

The Pike County Chamber of Commerce presents...

**9th Annual “Real Life”**

**Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> & Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

**8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Pike County Community Multi-Purpose Complex**

**2017 Quinlivan Road, Magnolia, MS**

The Pike County Mississippi Scholars Committee will have the opportunity to present an overview of the Mississippi Scholars’ and Mississippi Tech Master programs, along with a “Real Life” experience to all our Pike County 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

“The Mississippi Scholars Initiative is an education program managed by the Public Education Forum of Mississippi, which utilizes business leaders to motivate students to complete a rigorous course of study in high school. This course path gives students a boost – not just for college but for life. The Initiative pairs trained local business leaders with classes of 8th grade students. These leaders present the students with a powerful presentation, which provides the rationale for the recommendation that students take more rigorous courses. The Mississippi Scholars’ Tech Master Program encourages students to pursue and perform well in a tech-prep course of study, recognizing their achievements at graduation, as the Mississippi Scholars program currently recognizes those who pursue a college-bound course of study, with a particular emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).”

The “Real Life” program is designed to introduce students to their future as adults and the choices they will be forced to make regarding money management as it relates to income and expenses. Students are given monthly salary (based on their current grade point average in school) and advance through a series of booths to pay taxes, housing, utilities, transportation and other monthly bills that we as adults pay. They will also be given a card of chance that represents some of the unexpected expenses and income often encountered in daily life. The booths will be run by local business professionals and community volunteers.

The “Real Life” program is a good transition into the Mississippi Scholars’ presentation that focuses on the importance of making good grades and doing your best in school!