

A Thank You Note From Sumner High School

Sumner High School is located in The Ville neighborhood of St. Louis City. It was the first high school west of the Mississippi built to educate African- Americans. Sumner is proud to be home to a long list of famous alumni including the late Arthur Ashe, the late Chuck Berry, and Tina Turner.

Today, Sumner's student body is comprised of smart, resilient students from various parts of the city. Our student body is 100% African-American with the majority of students living below the poverty line. Approximately 15% of our students are living in transition – meaning they lack stable housing.

We are incredibly grateful for the generous donation given to Sumner High School by the Assistance League of St. Louis. As the school social worker, I have spent my first year at Sumner getting to know the students and community. I have come to see that our students have “big” needs and “little” needs – “big” needs include unresolved family conflict, healing from past trauma, or struggling with suicidal thoughts; “little” needs mean needing help with new uniform clothes or hygiene products.

With the donations from the Assistance League, I am creating a Resource Closet where I can easily access items to help students with those “little” needs. My hope is that as I work with students through the “big” needs, I can quickly take away anxiety or fear they may feel by not having the “little” needs met. A student who is in clean clothing and has their hygiene needs met is more capable to focus in school, have more confidence when interacting with their peers, and have the mental capacity to think through conflict situations.

On behalf of the students and staff of Sumner High School, I want to say “THANK YOU!” for partnering with our community. Your generosity and willingness to help has made a deep impact.

Trisha Krumsieg, MSW

Social Worker

St. Louis Public Schools District

Charles E. Sumner High School

4248 Cottage Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63113

[\(314\) 371-1048 ext. 31155](tel:(314)371-1048)