Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

Glen Newson, Trincipal Timothy Holmes, Assistant Trincipal Julia Harrington, Academic Coach Naomi Fant-Ivory, Counselor 705 Kinlock Road Indianola, MS 38751 662-884-1270 (phone) 662-884-5247 (fax) gnewson@sunflowerk12.org August and September

"Equitable Education for Every Student" Principal's Message, Glen Newson

I am excited to inform you that we are rated a "B" school. We have started another adventurous academic year and we and we are excited about it. Our goal this year is to become an "A" school. Thank you for entrusting us with providing a quality education for your children. As a school, our students and teachers have really worked to improve the success at Merritt. In order for us to continue our success, I am asking you to become more involved with school as we work to increase the home to school connection. Encourage your children to study, complete assignments, and have excellent attendance. As always, we look forward to working with you to create and maintain a more successful environment for our students and teachers. Let's have an awesome year.

Assistant Principal, Timothy Holmes

Greetings to all,

I hope this lmessage finds you all well-rested and ready to venture into a new school year. During my first year as an administrator, I feel like there were some things that I did well and there were also some things that I need to improve on. Overall, we had a great year at Merritt with the teachers and students adjusting to a new system and new administrators. We made it a point to change the culture to fit the needs of the students. I was glad to see that our hard work and perseverance paid off by Merritt achieving its first B rating si nce the inception of the school. We were proud of our students and teachers for their efforts and dedication in believing in us and giving us their best efforts. We are looking forward to continuing the trend of being a successful school but it will be a valiant effort for all involved parties. We have some new staff members in the building who have already bought in and are looking forward to being a part of the success at Merritt.

Welcome back to school!

Come on in! Meet the new faculty and staff and learn about the new school additions at Robert L Merritt Junior High. Julia Harrington is firmly and enthuulisiastically working with the teachers as Academic Coach. Naomi Fant-Ivory is eager to help build scholars as our Counselor. Leola Wright is not new to the team but joined us in her new role as an Academic Coach. New to our Math department is Orlando Ellis and Polynneise Redd. Joining our Exceptional Education staff is Parshuram Behera. Markeishia Galloway is joining our Learning Strategy team. Also new to the Science team is Kyria Parker, Nadia Crawford, and Latasha Neal. ELA gained a new addition as well, Miss Deloris Clemmons. Mary Gates (not new) but new to the team in Computer Science. Lotoya Richardson is doing her thing in Cyber Foundation and Michael Pointer is marching to the beat in JROTC. Mr. Stefan Mathis is bringing a new sound to the building. Along with the original faculty and staff these newcomers make up a highly qualified group of professionals who provide valuable teaching and learning opportunities in a safe and positive environment that is beneficial to the growth and development of the students at Robert L. Merritt Junior High School.

Tardiness

Robert L. Merritt is an institution of learning. In order for your child to get the full benefit of what's being offered he/she must be here daily, on time, and stay the entire day. Class starts at 7:40 each day. If your child comes to school after that time they are not only late but missing instructional time. Remember, there are consequences for habitual tardiness. If your child is late, apparent must come to the office and sign for them. Please read the student handbook to familiarize you with the consequences of being TARDY

Library Media Specialist, Dr. Jessica James



Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

Our goals are to make a difference in the lives of children and provide support to parents. I am still looking forward to seeing you at all events held at the school. On Thursday, August 18, 2022, we had a great time at our Annual Open House and Thursday, August 25, 2022, for our Annual Title I meeting. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child education. Such as, Active Parents, School Status, meetings, school events, and you may also volunteer.

You may reach me through e-mail at: <u>gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us</u>. My hours are: Monday through Friday 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. I will alternate my schedule to accommodate your needs.



Open House was a success at the Junior Rams Den!





Principal Newson...Ready for the task of becoming an "A" school.

"With us plus you, there's nothing our students can't do"!





Naomi Fant-Ivory, Counselor

My name is Mrs. Naomi Fant-Ivory and I am the Counselor here at Robert L. Merritt Junior High. This will be my first year here at RLMJH. I am so excited to begin a new school year and see our students! I hope your summer was restful and enjoyable. I am really looking forward to starting this year off with lots of energy and hopefully you are all ready to do the same. Each month I get to visit with every single classroom for guidance lessons. This is one of my favorite times and I enjoy getting to know your student better and teaching them important character traits and social skills.

To begin in August, I want our students to learn a little about their Counselor and how I can help support them here at school. I will begin getting to know the students better and then our September guidance lessons will focus on RESPECT. We will cover topics such as Rude, Mean and Bullying at the very beginning of the year.

Please know that I am here to support your child how I can, so please do not hesitate to reach out at any point if I can help! Email (nfant@sunflowerk12.org) is probably easiest, but feel free to call the school @ 662-884-1270.