

Greetings MOSTA and 163 community,

It is my absolute pleasure to have been chosen as your new principal. I am looking forward to working with the faculty, students, families and community as we forge a new path of academic excellence, while meeting the needs of the Whole-Child. My door will always be open to you, and I sincerely welcome your input and support. I am excited about all we will accomplish together for our children and look forward to celebrating our collective successes this school year.

I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. I was raised by two amazing parents who were also educators and had two awesome younger brothers. I am blessed to be the mother of two beautiful children who are both college graduates and products of the south suburban school system. I completed my undergraduate degree at Chicago State University, my master's degree at Governors State University, and my Doctoral degree at Northcentral University.

The 2022-2023 school year will mark my 18th year in education with 13 of those years as a school administrator. I value my staff and their hard work. I expect their efforts to match my dedication to all students receiving an equitable education: respecting diversity, inclusiveness, and fostering an environment where all students can learn and thrive.

This year, I plan to work closely with the amazing administrative staff, Dr. Hollimon and Mr. Lee, to ensure a smooth transition. During this time, I will learn more about our school culture, community, and the distinctive needs of our students and staff. I am committed to embracing the positive traditions and practices that are already in place at MOSTA while working hard to ensure success for all. Our motto this year is, "Watch Me Be Great," and I believe that there is no "ME" without "WE"! It will take all of us to ensure that children receive an exemplary education in an environment that is safe and conducive to learning. Together, we can provide an education for our students that is second to none.

I envision defying gravity and moving MOSTA into a school that the Park Forest-Chicago Heights community can not only be proud of but will talk about as it pertains to its improved academic successes, as well as the stellar technology and arts programs. To achieve this goal, we must strive for a climate that is receptive to rigorous, academic instruction with administrators, staff, and students being prepared to work collaboratively!

It is a privilege and an honor to be a part of the Park Forest-Chicago Heights 163 family. I look forward to the journey as I embrace the vision and mission set forth by the district.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Taiyuan Banks