



DOWNTOWN ACADEMY
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
OF
TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS
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Proud to be 2007 National Charter School of the Year!

April 7, 2008

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Members of the DATA Board, Teachers, and Staff:

Greetings from the Downtown Academy of Technology and Arts; we hope you and yours are all happy and well.

It is great to be back with the students and we all look forward to an excellent fourth quarter. There will be **Park Day this Friday**. The students will be **allowed to attend school out of uniform on that day for \$1**. Students should remember to follow all Broward County Schools' dress code guidelines. **Sandals, high-heels, tank tops, halter-tops, short-shorts/skirts and any and all vulgar/profane items of clothing are prohibited**. All **students out of compliance** will be asked to **contact parents to deliver appropriate attire**. **Volunteers are encouraged** to join us. If you are interested, **please call us ahead of time**.

Tomorrow, we will be walking down to the Broward Center for another exciting and educational opportunity. **America's Guardians** features the Symphony of the Americas in a patriotic concert, focusing on the 5 armed services of our country. **We will be leaving the school at 10:50 in the morning, and return around 1 P.M.** **Chaperons are welcome;** please contact us to make arrangements.

The new after-school clubs will be starting today. There are many exciting programs to work with. Homework help, Student Council and the Robotics teams will all continue with many others like the Travel Club (deciding the trip for next year and planning fundraising projects) were added. **Many students have not yet returned the sing-up form for the new clubs. Please do this as soon as possible and don't miss out on these great educational opportunities.**

With all the eco-friendly projects that have been going on, please do not forget the exciting weekend of activities planned for **the Earth Day event at the Museum of Discovery and Science**. **The dates are Saturday and Sunday, April 19 and 20**. **The times are between 12 and 4 P.M.** but we have the flexibility to use all the time that the museum is open. **Students volunteering for this event will be given admission passes for family members to attend as well**. **If you would like to participate, please have your child talk to Mrs. Friend or send her an email directly.**

Attached you will find a wish list. The students are constructing a butterfly garden for the Earth Day events that we have planned with the Museum of Discovery and Science. **Please consider donating any of these items and/or your time to this worthy project. It is of the highest importance that we acquire these items this week.**

Thank you for your continued assistance, input, and support.

David Jett, Principal

Butterfly Garden Wish List (In order of importance)

1) BUILDING MATERIALS

Treated Outdoor Lumber to construct raised beds of 10 ft x 10 ft x 1.5 ft Dimensions

- a) We need approximately 8 posts which will stand ~3 - 5 ft Tall and be attached to the raised beds.
- b) Ply wood cut to the above dimensions of 10ft long, 18" high, thickness should be around 1/2" and treated for outdoor use
- c) 2 x 4's to frame in the plywood and give support to the structure
- d) Nails and Hammers

2) PLANTING MATERIALS

- a) Ecosoil (Compacted Peat Moss) bags covering 3.8 cubic feet approximately 10 bags
- b) Water-hose and nozzle
- c) Plants needed:
 - 1-2 Wild Lime Trees (*Zanthoxylum fagara*)
 - 3-4 Butterfly Weeds (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
 - 2-3 Passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*)
 - 4-5 Parsley Plants
 - 3-4 Wild Lantana (*Lantana involucrata*)
 - 1-2 Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)
- d) Pond Liner (small and shallow) with broad, flat stones