



Saturday Place Spotlight January 2012

STUDENT GROWTH RESULTS

A Message from Rashied

Dear Saturday Place Family,

Happy New Year! As many of you may know, I signed a one year contract with the Detroit Lions and just completed the 2011-2012 season. While I was away in Detroit, the mission and goals of Rashied Davis Charities have remained alive in Chicago. I am happy to report that my family and I are back in Chicago and we are extremely excited and committed to the students of Saturday Place. We are able to continue the positive change of our students through our exceptional board of directors, teaching and support staff, and volunteers.

We kicked off our second year at the British School of Chicago with 31 students (triple the number we had the first year). During my bye week in November, I had an opportunity to visit Saturday Place and I couldn't be more proud of our students. I was able to see the transformation firsthand. Our students are developing a love for learning, asking questions, and are interacting more frequently.

Additionally, feedback from their regular school has been outstanding. In just the first 12 weeks, we have seen exceptional gains in reading, math, social studies and writing. With this strong start, I look forward to our strong finish with our first set of students graduating in May 2012.

We look forward to continue to share student progress, updates and information regarding events soon! All of these great things would not be possible without your support. Thank you for investing in the futures of these children. We are grateful for all your contributions to Rashied Davis Charities. From our family to yours, we wish you a healthy and happy 2012.

All my best,

Rashied Davis

81.8%

Our students' percent increase for Reading from **September 2011 to December 2011** in the Northwest Evaluation Association Test Scores administered by Chavez Elementary. The NWEA test is a benchmark computer-based test that maps student progress to predict student's ISAT scores and provide teachers with specific areas to target during instruction. The percentage indicates where the student ranks among 2200 districts with students in the same grade level.



85%

As of December, the percentage of our students who are on track to make gains greater than one school year in Math (compared to 56% when compared to their school overall).



Overview of student's schedule

- **8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.**
Students arrive at the British School. Breakfast is provided for the students.
- **9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**
Students rotate through 4 centers in the classroom which consist of math computation, reading fluency, writing and reading literacy.
- **11:30 a.m. to 12:30**
Lunch and Recess. Students are provided a healthy lunch and participate in recess activities that align with the focused theme.
- **12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. -**
Students participate in a group activity involving Science and Social Studies.
- **1:30 p.m.** Students board buses to return home to their respective schools.



"The Rashied Davis Charities Saturday Place program provides an enormous added value to a student's education. The program simultaneously builds our students' academic skills and social-emotional strength. As a result of the program, our students realize that they are becoming smarter and are succeeding; consequently, their positive behavior and self-confidence soar. The Saturday Place program is catching students up to grade level and transforming their lives. We have seen their academic scores increase significantly"

- Barton Dassinger, Principal – Chavez Elementary



Introduction to Saturday Place and Our Partnerships

The Rashied Davis Charities Saturday Place program is an academic-based supplemental learning program for at-risk third and fourth grade Chicago Public School students. Saturday Place partners with Chicago Public Schools in economically challenged neighborhoods where students' scores are low but teacher dedication is high. Schools selected show collaboration in the partnership by using high quality best practices and instruction, positive behavior support, and providing data on student achievement and participation. This partnership along with the highly successful intervention-based curriculum provided by Saturday Place has proven to increase student success across all academic areas considerably.

Our Mission

Saturday Place will have a life-long impact on students through discipline, preparation, and inspiration. We teach them to be disciplined by working hard, never giving up, and challenging yourself to always be your best. We prepare them with the academic and behavioral tools they need to be successful in their chosen path. We inspire the students to think critically, set and achieve goals, and to be creative, engaged, and life-long learners.

The academic gains we have seen both qualitatively and quantitatively

surpassed our expectations thus far, and we are thrilled to see what the rest of the school year and our future will bring.

Our Teachers

Teachers selected to work at Saturday Place have high expectations for student success. They create challenging and engaging lessons, all while mindful of the impact that the students' culture and environment have on their learning. They are trained to implement the selected researched-based curriculum with fidelity, and are evaluated several times a year based on their ability to use best practices in the program's setting.

Location

Our students are bussed to the British School in Chicago, a different neighborhood and setting than their school. By bringing the students to a school outside of their neighborhood, Saturday Place exposes students to other Chicago-based communities outside of their own, expanding their background experiences and knowledge. This makes them more aware of the world around them, and the vast amount of opportunities at their fingertips.

Field Trips

Our field trips provide the students with experiences beyond the typical scope and sequence of a student's age, and teaches them of career opportunities that expand to all fields across the city. The field trips also bring real-life experiences to the current topic of study, thoroughly engaging them in the material we are studying in the program.



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking for dedicated individuals who are looking to make a difference in the lives of our students.

If you are interested in volunteering at our Saturday Place program, please contact mangeles@saturdayplace.org for more information.



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rashieddavischarities.org
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Rashied Davis Charities
781 S. Midlothian Road #329
Mundelein, Illinois 60060
Telephone: (847) 970-9788