



# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

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# ACADEMY

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), in partnership with The Grimes Firm, local and state elected officials, and non-profit leaders, is offering a leadership development program for students focused on social justice. The program will immerse 50 high school students in analysis of historical social justice movements, evaluation of current County conditions and a series of developmental learning sessions to build advocacy and change leadership skills. The partnership will culminate with a week-long residential program combining elements of leadership development, retreat planning and community building.

## **GOAL**

The Social Justice Academy will develop high-impact student leaders by empowering them with the leadership skills and tools they need to execute transformative civic engagement, while also building their self-esteem and tenacity.

## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Social Justice Academy sessions will take place two Saturdays each month from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and will include a weeklong summer experience that builds on students' skills and learning.
- Students will take part in a customized curriculum that examines social justice movements, builds knowledge of county systems and operations, and develops skills that support effective change leadership.
- Students will assess their own leadership skills to identify areas of proficiency and growth and create their own Leadership Development Plan.
- Students will engage with program staff and County mentors to reflect on their life experiences and gain new insights.
- Students will develop a Draft Social Justice Action Plan detailing their recommendations for social impact change in Prince George's County.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Interested students must complete a pre-assessment survey and register online. Fifty applicants will be selected through a competitive review by the Academy Advisory Board. Online applications will be accepted from March 10 through March 24, 2021. Acceptance notifications will be sent out March 25-28.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information, visit the PGCPS student webpage at [www.pgcps.org/students](http://www.pgcps.org/students).

