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Governors State Hosts America's Big Sisters Conference

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University Park,
August
17,
2022

Governors State Hosts America's Big Sisters Conference



More than 300 giggly girls and teens from across Chicagoland gathered at [Governors State University](#) (GSU) on Friday for a powerful “All Girls Matter” conference led by Tragil Wade-Johnson, sister of basketball superstar Dwyane Wade. The founder of America’s Big Sisters Foundation, Wade-Johnson created the girls empowerment conference for 9 to 17 year olds who struggle with self-esteem and mental health challenges.

The daylong conference included warm welcome addresses from GSU President Dr. Cheryl Green, Wade-Johnson and others. Participants were treated to a nutritious lunch, as well as panel discussions on hygiene, education and mental health.



After calling out highly successful African American women—Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown-Jackson, Olympic gymnast Simone Biles, and former First Lady Michelle Obama—Dr. Green offered participants a few tips to achieve their goals.

“Continue to work hard in school Make healthy decisions ... Take care of your heart and emotions because they are connected to your mental health ... Finally, never ever give up on your dream and always believe in yourself.”