



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan welcomes Leland Elementary School Counselor to Board of Commissioners meeting



(L-R) Jaton Connolly, Counselor at George Leland Elementary School and MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Vice President Barbara McGowan along with the MWRD Board of Commissioners recently presented a resolution and pictures to Jaton Connolly, Student Counselor at George Leland Elementary School, for the school's participation at the MWRD's African American History Month Seminar Series. Leland eighth grade students and teachers visited the MWRD Main Office to join staff and listen to internationally acclaimed scholar, educator and activist Conrad Worrill who gave two presentations on African American elected officials' rise from local to national politics.

In celebration of African American History Month, Vice President McGowan and the MWRD will host an evening celebration of African American History on Feb. 21. The public is invited to attend and listen to a talented panel with Dr. Worrill who will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Leland School is a Space to Grow school, part of an innovative partnership between the MWRD, Healthy Schools



Back row: (L-R) Regina Berry, Allison Fore, President Mariyana Spyropoulos, Commissioner Kari K. Steele. Front row: (L-R) Commissioner Frank Avila, Commissioner David Walsh, Commissioner Josina Morita, Jaton Connolly, Vice President Barbara McGowan, Commissioner Debra Shore and Commissioner Martin Durkan.

Campaign, Openlands, Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Department of Water Management that transforms schoolyards into centers for outdoor learning, play and engagement with nature while also addressing neighborhood flooding issues.

The partnership has led to educational opportunities in the classroom and at the MWRD, where the MWRD shares with the students and teachers its expertise on water management in addition to other important subjects like African American history.

"We appreciate that Student Counselor Jaton Connolly was able to visit our Board to receive the pictures and resolutions on behalf of the Leland School, students and staff," said Vice President McGowan. "This has been a wonderful partnership and a great experience for all of us."

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

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