

Volunteer teachers needed for Kwanzaa Summer School

Are you concerned about the children — our children — who are left behind in the achievement gap between students of color and students with white privilege? Are you a teacher (or a retired teacher)? If your answer to these questions is “Yes,” Kwanzaa is offering you an opportunity to put your faith into action this summer.

Kwanzaa’s 21st Century Academy, as part of the Northside Achievement Zone, works with families and schools to help children raise their grade levels as they form meaningful relationships with adults. During the school year, the program serves middle school students who arrive at Kwanzaa after school for safety, for mentoring, and for a nutritious meal before they are bused to their homes.

This summer the 21st Century Academy, for students entering grades six through nine, will be part of the summer school program sponsored by the Minneapolis Public Schools. Volunteer teachers will mentor and form relationships. They will have the freedom to teach projects designed to enrich the lives of students as they learn new skills. Teachers will have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children by helping to close the achievement gap that is really an “opportunity gap.”

The summer school will meet June 13 to July 22 at the Metropolitan Community Technical College in Minneapolis. The hours are 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., but the hours for volunteer teachers are very flexible and do not include Fridays. You may volunteer for the hours you are available, from an hour or two a week to several hours a day.

For information please email the Rev. Dr. Alikea Galloway at: rgall60099@aol.com. Let her know about your interest. It may be that God is calling you to serve children who have been forgotten by society but who are loved by God.