

Marvin Lewis and the Bengals Help Students Strive for the Honor Roll

The Marvin Lewis Community Fund and Cincinnati Public Schools partnered to launch *Learning is Cool*, an educational incentive program that rewards students for strong academic performance.

The program encourages students in grades 1 through 8 to make the "A" Honor Roll each quarter. Those who make the list at least twice during the school year will be invited to an Academic Achievement Party in June at Paul Brown Stadium. Coach Marvin Lewis and several members of the Cincinnati Bengals will be there to honor the students.

"This partnership with Cincinnati Public Schools is about helping students achieve their dreams, and that starts in the classroom," says Coach Lewis. "Our hope is that we can inspire them to work harder and earn the "A" Honor Roll."

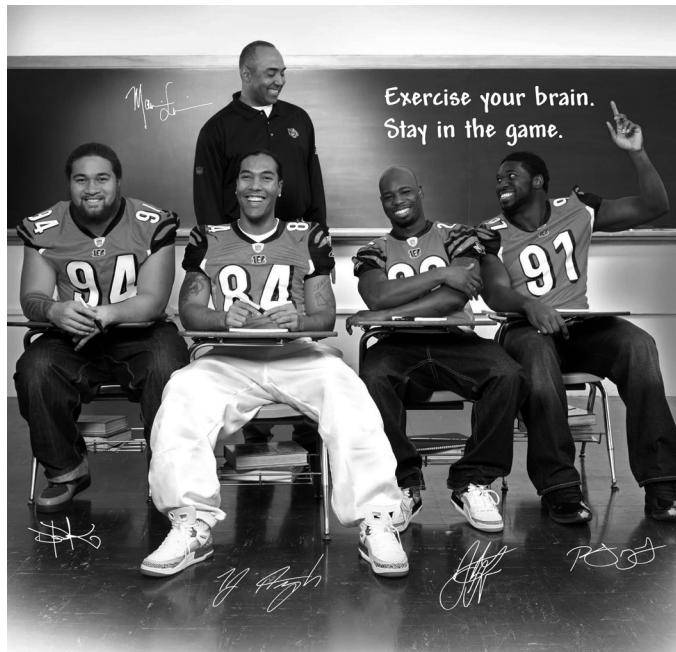
So far, more than 1,000 students are eligible to attend the Academic Achievement Party after making the "A" Honor Roll in both the first and second quarters of the 2008-09 school year. More than 3,800 students are on track to receive an invitation after having made the "A" Honor Roll at least once.

The Marvin Lewis Community Fund created *Learning is Cool* packs to kick off the program at the beginning of the school year, including letters to parents from Coach Lewis and the players, promotional posters, pencils, notebooks, and

other school supplies. The program also is supported by incentives, which are sent quarterly to each participating school to reward students who made the Honor Roll. Incentives include buttons, bracelets, stickers and other prizes.

"We are delighted that the Marvin Lewis Community Fund chose Cincinnati Public Schools for this tremendous effort," says Mary Ronan, interim superintendent. "This program is helping to strengthen the efforts we're making throughout the district to improve student achievement by encouraging students to

do their best every day. Our youngsters are really working hard to get to the party at the end of the year. I'm looking forward to it myself!" ★



Promotional posters featuring Bengals Head Coach Marvin Lewis and players Domata Peko, T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Johnathan Joseph and Robert Geathers were sent to all participating schools to motivate students.