

FDDOC WINNERS' CIRCLE TENNIS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

All students within the FDDOC tutoring program attend math and reading academics as well as enrichment classes that include tennis, robotics, health and nutrition, and art/music three days a week for two and half hours after school. They also receive a healthy meal and are provided transportation home.

Over 100 total children were our tennis program during our 2016-17 school year programs with 39 registered USTA members and recorded in Tennis Link for the Spring 2017 season. Our instructors taught them the basics of tennis utilizing the 10 & Under and A's for Aces format and activities in the fall and had the had 8 weeks of competitive play days in the spring.

At one school site we had an "Earn a Racket Program" and received positive responses from the students. One young lady, To'miyah who was not interested in tennis in the beginning earned a racket right before Spring Break. During her week off, she had her Dad playing with her and is now teaching him to play tennis! She is getting exercise, enjoying the sport and spending quality time with a parent! Another student, Shakira, who has many interests, was one of our first students to earn a racket and is one of our best players. She plans on participating in a junior program over the summer.

The "Earn a Racket Program" stressed good sportsmanship, teamwork, and a healthy outdoor exercise. When tennis tutoring began most of our classes had students that struggled with behavioral and anger management and how to interact with others in a positive manner. Through positive reinforcement, incentives, and constructive learning, almost all issues went. And many students not only know the definition of sportsmanship, but they have incorporated it into their match play and are now exemplifying example to others!

All of our regular attending students in the tennis program received incentives and tennis themed books during the year and ended the program with a reward medal, tennis racket, and balls to take home for the summer.

FDDOC is a community partner with the Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association (NWLACTA), a registered NJTL, has made application for NET Generation, Kids Tennis Club Member, past and present recipient of various USTA and STPF tennis grants, a past recipient of the Education Merit Award and has received other rewards in conjunction with the NWLACTA.

Our mission is to educate the whole child to **believe, belong, and become** successful by delivering high-quality education activities and lifetime enrichment programs to support at-risk students in obtaining educational goals and leading productive and successful lives.



(These photos may not be used for publication as some of the parents of children in these photos did not give permission)