
Newport News Public Schools

August 29, 2018

Dear Crittenden Families,

I am deeply honored to have been chosen to serve as the new Interim Principal of Crittenden Middle School! I feel that each day that I have spent around education has helped prepare for this position! I spent 8 years in the classroom teaching high school English and have been serving in administrative roles over the last 7 years at Warwick High School, Mary Passage Middle School, and Heritage High School. Over the last 15 years, I have learned a lot about the value of passion for education, relationships with people, and most of all, love for children.

This year our theme will be "Excursion of Excellence." Our teachers and staff are ready to embark on a year full of engaging activities and meaningful learning experiences. We will continue to hold high expectations for academic excellence and work diligently to maintain the strong culture of learning already in place. Our goal is to teach content through connections and relevance. I truly believe that students deserve our very best every day.

Another goal this year is to get every student involved in a club, activity, or sport. Our staff members have a wide variety of interests and although we have a lot of clubs and activities, if your student has an idea, please have them discuss it with one of his or her teachers. We offer three sports: track, volleyball, and basketball. Track is right around the corner. Tryouts are on September 10, after school. Any student wishing to try out for any sport, must have a physical on file prior to trying out. Stay tuned for details about other activities.

I urge you to gain access to your ParentVue account as soon as possible. It can be accessed via the website or on an app on your phone. ParentVue allows you to stay up to date with your student's academic progress and attendance information. You can stop by the main office to have your password reset if you have forgotten it, or sign up for an account if you are new to Newport News Public Schools. Please also make sure that your contact information is up to date to receive phone blasts and mail correspondences.

Thank you for the warm welcome that I have received! I look forward to getting to know the Crittenden family from students and families to community partners!



Natia Smith
Interim Principal