

# ORCA K-8 SCHOOL



Principal Tonie

September 8, 2017



**WE ALL BELONG!**

**EVENTS**

**NEWS**

**UPDATES**

Hello Orca Community,

It is my hope that Orca offers an exciting and challenging experience designed to meet the developmental and academic needs of every child, every day, in every classroom. Just as seedlings need sun, fertile sun and water to blossom, children need a positive, caring and creative atmosphere in which to learn, grow, and feel good about themselves as learners. All children need to feel accepted as they are. At Orca, we believe in taking children where they are developmentally and then helping them engage in relevant instruction, as individuals and as part of both small and larger groups. Our classrooms are places where your child will explore concepts and ideas and given opportunities to interact with peers and teachers in a safe and nurturing environment, that allows the whole child to grow – mind, body and spirit. Our goal is that our students will become self-reliant and independent thinkers, while learning to respect the rights of others, problem solve and build 21st century skills through collaboration, communication and critical thinking.

At times during the school year, you may feel the need to speak to the teacher or principal concerning your children's instructional program. We always welcome the opportunity to confer with parents. If you are concerned about a classroom situation, you should always start with the teacher. If your concerns are unresolved after meeting with the teacher and you need to confer with the principal, please do so. Communication built on misinformation, assumptions or stereotypes can create distance between schools, families and students. If handled with respect and cultural sensitivity, however, school-family communication provides an opportunity to live out Orca's values of inclusiveness and equity, which are at the heart and soul of social justice education.

I consider it an honor and privilege to be part of a school community where parents, staff, and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth.

Let's make it another great year!

Tonie

# Meet Orca's Admin Staff!



## **Donte Felder, Head Teacher**

I am really excited about the 2017-2018 school year! The energy this week has been positive and palpable. Students are happy, engaged, and eager to learn. Staff are discussing smart goals, objectives, and developing a plan to assess students over the next week to learn student's learning style.

This year I will have an opportunity to visit every classroom every day and use my 19 years of experience to help our new teachers deepen their pedagogy, classroom management and understanding of progressive education.

I am honored to serve Orca as head teacher and thank you for being part of the Orca Community.



## **Cynthia Rainwater, Administrative Assistant**

Hello Orca Families~ I'm Cynthia, the Office Manager. I have always had a love for helping people, but it wasn't until I began working for the District that I realized that I had a dormant desire to work with students and their families, to make a deposit into their lives, helping to strengthen, stabilize and support where needed.

I look forward to this new school year and all that it will bring forth.

I'll around the school~ C



## **Ms. McCullough, Counselor**

### **Counseling**

- ◆ 1:1 for students with individual needs
- ◆ Small group for social, academic and personal development skills, such as friendship, study skills, transitions, anger, etc.)
- ◆ Availability to meet students “in the moment” to address immediate concerns and/or needs

### **Classroom Guidance**

- ◆ Social emotional learning (age appropriate topics such as: empathy, leadership, bullying)
- ◆ College and Career (college bound, career exploration)

### **Coordination**

- ◆ Develop school-wide events, curriculum and lesson to target individual and group needs
- ◆ Connect with community advocates and organization to bring in outside resources

### **Consultation**

- ◆ Meeting with teachers, families, administrators and outside community resources in order to implement support and strategies to help students be successful in the education system and beyond

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# September 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>Packetts went home with students today. Please check your child's backpack.</p> <p>Forms can be returned to the Box in the Main Office or your child's classroom teacher.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		<p>All School Bar-B-Q</p>				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30