



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Principal

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David Mehler

President

U.S. Chess Center

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Dear Mr. Mehler:

Our chess program at McKinley Tech is off to such a good start that I wanted to write a letter of appreciation. The Maurice Ashley visit was an incredible way to start the year - the two students who played in the 30-board exhibition were thrilled, and all our students benefited from hearing about the opportunities that were opened to Mr. Ashley through chess. Whether our students pursue chess or a different passion, they know that participating in cultural activities such as chess can lead them to interesting places and interesting people.

I have enjoyed seeing how quickly the students are picking up chess and how quickly the chess club has grown to now include more than 40 students. The articles about the benefits of chess are true! Our students are having fun while learning to think things through and make good choices - or learn from their bad choices and make better decisions next time.

Thank you very much for your weekly visits and for your wonderful manner with the chess club. I am eager to see how well the students are doing by the end of the year.

Sincerely,

David Pinder