Leadership Tampa Alumni Raises Money for Memorial Middle School

Tampa, Fla. – Leadership Tampa Alumni (LTA), a program of the Tampa Bay Chamber, raised over $4,000 for the students at Memorial Middle School in Tampa. The Leadership Tampa Alumni group is an alumni program for the Leadership Tampa 9-month leadership course run by the Tampa Bay Chamber. Each year the Community Outreach Committee of the Leadership Tampa Alumni organization focuses on an initiative that can make a positive impact on the community.

One of the initiatives the Tampa Bay Chamber’s Leadership Tampa Alumni program has been spearheading the past couple of years is providing support to the teachers and students at Memorial Middle School. Memorial Middle School was looking for support in providing school supplies to the 705 registered students they serve to help them stay organized and on task. Leadership Tampa Alumni members helped to provide items like notebooks, pencils, folders, water bottles, and gift cards to Wal-Mart and Amazon.

“Serving the community is a priority for Leadership Tampa Alumni and its members,” said Leah Gonzalez, Chair of the LTA Community Outreach Committee. “It is evident we are in a time in which many in our community are struggling and we knew that the teachers and families of Memorial Middle School really needed our support in helping to make this school year a success. It has been exciting to see the relationship between LTA and Memorial Middle School grow and to see the eagerness of LTA members to help during these tough times.”

The students at Memorial Middle School face hardships like homelessness, food insecurity and so much more, which has been escalated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Leadership Tampa Alumni’s support has allowed for the families of these students to have one less thing to worry about and helps the teachers focus more on teaching and not on making sure students are prepared to learn.

“I am so humbled by the support Memorial Middle School has received from the Leadership Tampa Alumni organization,” said April Gillyard, Principal of Memorial Middle School. “For the past two years, they have provided clothes for our clothes closet; school supplies for all 705 students; and teacher gift bags and lunches. They have truly been a blessing to our students, families, and staff. I am honored to work with such an amazing group of community members, and I look forward to a long partnership in the years to come.”

The Leadership Tampa Alumni group is proud of their results in fundraising for Memorial Middle School and to help give back to the students and families most in need in our community. To date, LTA has supplied over 800 notebooks, 2,100 pencils, over 3,600 folders, and 200 water bottles. They fully anticipate reaching their goal of supplying these basic supplies for every single student the entire school year.

About Leadership Tampa

The Leadership Tampa program is part of the Tampa Bay Chamber and introduces its class members to major facets of the greater Tampa community through an intensive nine-month course, allowing its members to develop an authentic connection to the Tampa Bay area and to foster a commitment to the continuous improvement of the city for future growth and economic prosperity. Leadership Tampa Alumni is made up of graduates of the Leadership Tampa program since its founding in 1971.

##