

THE BUZZ



By Stephany Gaona-Perez

Through leadership, empowerment and guidance, the Becoming Empowered through Education (B.E.E.) Club is creating a buzz with female students at Cedar Shoals High School.

Beginning in January earlier this year, B.E.E. Club has offered peer mentorship opportunities to female students at Cedar. The club focuses on creating leadership skills, encouraging a positive environment, and providing guidance to its members.

“It’s great to have the young ladies be able to interact with each other and encourage one another in a positive setting. I think it’s important to help them build positive relationships,” said counselor Mrs. Shamikia Bolton, B.E.E. Club faculty sponsor.

Her own high school experience inspired B.E.E. club founder Akilah Blount to create the club based on her own high school experience.

“I really felt like there was a space needed where girls could come and feel like they belong. I feel there were a lot of cliques in high school and sometimes these groups make you feel

PROUD FOUNDER: B.E.E. Club founder Akilah Blount engages in an activity with club members. “I really want every member to be able to lead their own lives. I want them to feel like they’re able to be heard and that their opinion matters.” Photos by Stephany Gaona-Perez.

like you don’t belong,” said Blount.

B.E.E. Club recently had a welcoming week to encourage students to join. Students participated in games and icebreakers to get to know each other better.

“The senior mentors introduced themselves to us. We played a lot of games and had fun. I feel like I’m going to have many new friends,” said Aliyah Adams, 9th grade.

On September 11, B.E.E. Club held its first general meeting after school. Each month, the club focuses on a specific theme. For September, the theme is “Be About Your Business.”

Members will focus on how to achieve optimal success in the classroom, at work, in extracurricular activities, and in social settings. They will focus on mindfulness, organization, and time-management skills.

“We did activities that felt empowering. We learned about knowing your worth and knowing what you have to do to go and get what you want out of life,” said Ah’tondra Pittard, 9th grade.

Senior mentors are in charge of planning meetings, activities, and providing guidance to younger students.

“This past summer, we planned the meetings and came up with icebreak-