



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

DA Morrissey's Summer Basketball Camp Gone to the Dogs



Norfolk DA Michael W. Morrissey, center left, welcomed Deputy Norfolk Sheriff Michael Monaghan and his search dog Randy for a talk and demonstration at the DA's annual Stoughton Summer Basketball Camp, held at the Gibbons School this year.

DA Morrissey was an early victim of a savage game of "Knock-Out" this year, so he stepped out of the shooting line to cheer the kids still in the chase.

Teamwork. Looking out for one another. Leading by example.

"Every one of the lessons we are giving for success on the basketball court applies to success in school and in life," said District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey, host of the 3-day basketball camp held at the Gibbons School last week.

This is Morrissey's ninth year as Norfolk DA and he has organized and funded basketball camps for Stoughton students in grades 3 through 8 during February and summer breaks every year. This summer's coaching team was Jenna Clark, who currently plays Division 1 college ball at Fairleigh-Dickenson and Joe Bunce-Grenon, a Stoughton native who plays for the Harlem Wizards, was featured on the TNT network's "The Dunk King."

In addition to skill drills and exercises, campers also meet and talk with positive role models and local officials, including District Attorney Morrissey, State Police detective and Stoughton local Yuri Bukhenik, town Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator Stephanie Patton, and the new Gibbons School principal David Guglia.

On Thursday, Norfolk County Sheriff Jerry McDermott loaned Deputy Sheriff Michael Monaghan and his K-9 Randy, an 82-pound Labrador, to the camp for a talk about teamwork, dedication and drug safety.

During the exercises that constituted most of the camp, coaches Clark and Bunce-Grenon kept connecting the lessons on the court to life outside the gym. "Pay attention to the details," Bunce-Grenon said during a drill on the mechanics of shooting lay-ups with your weak hand. "Just like in life. You have a job, you've got to pay attention to the details of what you have to do."

The Stoughton Recreation department organizes registration and collects a nominal fee for advertising, but Morrissey finances most of the camp with money forfeited during criminal prosecutions. "The long game of public safety and security involves keeping communities strong and giving kids the support and knowledge they need," Morrissey said. "Positive opportunities, for children and adults, help keep communities safe and strong."