



The Lion's Roar

Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About

September 2018

National Honor Society Induction

Seven Millennium Charter Academy high school students were inducted to the school's chapter of the National Honor Society. They are left to right, **Jack Bevard**, **Sydney Watson**, **Hemil Hira**, **Alayna Smith**, **Caleb Adams**, and **Zachary Wardle**. Not pictured is **Braydon Legere**. To be inducted into the National Honor Society,

a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 and be approved by the MCA National Honor Society faculty council. Below, **Caleb Adams** accepts his certificate and pin from Mr. Allen.



Clockwise from left: **Sydney Watson** receives her certificate and pin. **Alayna Smith** smiles as she gets her award. **Jack Bevard** shakes hands with Mr. Allen as his mom, Susan Bevard, looks on from behind. **Hemil Hira** also shakes hands with Mr. Allen as his mom, Bhavna Patel, photographs the occasion. Louise Wardle pins NHS insignia on her son, **Zack Wardle**, as his dad, Allen Wardle, looks on. **Braydon Legere** was also inducted, even though he was unable to attend the ceremony.



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MCA Lower School Participates in Core Knowledge Pilot Program

This year, the MCA lower school will participate in a pilot program sponsored by the Core Knowledge Foundation. The Core Knowledge Foundation, housed at the University of Virginia, is in the process of developing a web-based assessment tool to aid teachers in understanding how students master the information and all of the Core Knowledge history and science domains. The program is somewhat unique because while there are ample assessment tools devoted to measuring student skill levels in reading and math, there are few, if any, technology-driven assessment tools to measure knowledge of content. Content knowledge refers to having facts and information about a given subject, for example, the Revolutionary War, which is part of the Core Knowledge Sequence in 4th grade.

The tool itself assesses students' knowledge of a given subject area but is not high-stakes testing. The intent is to help teachers quickly know how much information students are retaining in a given unit of study and to help them better guide future instruction. Teachers are primary actors in the process, deciding how often to use the assessment tool and how they will use the information gathered from it. The Core Knowledge Foundation's interest in piloting the program at schools is understanding whether or not the questions that they use for the assessments are valid and reliable measures of student learning. Teachers are encouraged to provide feedback about the questions to help the Foundation develop a useful resource for teachers. The Foundation does not gather information on how well students perform on the assessments.

The Core Knowledge Foundation is built on the idea that students need a basic understanding of the world and history to become confident and successful learners and that knowledge is an important part of developing reading comprehension skills.



Kristen Rodriguez from The Core Knowledge Foundation visited with teachers in grades two through five to train them in the use of the new pilot program.