

You Were Part of the Beginning

What We Learned from the First Black Boys Are Brilliant Parent Workshop

September 26, 2026

To our inaugural participants: thank you.

You gave us more than your time. You shared your experiences, listened to one another, reflected honestly, and helped us learn how this work can become even stronger. Your anonymous exit surveys showed us that the workshop was meaningful, but they also showed us something more important: people left thinking about what they could do differently for the Black boys they love.

12 of 12 Very Good or Excellent	12 of 12 Workbook useful
12 of 12 Want future programs	11 of 12 Definitely recommend

What You Told Us

Your responses told us that the strongest parts of the day were not only the information and tools. Many of you pointed to the stories, experiences, and perspectives shared around the room. That matters. It means the wisdom in the room became part of the workshop.

"The discussion questions and everyone got to say something new that I could learn from!"

"The personal stories shared by the group. In many ways they were testimonials to the love and hope we have for our black boys."

What You Said You Will Carry Forward

Participants described practical changes they intend to make after the workshop: listening more carefully beneath behavior, asking educators for examples when labels are used, approaching parent-teacher conferences differently, understanding Black men's perspectives more deeply, sharing what they learned with other parents, and speaking love and pride to their sons more intentionally.

"Listen and analyze behavior to get an understanding for action."

"I intend to tell my son that I love'em and that I'm proud of him more often."

What We Heard About the Workshop

- There is more rich material than one three-hour workshop can fully explore.
- The workbook is valuable and deserves protected time during the workshop as well as continued use afterward.

- Participant conversation should remain a central part of the experience.
- Future offerings may benefit from deeper sessions and audience-specific content, including support for parents of younger Black boys.

Your Words Are Helping Shape What Comes Next

"It takes a village to stand in the gap for our brilliant Black boys."

"Although I see brilliance in my child they have outside sources that affect their thinking."

"We are the voices for our black boys."

Because you were there, this is no longer only an idea. It is work that has been shared, tested, reflected upon, and strengthened by a first community of people who care deeply about Black boys.

Thank you for being part of the beginning.

Dr. Gwendolyn Walker, EdD
Black Boys Are Brilliant Institute

Source: Black Boys Are Brilliant Parent Workshop Exit Survey, 12 anonymous responses, September 26, 2026.