



Alum Spotlight – Lincoln Stupart

Lincoln Stupart is a results-driven, new business/acquisition sales specialist with Connection Enterprise and has several years of experience in developing large, complex accounts and Business Development. He is an exceptional communicator with strong negotiation, problem-resolution and client-needs assessment aptitude. In a recent interview we caught up with Lincoln and his involvement as a Wolmer's Alumni and his contributions on the Wolmer's Technology Committee.

AWAA: *When did you attend Wolmer's Boys School?*

LS: *I attended from 1976-1981/1982. The last two were very difficult for me. Let me explain. My, police, and soon-to-be ex-stepfather was killed in the line of duty around 1979-1980. Suddenly, I was faced with taking care of younger siblings and working through the challenges with which all that came. I went from being a pretty good student to failing most of my classes. My home environment negatively impacted my grades and as a result I had to repeat my final year. Fortunately, I found people at Wolmer's willing to go the distance and beyond, to support me. I was able to recover my grades.*

AWAA: *What value has remained with you since your years at Wolmer's?*

LS: *I was away from Wolmer's for 40 years, before getting involved as an Alumnus. Yet, throughout my life, career and travels I have said, "Thank you for my Wolmer's experience," no less than a thousand times. There was a lot put on me as a young man during my final year. Some days I would empty my school bag and collect bottles from around the school and take them to Jamaica Bakery on Slipe Road for the refund, in order to have lunch.*

I had to figure many things out on my own. These lessons would serve me well, subsequently, as I sought to find my way to college in the United States. Age Quod Agis is not just a motto to me – it is a lifestyle that is now hard-wired and engrained in me. What I did not also realize over all those years away from Wolmer's was that I had been living Age Quod Agis, unconsciously. When I was reconnected to Wolmer's Alumni I was also diagnosed with borderline stage IV cancer.

It was during this time that things converged and completely crystallized for me. I've always had purpose, as I also raised 4 of my 6 children, largely as a single parent. There were years when I cursed God for saddling me with so much responsibility from an early age. Looking back, my O-Levels preparedness were definitely compromised, but my siblings needed me at that time. I was constantly plugging holes. Solving problems. However, I now realized that I was being prepared all along for so much more.

AWAA: *When you think of the work before the Wolmer's Technology Committee – What do you see as the greatest challenge facing our schools?*

LS: *The greatest challenge I see across the board is Apathy. There is somewhat of a privileged, self-important, mindset that pervades the Wolmer's alumni bodies – both Boys and Girls Schools. There are other schools that are not as fortunate as Wolmer's, yet they find ways to give back. My goal is to change the DNA of current students and alumni. It is important that when students graduate, they understand the expectation is to give back in time, talent and treasure.*

AWAA: *How can other's get involved?*

LS: *The attached newsletter outlines the projects underway at the three schools – WBS/WGS and Wolmer's Preparatory Schools. When we pool our efforts in these projects, we are uplifting the one Wolmer's brand. With all that we have going on, now is a particularly great time for Alumni to roll up their sleeves and help physically, financially and in a mentor capacity with our students – especially our young men. I am personally mentoring several current Wolmer's men to get into college. The skills I am bringing to the table are varied. I have found myself assisting on contract negotiations for WGS tennis court to mentoring students.*

There is a way for every Alumni to get involved. We need our Alumni chapters to engage more than ever to protect the future of Wolmer's. Also, it is important for Alumni to put down old, narrow "Science Stream vs Arts Stream" cocky attitudes of yester-year, for example, and pull together. We are one Wolmers. Just because you thought someone wasn't smart, or struggled at various points in high school does not mean they are the same today. People evolve. They change, you change. Seek initiatives or networks within Wolmer's and work to achieve the end goal for the benefit of the school.

Newsletter Attachment