



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

RISE MEMPHIS

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RISE/IP GOAL CARD PROGRAM

ISSUE 51; JANUARY 2026



## MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR MANAGER

# HAPPY MENTORING MONTH!

Happy new year! We hope you all had a restful holiday season! Our Goal Card team is so excited about the many things that we have planned for 2026 and are thrilled to have the support of our students, parents, teachers, and community partners! As we move into the new year, we would like to inform you of some important happenings for January.

We're gearing up for Q2 Redemptions and are excited to see all of our students and volunteers later this month! Report cards will be distributed on **Wednesday, January 14th** with Redemptions beginning on January 20th. Please remember that all current Goal Card members are **REQUIRED** to attend at least two (2) Redemptions in order to remain active and receive your year-end incentive. If there is a scheduling conflict, or if you are unable to attend your school's Q2 Redemption, please make arrangements with a Goal Card coordinator to attend our virtual makeup session on **Thursday, January 29th at 4:15p.**

We are now well into the new year and want to stress the importance

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## ENJOY THIS ISSUE?

Feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who you think may find it useful.

## QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, IDEAS?

Contact Kimberly Morgan West at [kimberly@risememphis.org](mailto:kimberly@risememphis.org) or [goalcard@risememphis.org](mailto:goalcard@risememphis.org). Also, follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RISEFoundationMemphis/>



Contact your Goal Card staff during school hours at (901) 507-8885 or (901)356-5386.

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of setting new goals and/or reevaluating goals that were previously set. Parents, please encourage your students to do well in school and strive for excellence in their academics, conduct, and attendance. Lastly, if you are a graduating senior, please be sure to contact your Goal Card coordinator at (901)614-0460 so we can set up your senior assessment.

It's National Mentoring Month and we would like to give a special shout-out to all of our mentors and volunteers that give their time so graciously to pour into our student! We looking forward to celebrating you this month at our Redemption events!

If you have any questions about our Goal Card program or content in this newsletter, please feel free to give us a call at (901)507-8885 or email us at [goalcard@risememphis.org](mailto:goalcard@risememphis.org). We are excited to celebrate you next week!

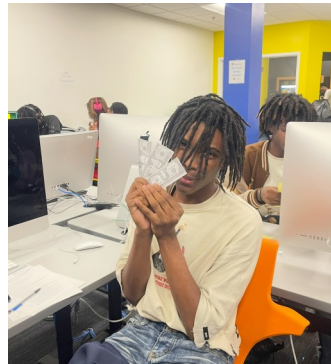
**BEST,**  
**KIMBERLY MORGAN-WEST**  
**SENIOR GOAL CARD MANAGER**



## RISE MEMPHIS NEWS

# GOAL CARD SCHOLARS ACE THE HOLIDAY SPENDING CHALLENGE!

Last month, our Goal Card scholars received a very fun and insightful lesson on holiday spending where they were able to identify their money personalities and the reasons they spend (and save) money the way that they do.

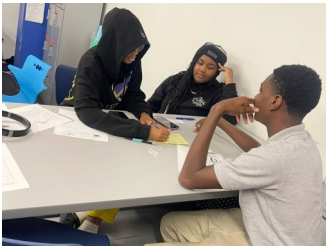


As part of our Challenge Day, all Goal Card participants were split into groups and were tasked with completing our "Holiday Hustle" game where they were responsible for shopping for a family of 4 at the selected store(s) of Goal Card's choice. Special congratulations to all of our scholars for working together and completing the task and a huge shoutout to our high school scholars at KQ and BTW; your task was a bit challenging, but you all knocked it out of the park!



All challenge winners will be rewarded with a special gift at the Q2 Redemption! Please check the schedule and make sure you are present to receive your reward!

To see our monthly sessions in action, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram [@RISEMemphis](#).



# YOUR Q2 REDEMPTION HEADQUARTERS!

Quarter 2 reports will be released on **Wednesday, January 14th** and the Goal Card team is excited to kick off Q2 Redemptions immediately following the MLK holiday!

Please take a look at our Redemption schedule below. All Goal Card participants are required to attend at least (2) Redemption events for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are unable to attend the school's scheduled Redemption Day, you are welcome to attend the virtual makeup session on **Thursday, January 29th**.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Goal Card team at (901)356-5386. See you soon!

### Q2 Goal Card Redemption Schedule

**Cummings 5th Grade Redemption:**  
Tuesday, January 20th @ 1:00p in the Metropolitan Room

**Bellevue Middle School Redemption:**  
Wednesday, January 21st @ 3:30p in the cafeteria

**Cummings 8th Grade Redemption:**  
Thursday, January 22nd @ 12:00p in the cafeteria

**LaRose Elementary Redemption:**  
Friday, January 23rd @ 1:15p in the library

**Q2 ONLINE/MAKEUP DAY FOR ALL SCHOOL SITES:**  
Thursday, January 29th @ 4:15p via GoTo Meeting

**Booker T. Washington High School Redemption:**  
TBD





## ELEMENTARY GOAL SETTER OF THE MONTH

### AMIYAH TAYLOR

Congratulations to our Elementary School Goal Setter of the Month, Amiyah Taylor. Amiyah is 11 years old and is in the 5th grade at Cummings K-8 Optional School. Her favorite school subject is Science and she enjoys drawing and playing trombone in her spare time. When Amiyah grows up, she wants to be a doctor and a veteran.

