
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Council members in full-court support of Midnight Basketball League

Alderman Khalif J. Rainey and Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II are looking forward to the first games of the city's **Midnight Basketball League**, which was launched yesterday in the gym at **Bradley Technology and Trade High School in Walker's Point**.

The league will be run by a partnership that includes the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Public Schools, the Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission, the Milwaukee Bucks and Running Rebels. The league is also part of the new MPS C.A.R.E.S. (Community and Recreation Engaging Students) initiative, and young men 17 to 25 years old who live in Milwaukee may participate in the 10-week league.

Alderman Rainey, who noted city funding for the Midnight Basketball Leagues was approved by the Common Council last fall as part of the 2017 city budget, said Milwaukee Public Schools will host **three** 10-week Midnight Leagues at Bradley Tech. He said the first league will start **March 1, 2017**, and each league will serve 80 to 100 young men.

"I cannot say enough about the importance of the Midnight Basketball League and how it provides a positive and constructive outlet for young men," Alderman Rainey said. "It also is happening at the time of day when there are many temptations that could lead to problems and trouble for young fellas. Most of them are very happy to be having fun and competing in a safe and positive environment."

Alderman Stamper said MPS has done a good job of working with partners in planning the league as a way to engage and support young men and connect them to community resources in Milwaukee.

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Midnight Basketball/ADD ONE

“I’m pleased that MPS is working with Running Rebels to bring community-based organizations and resources to participants during the league so young men can access a variety of programs including employment services, driver's license recovery, child support services and other options,” Alderman Stamper said.

In addition to resources, the league also supports positive police and community relations. The Milwaukee Police Department will provide mentoring opportunities for young men during the leagues. Additionally, the Milwaukee Bucks have played an integral role in the formation of the Midnight Basketball League and will continue to lend support as the league tips off in the coming weeks.

To learn more about the Midnight Basketball League, please go to mpsmke.com/cares.