

Congressional Record

proceedings and debates of the 117^{th} congress, first session

House of Representatives

HONORING ALLISON KIRBY FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, February 18, 2021

Allison Kirby has proudly served as the principal of Jones High School for the past four years. She is proud of her experience as an English teacher, librarian, and assistant principal. Experiences that she feels have helped make her a strong leader for Jones High School students.

Kirby's dream is to create an environment where all children feel loved and adequately prepared to tackle adulthood and higher education. Her passion for helping young people comes from her grandmother, who served as a high school English teacher in a segregated school. Her grandmother's passion for her students helped instill a sense of obligation and devotion to education within Kirby's heart.

In its early years, Jones High School was the only public high school for African Americans. However, the high school is now open to all students and Kirby is devoted to ensuring that the environment only grows to be more inclusive to students.

In her effort to promote educational opportunity for students, Ms. Kirby has led the school in becoming an official Community Partnership School, revamping the Medical Magnet Program to produce licensed practical nurses and include a Junior Law Enforcement Academy. Ask anyone at Jones High, and they will tell you they are "History in the Making."

Outside of her work, Ms. Kirby happily lives in downtown Orlando with her husband, Dan and her daughter, Elliana.

HON. DARREN SOTOMEMBER OF CONGRESS