

The following article appeared in the March, 2014, edition of the Chaldean American Bar Association e-Newsletter:



Krystal Hermiz, Partner (pictured in photos, center)

Former Chaldean American Bar Association President and Partner at Secrest Wardle Law Firm, Krystal D. Hermiz Speaks to Students about Their Future

On Friday, March 6, 2014, Mrs. Hermiz addressed over 200 students at INVEST Roosevelt High School in Hazel Park. Hermiz shared thoughts on her journey, challenges, opportunities available and careers to an eager student body.

Hermiz discussed her education and achieving her personal goal of attending the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She recalled her interested in law from as far back as seventh grade and advised “Not everyone knows what they want to be at a young age, so my advice is to take time, write down what your interests are and what you think it will take to get there.”

“When I was in high school, I surrounded myself with people who had similar interests in higher education and who could encourage and motivate me, and I suggest you do the same.” Hermiz continued, “When it comes to student loans, look at them as an investment in yourself. You have no excuse. If you have a language barrier, you overcome it and move on.” She further stated “No one will hand you an opportunity, you must create your own.”

Hermiz concluded her speech by reminding students that the time for them to take advantage of school is now while they are young, college is a must and anything less will put you at a disadvantage out in the real world.

She took questions from the student body about what it is like to be a Chaldean lawyer to which she replied, "Proud. I am proud to be Chaldean, I am proud of my heritage and proud of our legal community. There are about 60 Chaldean law students studying to become lawyers each year and that makes me proud to know our community is growing - we have come a long way."

Hermiz then offered students the opportunity to shadow her at her office and offered to match other students interested in other professions. More than a dozen students jumped at her offer.

Recap and photos by Derek Dickow who serves as the Executive Director for the Chaldean American Bar Association. Contact him for more info at info@chaldeanbar.com.