



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6626

allison.fore@mwrdd.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release
January 14, 2016

Phillips Academy High School IHSA football champs accept resolution from MWRD Board of Commissioners



The state champion Phillips Academy High School football team received a resolution from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Board of Commissioners on Jan. 7. On hand with the team to receive the honor were head coach Troy McAllister (back, second from left) and Principal Matthew Sullivan (back, third from left), who said the program is “only getting started” in its pursuit of success in the classroom and on the field.

The state champion Phillips Academy High School football team not only excelled on the gridiron, but they showed how to squeeze in for a photo at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago’s (MWRD’s) Board room.

The MWRD Board of Commissioners paused to salute the team on its recent IHSA football championship title, making the Wildcats the first team in Chicago Public Schools’ history to bring home the trophy since the state playoffs began in 1974.

“We want to applaud this resilient and talented team that made us so proud for achieving what no Chicago Public Schools football team has ever done,” said MWRD Commissioner Kari Steele. “At a time when we hear about so many negative stories swirling around young men on the South Side, this group blocked out all of the distractions and put their teammates and coaches first and worked together to overcome all adversity and bring the trophy home.”

This storybook season, which could be fodder for a feature-length film one day, built upon the previous season’s trip to the state championship where they came away only as runners up. But the motivated Wildcats of



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6632

allison.fore@mwrdd.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release

January 14, 2016

Phillips Academy High School *(continued)*

Bronzeville didn't dwell on last year this time around. They swept into Huskie Stadium at Northern Illinois University on Nov. 27, 2015, to defeat Belleville's Althoff Catholic High School 51-7 to win the state championship.

After falling behind early, Phillips scored 51 unanswered points to win the title. Quarterback Quayvon Skanes rushed for 141 yards and four touchdowns and threw a 36-yard touchdown pass to Qadeer Weatherly, while Kamari Mosby ran for 151 yards and a score. Amir Watts returned a fumble 19 yards for a score and Isaac Osei completed the scoring with a 21-yard field goal.

On hand with the team to receive the resolution from the MWRD were Principal Matthew Sullivan and head coach Troy McAllister. The Phillips student athletes are also winning in the classroom, Principal Sullivan reported. After being called the academically worst high school in the state of Illinois in 2010, Sullivan said that the high school had 100 percent of its seniors gain acceptance into college for the first time in school history last year.



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) President Mariyana Spyropoulos (front, right) and Commissioner Kari Steele (middle, second from left) welcomed the state football champion Phillips Academy High School student athletes to the MWRD Boardroom, where a resolution was read in their honor for becoming the first team in the history of Chicago Public Schools to win the IHSA playoffs.

###

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.