



Dorchester County
Public Schools
Every Child A Success!

SUPERINTENDENT'S PRESS RELEASE

Henry V. Wagner, Jr., Superintendent

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MACE'S LANE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT NAMED A CARSON SCHOLAR

Mace's Lane Middle School eighth grader **Zakiya Chickwendu** has accomplished a lot for a student her age.

She is taking the most rigorous classes at the middle school; she is maintaining a perfect A average; she scored in the top five percent for MSA mathematics in grades six and seven; she has had artwork displayed twice as part of the annual regional art show at the Talbot County Visual Arts Center in Easton; she was the 2007 Maryland Junior D Level 4 All-Around Gymnastic Champion; and she was the Clark's Gymnast of the Year for 2009.

Now, she can claim another honor.

This past week she was selected as a **2011 Carson Scholar**. As such, she will be presented with a \$1,000 scholarship, a medal, and a certificate at an **April 10** ceremony at **Martin's West** in Baltimore.

Dr. Ben Carson, creator of the **Carson Scholar** program, was born into poverty in Detroit in 1951 and has risen to become one of the most famous and recognized doctors in the world. Currently the **Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery** at **Johns Hopkins Hospital** in **Baltimore**, Dr. Carson was the subject of a book and a movie. Titled "**Gifted Hands**," both detailed his early life in poverty, the steps he took to overcome it, and his philosophy of life and behavior. He was presented with a **Presidential Medal of Freedom** for his life's work.

