

## ***Dr. Richard Green Memorial Scholarship Award***

The Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association (MBCA) and the Minnesota Black Basketball Coaches Association (MBBCA) are honored and proud to announce the establishment of the Dr. Richard Green Memorial Scholarship Award.

The *Richard Green Memorial Award* is established to honor Dr. Richard Green. Dr. Richard R. Green, a Black educator, teacher, superintendent, and principal was born in Menifee, Arkansas. One of three children born to Gertrude and Benjamin Green, the family moved to Minneapolis while Richard was very young. Green graduated from the public school system in Minneapolis and earned a bachelor's degree from Augsburg College, a master's in special education from St. Cloud (MN) State University, and a doctorate in educational administration from Harvard Graduate School of Education in 1972. Dr. Green's career started in 1959 as a special education and social studies teacher in the Minneapolis school system.

During this time he was a basketball and football coach and in 1968, Dr. Green became assistant principal of Minneapolis North High School. One year later he married Gwendolyn Talbert and began a family that would include four children. In 1974, after serving the Minneapolis School Board through assignments to fight racism, desegregate, and integrate that school system, he returned to North High School. In 1976, he was named West Area Superintendent, Minneapolis Public Schools, and eventually became Superintendent of the entire city system in 1980.

In 1983, Dr. Green introduced a testing system that served as a national benchmark. Students were held to more accountability, which resulted in better test scores. In 1988, he relocated to New York City, taking office as the Superintendent of the city's public schools. Dr. Green's life included a consistent involvement with Zion Baptist Church (Minneapolis), serving as president of the Council of Great City Schools 1987-88, trustee and director of US Bank, Minneapolis, and as a member of the National Commission on Secondary Schooling for Hispanics. He also served on the Board of Directors of Junior Achievement of New York City, the Hazen Foundation, and the American Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Green's awards included the Top 100 Executive Educator's Award 1984, the Hubert H. Humphrey Labor Award, and the Urban Family of the Year award, both in 1982. Dr. Richard Green died in 1989.

A Senior student athlete/basketball player of color will be chosen for this distinguished award. The MBCA and MBBCA will award a one-time \$1,500.00 scholarship to the selected recipient to be used for college expenses. Leadership qualities on the court and in the community plus expressed interest in teaching and coaching will be strongly considered in the selection process.

Candidates will be nominated by MBBCA and MBCA member Head Coaches. Nomination information, including forms, will be posted on the MBCA and MBBCA websites. The Richard Green Memorial Scholarship Award winner will be announced during the State Tournament.

