

KAPOW Program Gives Students the Chance to See How City Government Works

BY JILL SHARPE

Students from Sunset Lakes Elementary and New Renaissance Middle School learned valuable lessons about how the City of Miramar operates when they had the opportunity to visit the Miramar City Hall and the Miramar Cultural Center during a Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) program.

Students from both schools took part in a mock commission meeting during which they played the roles of the City Commission, a company proposing a water park in the City, and citizens for and against the proposal. Students from both schools also had the

opportunity to discover how concerts and events are produced at the Cultural Center. Additionally, Mayor Wayne M. Messam and Commissioners Maxwell B. Chambers and Yvette Colbourne met with the students from Sunset Elementary to explain how city government works.

The lessons learned were just an example of the many benefits students receive from the KAPOW program, which prepares students for success in work and in life, through school and business partnerships that connect students, teachers and schools

with volunteers, their business organizations and the community.

KAPOW Program Director Tania Reynolds said KAPOW volunteers empower students by teaching lessons using fun, interactive mediums like games and role playing. "They are able to influence and shape the minds of students while exposing them to several career options they never knew existed," said Reynolds. "This program truly bridges the gap between what students learn in school and how it realistically and practically applies to the work world."

