



## **The Leadership Initiative**

***(An Illinois 501(c)(3) - Not-for-Profit Organization)***

### **Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, Session Summary - "Mr. Thayer Johnson"**

**When:** Saturdays - 10:00 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

**Where:** **Naperville North High School** or **ALIVE, Naperville Teen Center**

#### **STEM as a Career Choice & African American Contributions**

Presenter Thayer Johnson did another phenomenal job of teeing up information and generating discussion from Mentees pertaining to:

- The difference between S.T.E.M. and S.T.E.A.M.
- Why S.T.E.M.
- Black Excellence in S.T.E.M. (Past & Present)
- Careers in S.T.E.M.

Mr. Johnson also led a discussion pertaining to the Father of Black History (I.e., Mr. Carter G. Woodson), as well as five (5) take away excerpts from his book "*The Miseducation of the Negro*" which are food for thought.

1. Education of any people should begin with the people themselves
2. We are instilled with a self-hatred through education
3. Too many educated Black people leave the masses
4. Political Education has been neglected
5. We have relegated the majority of our education towards teaching and preaching

We were also pleased to welcome Mentoring Program Alum Marcel Francis. Marcel, a Graduate of Illinois State University, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Broadcast Journalism, spoke to students about his experience as a Mentee, and current position as a reporter, journalist, and producer for Naperville's NCTV17 cable station.

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The Leadership Initiative will host its next Mentoring session **Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** at **ALIVE Teen Center, 500 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Naperville 60563.**

- **Topic: "Career Readiness"** - Led by: **Mr. Kevin Harris**

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**The Leadership Initiative** appreciates your **Tax Deductible Donation**. All Donations are applied to Youth Programming, Field Trips, and Scholarships for Mentees graduating from both TLI's Mentoring Program and High School, and who demonstrate intent to pursue post-secondary education. **Donations can be made by mailing a check to: The Leadership Initiative - 3440 Butler Walk, Naperville, IL 60564,** or visiting our website at:

- <https://www.TheLeadershipInitiative2019.org> and clicking on the **Donate** button.

***(Upon receipt of your Donation, a Letter of Confirmation will be forwarded for your records.)***

Questions pertaining to the content of this Summary may be forwarded to my attention.

Yours very truly,

**Albert G. Demming, President**

**The Leadership Initiative**

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