a meal and/or snacks, providing incentives in the form of door prizes or something similar
- Individuals and/or organizations to partner with us for Community Canvas Walk(s), which could involve volunteering to help coordinate the effort, hosting food and/or drink
- Partners to support our PTO, for example, help fund start-up membership fees and/or food for monthly meetings.
COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for college & career readiness support

One of the strongest indicators of college-readiness is attendance. We increased perfect attendance by **7.2 %** Largely because we made it a priority and we incentivized it. Average daily attendance is up at **93.7 %** we are approaching our SIP goal of **95%**

We are continually moving towards achieving our academic Key Performance Indicators in Reading, where **71 %** of our students are in the lowest quintiles **1 or 2** and in Math, where **79%** of our students are in quintiles **1 or 2**.

What was in place in 2018-19 to support college & career readiness

- Guidance-led college tour
- STEAM on & off campus activities
- College readiness cohort
- Trio (55 students enrolled)
- In Full Motion (35 students enrolled)
- Community Alert (12 students enrolled)
- Grade level Forums

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support college & career readiness

- Additional college tours and post-secondary campus-based activities
- 8th grade wide ACT testing
- Career Day

What we are asking of our community

- Individuals and/or organizations to partner with McKissack to facilitate or help fund a Spring College Tour, which may include bus transportation, food and drink
- Professional volunteers to speak at monthly school-wide forums
- College t-shirt and pennants to display in the school and to give away as incentives
- Individuals and/or organizations to help us identify and secure STEAM materials, activities and outings.
HEALTH & WELLNESS

Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for health & wellness support

In the 2018-19 school year, McKissack documented 104 behavior incidents, which resulted in 57 out of school suspensions and 12 in school suspensions. Since 41 of the 57 out of school suspensions involved black males, we are focusing efforts on this population of students. The school conducted 17 Restorative Justice meetings, where the students involved in the incident participate in a facilitated meeting to resolve the issues.

What was in place in 2018-19 to support health & wellness

- Dental Sealants
- Healthy Meals Program through Greater Harvest Church
- School-based mental health services through Centerstone & STARS
- YWCA mentoring programs, AMEND and Girls Inc.

What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support health & wellness

- Increased support and appreciation for our school staff
- We have been providing free on-site sports physicals, to help students with medial barriers
- Additional Rites of Passage programming
- Reduce the number of black males receiving in and out of school suspensions
- Reduce number of out of school suspension incidents

What we are asking of our community

- Schrader Lane Church of Christ is working with McKissack this year to help support our staff; additional individuals and organizations to collaborate in support of our teachers and staff
- We added Temple Church as a community partner to assist with our Rites of Passage program; additional partnerships to support this programming are welcome
- Individuals and organizations to partner with us to promote healthy eating for our whole school community, including students, parents, and staff
SOCIAL SERVICES & ADULT DEVELOPMENT
Data & anecdotal information that indicates a need for social services & adult development support

This is an area that we are constantly growing and improving. The height of our social Services work has come through our partnership with West End Community Church. The UpRise program provided adult development to an intimate number of parents providing them with GED and skills training, in addition to Job placement. The HERO program has continued to provide clothes and, food to our HERO students.

With the help of guidance and the H.E.R.O. program, we distributed approximately 175 food boxes, 200 toiletry items, & about 500 clothes and supplies.

**What was in place in 2018-19 to support social services & adult development**

- UpRise
- Distributions of school supplies and standard school attire
- Holiday support for approximately 50 “Angel Tree” families

**What school wants in place in 2019-20 to support social services & adult development**

- We have expanded our CA resource room to offer more clothes and hygiene projects
- We want to stock our CA resource room with basic need supplies for students and families
- We want to offer adults and families in our community adult development classes such as high school equivalency, financial literacy, and planning

**What we are asking of our community**

- We need non-perishable food for our resource room. This includes canned goods, boxed meals that do not need refrigeration, protein bars, cereal bars, etc
- Standard school attire for our students (black, navy, or khaki pants / any solid-color shirt with a collar)
- Partners to facilitate, offer, or sponsor adult education classes or programs