

THE McADAMS MEMO

giving kids hope and a second chance



As a teacher, one of the greatest challenges is getting a student to believe in themselves. For students who have endured a lifetime of failure, low report cards and minimal support; this journey to confidence is challenging and usually long. Sometimes, however, breakthroughs happen suddenly. This week at McAdams a student began to believe he can do anything, even going so far as to declare "After that, I believe I can fly". When I started working with Anthony (*name changed for privacy) on his Algebra class, he expected to fail. His confidence was so low, it took me several weeks to convince him to even start his first lesson. When we did begin the going was slow and filled with many pep talks as Anthony needed repeated encouragement to keep going. Our first lesson took time but when it finished with a quiz score of 100% Anthony beamed. After his second score of 100%, he shared with me privately (so no peers would call him a nerd) "Math is my favorite class now". Once a student who previously refused to try math, he began choosing to do Algebra instead of his other classes. Still his confidence was shaky. As we moved forward, I took pictures of his scores and videos of him working so that each time he got frustrated I could remind him of his potential. Within two weeks, he had completed one of the hardest chapters of Algebra with a test score of 90%. Halfway through the next chapter, I missed over a week of school due to a scheduled vacation and family illness. When I returned, Anthony was gone. He

only had six days left before his expulsion ended and he didn't believe he could finish Algebra in that time, so he had chosen to remain home. Believing there was still a chance we urged him to come back and try. When he returned this Monday, he had three days left to complete the remaining 60% of class which would typically be covered over the course of more than two months in a public school. At the end of Monday, 35% remained. He had finished a month of Algebra in one day! With an hour left on Tuesday all that remained was his semester final. He had finished two months of Math in less than two days and his excitement and confidence had grown tremendously. The next hour was one of the moments as a teacher that I have been most proud of a student. The understanding, focus and effort he displayed while taking his final was amazing. The only mistakes he made involved switching negatives. In a month, he had gone from refusing to try math to finishing class with a B. What followed was immense display of pride and joy. In the conversations that followed, Anthony shared a hope for his future that I had not witnessed before. For the first time he believed he could graduate and overcome the limited expectations for what his life could be. For most people, math is a torture device designed to steal the joy from school aged children; but for one student this week at McAdams, it was the key that opened the door to hope and possibilities.

- Silas Pederson



McAdams Amazon Wish List!
www.tinyurl.com/yyrkxqb

URGENT NEEDS:

- Face Wash
- Deodorant (mens & womens)
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Shaving Cream
- Ethnic Hair Care Products
- Wash Cloths
- Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Multi-Color Dry Erase Markers
- 8.5x11 Cardstock

MEET WALL-E & EVE!
Our two new 3D printers are up and running! They made their first test print of 22mm cubes.



Would you pray with us specifically for a new building? The need for a school like McAdams is great and resources and finances are limited. But we serve a Great God who is able to do more than we can ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20). Will you ASK with us?



C CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL AND ACADEMIC RESEARCH
2821 E. 24th ST. N. WICHITA, KS 67219

Dr. Chuck's Corner



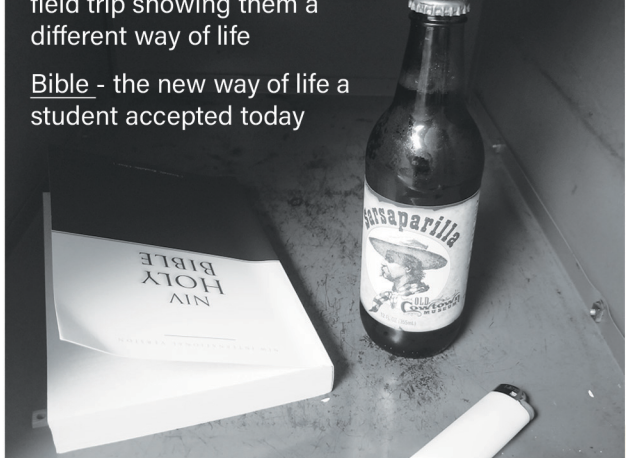
Final Thoughts from the Executive Director

I want to thank each and every person who helped make our 2020 Golf Classic such a great event! Our volunteers and staff went above and beyond, and their hard work was evident throughout the day.



AN IDEAL McADAMS LOCKER:

- Lighter - the life they are fighting against
- Sarsaparilla - from a community field trip showing them a different way of life
- Bible - the new way of life a student accepted today



"WE HEAR YOU AND LOVE YOU!"

One of my students came to school one day really upset and mad, to the point of wanting to fight. So I asked him what happened. He told me another kid stayed at his placement for respite and found his gold playing cards in his room and set them on fire. As I was talking with him I found out that his grandma had given them to him and they had a lot of sentimental value. Later, I looked online to see about buying another deck to replace the cards that were destroyed. After talking with the office, we all agreed to replace the cards. When the cards came, I took him to another room and handed him the package. He asked me, "What is this?" I said, "Open it. It's for you." As he opened the package he saw the gold box of playing cards and tears started to form in his eyes. I told him "I know the cards were a special gift from your grandma. I know they are not the exact ones she gave you, but we wanted to make it right and let you know that we do hear you and love you!" He gave me a hug and then we went back to the room.

- Tim Hester



Our programs help expelled youths and children in the foster care system from falling behind academically and address behavioral problems that often ruin their ability to complete their education. Every day we have opportunities to make life-changing interactions with our students. You can help us invest in their lives in the following ways:

Pray!

Please pray for individual students in the program, their families, staff, and material needs for the ministry. We also now have a prayer ministry! If you would like to receive our e-mailed prayer list, please contact us by email (see column at right).

Volunteer

Tutoring, Mentoring, Cooking, Games, whatever you enjoy doing we have a place for you! Please give us a call or come visit us and see where you can help!

Donate

Online: <https://ictcbar.com> -or- <https://mcadamsacademy.org>
Mail a Check payable to CBAR or McAdams Academy (address far right)
Dillons.com: Log into your rewards account, click the "Community Rewards" tab, and search MCADAMS ACADEMY or LS056.
smile.Amazon.com: log into your account, and search Center for Behavioral and Academic Research. A percentage of your eligible purchases will be donated.

Practical needs can be found on our Amazon Wish List:
www.tinyurl.com/yyrkxqb

Items can be purchased and shipped directly to the school.

- 316.239.6472
- cknowles@ictcbar.com
- 2821 E. 24th St. N. Wichita KS 67219
- McAdams Academy
- @McAdamsAcademy