

Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

Glen Newson, Principal

Timothy Holmes, Assistant Principal

Amanda Bowman, Academic Coach

Latoshia Lewis, Counselor

August/September 2021-2022

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“Equitable Education for Every Student”

Principal’s Message, Glen Newson

Greetings! It is an honor to join Robert L. Merritt Junior High to begin the 2021-2022 school year. I am blessed to serve as the principal of this fine institution for teaching and learning. I am eager to begin this journey with the RMLJH faculty, staff, student body, parents, and community. We envision a school culture that focus on producing high levels of student achievement and staff effectiveness in leadership, instructional practices, and positive student teacher interaction. Remember that when all of us work together to ensure the success of our students, the impossible becomes possible. Stay informed about academic and testing events so that students can receive adequate support. It is our mission to provide all students with an equitable education in a safe and positive environment.

Assistant Principal, Timothy Holmes

It is an honor to be serving in the role of Assistant Principal in my hometown of Indianola. First and foremost, I want to thank God for providing me with this opportunity, and also, I want to thank Principal Newson and the SCCSD for entrusting me with this position. This year has been a big transition from being a classroom teacher for 20 years to being an assistant principal. As for being the AP at RLMMS, we are trying to build a culture where the environment is conducive to learning for our students and teachers look forward to coming to work to educate the students. We want to ensure that our students have a smooth transition while attending Merritt and be mentally and physically prepared once they leave our campus. Last but not least, I want to thank the community for entrusting us with your child and we will make every attempt to ensure that your child is receiving the best education possible while attending RLMJS.

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. Mr. Glen Newson is eager to fulfill his role as Principal. Timothy Holmes is bringing in new ideas in his new position as Assistant Principal. Amanda Bowman is firmly and enthusiastically working with the teachers as Academic Coach. Shelia Armstrong returned back home in the same capacity. Lou Ann Culpepper joined us in her new role as Secretary. New to our Math department is Shama Rittu and Courtney James (not new to the team). Joining our Exceptional Education staff is Dominique Banks and Jeanette Winston. Angel Brownlow and Eddie Ivory are creating new ideas in Science. Also new to our team is Tracey Attaway and Grenell Bounds (returning) to serve in the capacity of Interventionist. ELA gained a new addition Marquitta James-Harris. Our Child Nutrition department have some new faces too, Jennifer Wade-Martin, Victoria Matthews, and Hattie Pearson. David Cobbins and Teresa Perkins (not new) but new to the team. Everett McDaniel and Trevor Spivey are new to our support team. Last but not least, we have an in-house Social Worker by the name of Shaniqua Mitchell. 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.

Library Media Specialist, Dr. Jessica James

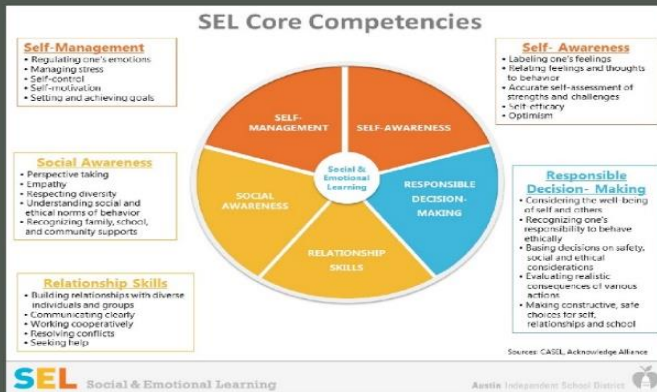
Welcome to a New School Year at RLMJHS
What book are you Reading now? Has your ELA Teacher given you guidance on how to utilize the MackinVIA app that is located within your Clever? If not, please go to the MackinVIA app and search for books that you are interested in. You can check out the book with no problems and check the book back in with no complications. If there is a book that you are looking for and it is not found in the MackinVIA app, please let the Librarian at your school know. HAPPY READING

Counselor's Corner, Latoshia Lewis

What exactly is SEL?

- Social Emotional Learning – Teaching our students to be socially and emotionally aware of themselves and those around them, thus preparing them to survive and thrive in our ever-evolving society.
- There are 5 Key Components:
- Self-Management, Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Responsible Decision Making, & Relationship Skills

What is SEL?/ Que es SEL?



CASEL has identified five core areas of social and emotional competence. . These five core competencies are **inter-related**; our emotional responses, thinking, and actions are intricately connected; brain research confirms that strong emotions can override our higher-order thinking. Our emotional state also influences our ability to attend to, concentrate, and remember what we learn. SEL helps us develop our ability to recognize and manage our emotions so that we can think clearly, choose wisely, and act deliberately. It also helps us become interpersonally effective, by learning to build healthy and productive relationships and to be responsible decision-makers.

Meet the Counselor



Welcome Back!!!

We have missed you and are eager to see what exciting ventures the new school year will bring!
“Every second brings a fresh beginning, every hour holds a new promise, every night our dreams can bring hope and, every day is what YOU choose to make it.”

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

Come on out and visit our Parent Center at RLMJH. By visiting the center, you will receive parenting literature and learning tools for you and your child. 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 workshops. On Thursday, September 12, 2021, we had a great time at our Annual Open House and Thursday, August 19, 2021. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child education. Such as, Active Parents, School Status, PTO meetings, school events, and you may also volunteer.

You may reach me through e-mail at: gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us. 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.

“With us plus you, there’s nothing our students can’t do”!