Congratulations Frejara Anderson! Amiyah is a shining star!



*Goal Setters of the Month are selected by each group's Goal Card Coordinator with the help of representatives at our participating schools. Encourage your child to be a shining star so that they can be recognized in our upcoming newsletters!*

## GOAL SETTERS OF THE MONTH!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL GOAL SETTER OF THE MONTH

### GABRIEL OBASUYI

Congratulations to our Middle School Goal Setter of the Month, Gabriel Obasuyi! Gabriel is 12 years old and is in the 6th grade at Bellevue Middle School. Gabriel's favorite subject is math and he likes to read and research funny videos in his spare time. When Gabriel grows up, he would like to become a video game programmer. Kudos to Gabriel for being one of our top scholars in 6th grade!

Congratulations Elicia Williams! We are so proud of Gabriel!



## HIGH SCHOOL GOAL SETTER OF THE MONTH

### J'NHIYA WILEY

Congratulations to our High School Goal Setter of the Month, J'Nhiya Wiley. J'Nhiya is 17 years old and is a senior at Booker T. Washington High School. Her favorite subject is English and she enjoys singing in her spare time. After graduation, J'Nhiya plans to attend The University of Memphis with hopes of becoming an architect.

Congratulations Johnae and Dexter Wiley! J'Nhiya is on the path to greatness!



# EVENT INFO & ANNOUNCEMENTS

This section is reserved for information regarding community information and announcements. RISE is only sharing this information and do not have any additional information regarding any of the listings.

**2026 MPLY SUMMER**  
3000 MEMPHIS YOUTH RISING

**SUMMER EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION**

**Application Period**  
January 12<sup>th</sup> thru February 9<sup>th</sup>

Must be a resident of the City of Memphis

**AGES 14-22**  
You can apply starting January 12<sup>th</sup>

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**  
Unexpired Government-Issued ID  
Social Security Card  
Proof of Residency for the Parent/Guardian/Point of Education

Call 901-450-4344 or email youth@riseofmemphis.org for application assistance

**MEMPHIS**

**WANDA LEE HARRIS SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE**

**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

**OPEN** Monday, January 5, 2026

**CLOSE** Friday, March 2, 2026

Shelby County residents ages 18-24 who have graduated from high school are invited to apply to the Mayor's Summer Work Experience. The Mayor's Summer Work Experience is an eight week summer work experience with offers young adults the opportunity to gain valuable work experience. Each young adult will work in a county government department. In addition, program participants will attend weekly professional development training sessions aimed at developing the "soft skills" necessary to succeed in their future professions.

The pay is \$15 per hour at approximately 31.5 hours per week. There is a \$100 bonus for perfect attendance.

Participants are selected in a random lottery.

Mayor Lee Harris' Summer Work Experience (MSWE) | Shelby County, TN - Official Website

**Homecoming Week**  
1/12/26 - 1/16/26

**MON 12** INSIDE OUT TEACHER/STUDENT SWAP DAY

**TUE 13** TEEN BEACH MOVIE SURFERS VS. BIKERS

**WED 14** WAKANDA FOREVER ALL-AGES, EVERYTHING

**THU 15** HOUSE PARTY ANY CHARACTER FROM FRIDAY

**FRIDAY 16** ANY CHARACTER FROM FRIDAY

**WILL YOU BE THE NEXT Homecoming Queen?**  
See Ms. Gray or Mrs. K in steps up by 1:30p

**HOMECOMING 3-GAME PACKAGE \$15**  
STUDENT SALE - 1/7/26 - 1/12/26 ONLY

**FREE TAX PREP**  
the key to possibilities

United Way of the Mid-South

## #GC20 NEWS TRANSFORMING STUDENTS FOR 20 OVER YEARS!

Aside from promoting financial literacy, Goal Card also focuses on the well-being of each student as a whole and has been doing so for 20 years!

As we kickoff our Q2 Redemptions, we are reminded of how pivotal the coach-student relationship is to our program. Having adult professionals serve as mentors to our students has made a world of difference in the lives of our members because they have an "accountability partner" whose goal is to make sure they succeed!

We would love your continued support as we continue to fulfill our mission and pour into the lives of our youth! Please check out our website at [risememphis.org](http://risememphis.org) to find out about volunteer opportunities or ways to donate!

## RISE UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

<p>Wednesday, January 14th</p> <p><b>Q2 Report Card Day!!</b></p>	<p>Tuesday, January 20st</p> <p><b>CUMMINGS EAGLES 5TH GRADE REDEMPTION w/ ORGILL, INC.</b></p> <p>1:00p - 3:00p</p> <p>Location: Metropolitan Room</p>	<p>Thursday, January 22nd</p> <p><b>CUMMINGS EAGLES 8TH GRADE REDEMPTION</b></p> <p>12:30p</p> <p>Location: Cummings Cafeteria</p>
<p>Monday, January 19th</p> <p><b>MLK HOLIDAY</b></p> <p>No ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED. RISE OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 21st</p> <p><b>BELLEVUE Q2 REDEMPTION</b></p> <p>3:30p - 4:30p</p> <p>Location: Bellevue Cafeteria</p>	<p>Friday, January 23rd</p> <p><b>LAROSE Q2 REDEMPTION w/ INTERNATIONAL PAPER</b></p> <p>1:15p - 2:45p</p> <p>LaRose Library</p>

