

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRICK Education Network Hosts Event Featuring School Performances Celebrating Black Culture as Black History Month Comes to an End

BRICK Education Network also held voter registration drive and educated parents about the 2020 Census



BRICK Education Network celebrated Black History Month in their first-ever networkwide event, "Reaching Back to Move Forward," which featured song, dance and spoken word performances from students and staff.

NEWARK, NJ – Black History Month was celebrated in a meaningful way by BRICK Education Network (BEN), a charter management organization based in Newark, New Jersey. The first-ever networkwide event, "Reaching Back to Move Forward," featured song, dance and spoken word performances from students and staff across BEN schools, including: Achieve Clinton Hill Charter School, Marion P. Thomas Charter School (MPTCS) PAC Academy, MPTCS STEAM Academy and MPTCS Culinary and Performing Arts High School.

"Black History Month is an important time to come together and educate students and their families about black heritage and culture," said **Dominique Lee, Founder and CEO of BRICK Education Network**. "This was our first time bringing all of our school communities together from across our network, giving us a unique opportunity to reach all of our parents and caregivers at once."

Approximately 200 students and family members were in attendance. During the event, BEN also hosted a voter registration drive in partnership with After School All Stars and educated parents about the 2020 census. In addition, South Ward Children Alliance, a BEN family ally, had a presence at the event to share information about valuable resources with attendees.

“Increasing participation in the election process and upcoming Census is vital for determining our children’s future,” **continued Lee.** “The 2020 election is well underway, which is why we wanted to give parents and educators an opportunity to register to vote so that their voice is heard. We also used this assembly as an opportunity to educate our friends and neighbors about important resources for families, as well as the 2020 Census because it is critical that everyone is represented and counted.”

BEN’s unique approach to transforming public education puts successful students and world-class schools at the center of vibrant communities. Powered by diverse leaders and a commitment to fighting the status quo, BEN is building resilient, intelligent, creative kids by equipping them with a high-quality, nurturing education and thriving, engaged families to support their success from cradle to career.

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About BRICK Education Network

BRICK (Building Resilient, Intelligent Creative Kids) Education Network (BEN) is a charter management organization based in Newark, New Jersey. BEN is powered by visionary, diverse leaders committed to fighting the status quo. BEN’s mission is to relentlessly knock down all barriers to students’ academic success so they can have an unimpeded path to unlocking his or her limitless potential. To learn more about BEN, visit www.bricknewark.org.