

PRESS RELEASE

January 25, 2017

ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDER PRESIDENT PRESENTS CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION TO STUDENT INTERNS



Essex County Freeholder President Britnee N. Timberlake (rear left) presents certificates of completion to student interns (from left to right) Vanessa Aryee, Kelly-Jo Kelly and Shamar Williams alongside Freeholder At-Large Lebbly C. Jones (rear right). PHOTO BY GLEN FRIESON

(Newark, NJ) – On January 25, 2017, Essex County Freeholder President Britnee N. Timberlake presented certificates for successfully completing the President’s first ever internship program to Vanessa Aryee, Shamar Williams, and Kelly-Jo Kelly.

The youngsters are students at East Orange STEM Academy, a highly focused four-year program led by Principal Thelma Ramsey, Assistant Principal Kathy Richardson, Assistant Principal Paul Santoro, and a host of other teachers and staff. The school was established to attract students who are looking to enter careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math.

President Timberlake attended an engagement at the school and developed the internship program after one student asked if there were any internship opportunities available at her office. In response, she challenged the students to visit her office and seek out the new opportunity. Thus, of nearly 25 teenagers, 3 successfully completed the program.

During the four-week internship program, the students learned about the importance of local government and the roles and responsibilities of citizens and elected officials. The students were assigned various projects, including an interview project about local government and a fruitful debate, to name a few. The internship served to provide the students with experience in public speaking, civic engagement, and to benefit them in the future.

President Timberlake shared remarks, congratulating the students for their dedication and leadership. She stressed the significance of being available to the youth of the community and giving back. Furthermore, she thanked the students and recognized their achievements in completing the internship.

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