



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
PRESS CONTACT:**

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Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools
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Guest Speaker Talks to Ellington Middle School Students About Personal Accountability

Motivational Speaker Kendrick Moore presented to EMS on January 23rd

ELLINGTON, CT - Ellington Middle School was pleased to host Kendrick Moore, Assistant Director of Equity and Leadership for CAS-CIAC and President of Moore Motivation, on January 23, 2025. Mr. Moore shared his message with EMS students in a full school assembly before joining student-led breakout groups to further discuss his five pillars of success, which include personal accountability and discipline. Mr. Moore shared stories from his own journey, which includes playing D1 basketball for Missouri, as well as examples of successful young people for which he has served as a mentor and coach.



Mr. Moore joined EMS student leaders in the days prior to the assembly to help them prepare to lead breakout sessions to discuss his message about being “Locked In.” Students also watched an introductory video before his assembly and made posters about the five pillars of success to bring to his presentation. Following the assembly and breakout sessions, it was clear that the message resonated with EMS students and faculty.

EMS School Counselor Scott Raiola, who led the planning and execution of this experience for students in coordination with Mr. Moore shared that *"I think one of the things we all struggle with is taking ownership of our own success. It's really easy in our society to blame other people when things go wrong or when they're not going the way we hope and I really want everybody to have that competitive fire inside of them...I think that's a skill that you can use no matter what you're going to do in life."*

EMS grade 7 student Naya Fredericksen shared that *"the presentation was really interesting and motivating as an athlete and a student. If you work really hard you can achieve your goals in life, which is really important to me because I have things I want to achieve."*

Mr. Moore has committed to continuing to work with Ellington Middle School and the guidance staff on promoting the message about staying “Locked In” to be your best self and stay focused on your personal goals.
