



“THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK”
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

THOMAS M. ROACH
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For Immediate Release

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**CITY, SCHOOL DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE 12TH
ANNUAL DADS/SPECIAL ADULTS TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
DAY**

Special Virtual Event Thursday September 17th @ 6:00 P.M.

White Plains, NY - September 10, 2020. The City of White Plains will celebrate Dads/ Special Adults Take Your Child to School Day with a special virtual event on Thursday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m.

This special evening will highlight the important role dads play in the lives of their children, especially during the COVID-19 Pandemic. There is much anxiety and a lot of questions about the new school year and what it will bring. Community is more important than ever these days. It is extremely important that our White Plains families work together with our school district to ensure that our children are healthy and safe and supporting each other.

The speaker for the program will be Mr. Thabiti Boone. Thabiti Boone is an inspirational public figure -- a college basketball Hall of Famer, author, leader, minister, and humanitarian. He is a strong supporter of President Obama's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative. He is the International Representative for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative. He is a Fatherhood Advisor to NBA Legend Allan Houston/Allan Houston Foundation. As a former NY Theological Seminary Adjunct Professor, Thabiti created and taught the first ever course on Fatherhood and Black Males, its Biblical impact and implications on the role and influence of the Church and Community. He is an advisor to Fathers and Men of Professional Basketball Players, Inc. He is recognized as one of the leading voices, leaders and organizers on Fatherhood, Manhood and Strengthening Families.



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Raised on the tough streets of Brooklyn, NY, Thabiti overcame some of the most challenging circumstances, including being born to a 13 year-old mother, watching her suicide attempt at age 12, taking his daughter to college as a teenage father, balancing basketball stardom, academic and parenting responsibilities and sacrificing his NBA dream to raise her, and becoming one of our nation’s most compelling success stories.

Former New York Knicks basketball player and Assistant General Manager, Alan Houston, will give a message to Dads.

White Plains School Superintendent Dr. Joseph Ricca said, “Throughout the Pandemic of 2020, the White Plains community came together to support and care for one another. That’s who we are, and will always be #WPProud of the love of our community shares. This opportunity for dads and special adults to come together in celebration of our children and their loved ones is a perfect chance to help prepare our children for the coming school year. In the school district, we are grateful for our caregivers and the dedication that they show to our children. That ‘community as family’ framework will continue to serve our children well in the new school year. Special thanks to Mayor Roach, Youth Bureau Director Frank Williams and the White Plains Youth Bureau for continuing to support this special day, even during challenging times. More than ever, we need each other and together we will emerge stronger.”

Mayor Tom Roach said, “This is an unprecedented time in our nation’s history. We will get through this! We are asking our dads and special adults to join the meeting as we discuss how we can contribute to our children’s success and support our teachers, administrators, and school officials during this school year.”

To participate in this event, email whiteplainsyouthbureau@whiteplainsny.gov

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