

## Middle School

### **Bringing back Experiential Learning:**

Middle School scholars in Grades 7 & 8 had the opportunity to visit the Sustainable city on Monday, which is the theme tied to their new PBL (Project Based Learning) projects. If you are unsure what *Sustainability* is all about, please do take a peek at the [United Nation's 17 identified Sustainable Development Goals](#). They are more than just environmental goals!

Back in July, I did a little investigating and looking inward at Sustainability initiatives after we had some scholars enter to win a scholarship at Ignite School. Read some of my thoughts [here](#) that I published back in July.

Grades 5&6 teachers are keen on getting a recycling initiative going, so stay tuned!

### **EXPO 2020**

Speaking of Grades 5 & 6, Scholars attended Expo2020 for the first time, too! These are opportunities that not many get afforded to them around the world, and we have the World's Fair right in our backyard! I haven't been to Expo2020 yet, but I am a learner, too, and I look forward to attending during winter break.

You see, as a learning leader, I have been invited to participate in the [RewirED Summit](#) happening at Expo2020 with thought leaders around the world this December during the winter break. One of those thought leaders is former British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown! I will take some time to go during the day that is dedicated to Innovation, as that is a key focus for our scholars in our mission and vision at Ignite School. I cannot wait to learn from other Thought Leaders this December! See below for some of the questions posed around Innovation in Education for this RewirED Summit. These are the kind of things that make me curious and wanting to share, learn more, and be part of the change to improve for our scholars' tomorrow!



A platform for everyone to host and share their own discussions on the future of education

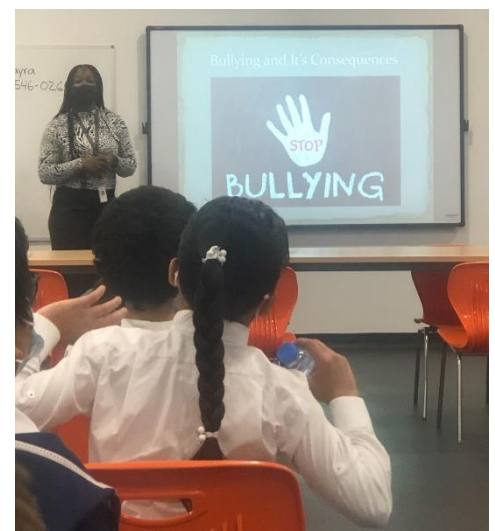
### **Youth, Skills and the Future of Work**

- What future skills do our youth need, and what opportunities do we have today to ensure equity in skills development in a post-Covid 19 world?
- What are the skills our youth need in order to build decent rural livelihoods?
- How can we redesign Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs to be environmentally and socially sustainable?

Meaningful Youth Engagement

### **Innovation in Education**

- How can we develop innovative and scalable solutions to ensure that children who live in countries affected by crises and emergencies can build strong foundations for lifelong learning and well-being?
- How can game-based learning foster a social environment of co-creation and collaboration for remote learners?
- How does EdTech evolve from digitizing outdated education systems towards building systems that are adaptable, skill-based, and fit for the skills and competencies needed today and in the future?
- How can we reimagine affordable alternative pathways to education for students who cannot access schools?



### MS Anti-Bullying Campaign

This week kicked off an anti-bullying campaign with our Middle School Scholars. All grade levels participated in an assembly to learn about the 4 types of bullying, and they got to share a bit more of their own experiences with bullying that they have either witnessed or experienced. I have reached out to the Parent Association, as I would love the opportunity to coordinate an evening to help educate you, our families, on what bullying really is, and also what we are doing at the Middle School to be more proactive to be aware, recognize, and stomp out bullying. I am also working with the Principal Advisory Board to further this campaign, as we know the effects of bullying are real, and they occur much more frequently in the Secondary School.

### MS Grade Level Competitions: Rewarding the RIGHT Thing To Do

Speaking of the Principal Advisory Board, they are underway to recognize their peers for getting to class on time. Research shows that in order for scholars to learn the most, they need to be in class! The goal is to protect teaching and learning time, and reward those who are doing the right thing! The role of the Principal Advisory Board is to promote the great things happening and to be stewards of leadership for their peers.

### UAE National Day

In closing, November in the United States where I am from is a month devoted to gratitude. Someone once told me to find at least one positive each day to be grateful for. I am grateful that where I am now, even amidst some of the things that may be negative, whether in my control or not, I can end my day with at least one real good thing to be grateful for. One thing I am grateful for is that I am a part of the 50th Birthday of the UAE. I know it is a big deal here and for such a young country, to be a part of that history in the making is a big WOW for me in my own lifetime. Of course, I have many other small things in my day that give me pause. I hope you also take pause, as every little bit really does count! My mom always says, "Sharin, it's the little things." She's right!

