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On Wednesday February 1st the Department of Consumers and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) hosted a parent/student meeting at Dunbar High School in Washington D.C. The event was to orientate parents and answer any questions that they may have regarding the Pre-Apprenticeship program established and offered by DCRA in conjunction with Dunbar's commitment in preparing students for careers in the D.C. and surrounding areas. Twelve students have been selected this year to participate in the 2nd annual pre-apprenticeship program.

Ms. Melaka Lenzy (DCRA) spoke to the parents about the commitment the students and the parents would need to make so their children could be successful in this program. Ms. Lenzy clearly outlined the rules and regulations to partake in this program including being on time, dress code and being self motivated since this is an after school program.

Ms. Kristina Savoy (DCRA) spoke about careers associated with code knowledge and the next step in the program entering the apprenticeship program offered by DCRA. Ms. Savoy discussed the meaning of success and what was necessary to achieve success.

Mr. Ira Neff DCRA inspector holding numerous certifications and certified and skilled to complete inspections in numerous trades, spoke to the students about the curriculum of the program. Mr. Neff will be working with Mr. Allard Dunbar's construction instructor to teach the International Property Maintenance Code and prepare students for the next phase of the apprenticeship program.

Jim Ellwood, Liaison to the International Code Councils (ICC) High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP) spoke about the importance of code knowledge in the construction industry and careers associated with ICC certificates and certifications.

The informal meeting was a success with many students and families staying after to ask questions and obtain additional information. The ICC's D.C. office is committed to supporting DCRA in make their program a success and a model apprenticeship program for code officials across the country.

Below, Kristina Savoy, Ira Neff, and Maleka Lenzy with DCRA , and Jim Ellwood with the ICC speak to assembled parents and students.





