



APRIL 2016



MEC staff member Ms. Ashley Chismark shares a smile with students from MEC's Pretty Brown Girl Club.

MEC helps students achieve despite challenges

MEC Director Mr. Brian Wortel, accompanied by Mr. Greg Schneider, Supervisor of Instruction and Special Education Services, began the evening by thanking the Board of Education and administration for their "continued support and belief that ALL students have a right to an education no matter how many challenges they may have." He added that their students' success is "due to the fact that we have a staff that wants to work with our students." They presented two outstanding programs that are currently underway:

- **Pretty Brown Girl Club**

Founded in 2010, the group's mission is to encourage girls to celebrate the shades of brown all over the world; while inspiring positive self-esteem and confidence, with a focus on self-esteem, leadership and service.

- **Chicago Area Alternative Education League (CAEL)**

CAEL – Allows our students to participate in athletic events. This year, students from MEC participated in flag football, basketball, and volleyball

- **Student Testimonial**

Former MEC student, Monte Edwards, gave kudos to the MEC program and the staff who helped get him headed in the right direction for his future. Board members commended Mr. Wortel and his staff for the great work they are doing in this building and for a job well done with our students.

"Our student success can be measured in improved academics. But, the GREATEST SUCCESS comes from the social/emotional learning that cannot always be measured.



**Pretty Brown Girl Club Leaders:
Building Leaders from the Inside Out**

