Young Male Leadership Academy

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Leadership skills, communication skills, even financial planning is all covered in the Young Male Leadership Academy.

The program is designed to address a shortage of minority male teachers as Amy Bingham reports in this week’s View from the Hill.

You don’t have to plan on becoming a teacher to be selected for YMLA-Young Male Leadership Academy. The program has served minority males in the area since 2007 and exposes them to all sorts of tips for a successful future.

Real talk from educators who are currently in the trenches…to students who have their whole lives ahead of them.

“It’s more than about being a teacher. We’re also gonna look at career and college readiness and we’re gonna look at leadership skills.”

Like how to handle introductions.

“I’ve learned a lot of communication skills like how when you talk to someone make eye contact and how to shake someones hand the right way, things like that.”

“I tell young people if you can’t speak for yourself and you can’t communicate with your employer, your teacher or your professor, you’re not going to move forward cause they’re not gonna know what you want.”

Sixteen students in the Bowling Green and Warren County school systems were selected for the Young Male Leadership Academy.

“The main message we want to give students is to dream big and pursue them and work hard at them.”

Joseph Boyd knows first hand how a teacher can make a difference.

“I didn’t grow up as a happy kid. I used to get in trouble a lot. I used to have anger problems. I used to be a bully basically.”

His fifth grade math teacher, who is now his principal, made all the difference.

“Having the right teachers that believe in me and having teachers who look

like me made me change and see that I can be better than what I am.”

“When you take a look at the classrooms across the united states and warren county you don’t see many men of color in the classroom.”

The inspiration, the connections, it’s all spread out over the academic year.

Helping these young men realize that the sky’s the limit.

The group recently returned from the Educator’s Rising national conference in Orlando. They will have an end of the year banquet tomorrow night featuring keynote speaker Wayne D. Lewis, Interim Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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