According to the 2019-2020 accountability annual report results from the U.S. Department of Education, 69.44% of students at Deborah Cannon Wolfe Elementary School in Shorter, Alabama are economically disadvantaged. With the assistance of Dennis Powell – the town historian, faculty and staff at D.C. Wolfe Elementary, and Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr. we had the ability to serve these young leaders by enhancing their rich knowledge of nonviolence leadership.

As the students continued to learn about nonviolence leadership strategies and practices from Dr. LaFayette and Auburn students, the young leaders were also made aware of the leader in which their school is named after.

Deborah Cannon Wolfe (December 22nd, 1916 - September 3rd, 2004) was a civil rights activist and leader, ordained minister, as well as an educator. As a champion for rural education, D.C. Wolfe was also a teacher that believed in well-rounded academia that included life skills.

After learning of D.C. Wolfe’s historic efforts in rural education, Auburn students also interviewed prominent leaders and elected officials within the Shorter community to draft essays recalling their moments of great leadership. After the interviews, students were instructed to select powerful, leadership-focused quotes that would embolden young leaders such as those that attend D.C. Wolfe.

Posters with these quotes were then printed and placed throughout the after school program classroom to showcase the great strides community members have taken to further the Shorter community.

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