

Jambo Parents and Community,

As principal of Woodlawn Community School, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back for another great year in Woodlawn. We are all excited to have students back in our classrooms and hallways filling them with energy and enthusiasm for learning. It is our mission to help every child feel welcomed, connected, and part of our Woodlawn family. Of course, as the first teacher in your child's life, we need and welcome your support and cooperation. Along with your assistance, I am committed to reviewing our current practices and developing new procedures, in an effort to foster an optimal teaching and learning environment for all.

This year begins with a new addition to our staff, Mwalimu Joi Jeter – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade. She comes to us with years of experience and is extremely knowledgeable about literacy! We are both excited and lucky to have her on staff! Let's welcome her to Woodlawn Community School.

Your child will come home with important documents over the course of the next few days of school. The signature pages must be returned to school. Please remind your child to bring the documents home and return them to their homeroom teacher with a signature. Familiarize yourself and your child with the Parent-Student Handbook. There are new and interesting changes. Pay particular attention to the healthy snacks that are acceptable.

Be sure to clearly mark all of your child's belongings with his or her name (books, articles of clothing, school bags, lunch boxes, etc.) School bags and lunch boxes should be marked on the INSIDE for safety and quick identification.

We encourage you to become active with our Local School Council (LSC) and/or Parent Advisory Council (PAC), which you will hear more from in the coming days. These parent committees are a wonderful way for you to share ideas and support the mission of the school. Another way to get involved includes volunteering to help tutor students, chaperoning field trips, organizing celebrations, and offering to share your area of expertise to the classes/school.

I sincerely believe in a school environment that is collaborative in nature and draws on the strengths of all stakeholders, in striving for improving student outcomes. Working together makes a difference in the lives of our students. I look forward to working with all of the wonderful students, parents, and stakeholders of Woodlawn Community School.

I am honored to serve as the principal of Woodlawn Community School. It is truly a privilege to be a part of a community where parents, teachers and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. Please feel free to contact me at the school or via email at [lcbell@cps.edu](mailto:lcbell@cps.edu).

Once again, welcome back! Let's go make it a great day today!

Hotep!

*LoWanda C. Bell, Principal*

