



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

James Dobson Elementary School

4667 Umbria Street

Philadelphia, PA 19127

Phone: (215) 400-3570 / Fax: (215) 400-3571

Khloé C. Williams-Lawani, *Incoming* Principal



Dear Dobson School Families:

My name is Khloé Williams-Lawani and it is with great pleasure and excitement that I am introducing myself as the newly appointed principal of the amazing James Dobson School. I am honored to have been chosen to be a part of such a wonderful school family. I am fortunate to be able to work with Dr. Szczesny to ensure a smooth transition for the 2021-2022 school year. The strong family atmosphere between students, staff and teachers is truly admirable and I look forward to continuing to inspire connectedness to ensure all school community members know that they are *welcome, valued* and *necessary*.

I am a proud product of the School District of Philadelphia and arrive at Dobson School as a seasoned School District of Philadelphia educator and administrator. Most recently, I served as an assistant principal for four years. On a personal note, I am a wife and a proud mother to a wonderful seven-year-old daughter, a bonus mother to an amazing college student, and recently, we added an energetic goldendoodle to our family. When I see children, I see possibilities that are limitless, and I am passionate about treating each child as if they are my own. The pandemic created challenges for all families and we had to learn to quickly wear many hats to educate our children virtually while constantly adapting to changes. I look forward to working with all families to ensure a continued safe reopening of our school as we welcome students back for in-person learning and ensuring high-quality education in both the virtual and hybrid platforms.

The Dobson School community overcame many challenges during these very different times to continue the upward trajectory in student achievement by focusing on the whole child. I look forward to working with our school team to build the fundamental and 21st century learning skills of our students, including learning through the arts. I also believe that there should be joy

in learning where we spark curiosity in our students and the means to investigate. We will continue to support our students' social-emotional learning by being intentional in developing their habits in *respect, empathy and integrity*.

Dobson's successes are a reflection of its "small but mighty" identity: Strong positive relationships, collaboration and shared decision-making that puts students first. As an instructional leader, I also look forward to supporting and collaborating with our teachers and staff in their continued growth and development during these complex times. Equally important, I value serving as the lead learner to ensure that we are implementing the most equitable and effective systems and practices to meet the needs of our diverse learners. I am enthusiastic to get to know all of our Dobson families and look forward to our partnership and continued growth!

In Partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Williams-Lawani". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Khloé C. Williams-Lawani
Principal