

SENIOR STAFF TRANSITIONS

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: AMBER COLES

Brenda (Bren) Elliott will join DCPS as the Chief of Equity on October 30. She has more than 23 years of experience as a public educator, and has spent the last eight years working as an educator in North Carolina. Most recently, she has served as an Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services for Wake County Public Schools since 2014. Prior to North Carolina, Brenda spent 15 years working as an educator in Nashville, Tennessee. Her assignments in Nashville included area director, high school principal, middle school principal, and high school teacher. Help us welcome Bren later this month!

Later this fall, **Jessica Rauch** will transition out of her role as President and Executive Director of the DC Public Education Fund. Jessica has served in this role for three years, and previously worked at DC Public Schools for three years. She will be succeeded by **Jeanie Lee**, former Chief of Staff in the Office of Teaching and Learning, who most recently worked at Scholastic Education. Jeanie joined the Ed Fund on September 25 to work closely with Jessica before her November 3 end date. Please join us in thanking Jessica for her many contributions, and welcoming Jeanie back to our community!

Kim Barrett is the new SEAD Chief of Staff. Kim has been at DCPS since 2011, most recently in the Office of Equity as the Leadership Development Division's Director of Strategic Initiatives. In this role, Kim led a variety of Leadership Development initiatives including new principal support, instructional superintendent support, Leadership Academy, Georgetown's Executive Master's in Leadership (EML), and the Chancellor's Principal Cabinet. Prior to her work on the Leadership Development Division, Kim spent several years in human capital on the School Leader Recruitment and Selection and Principal Effectiveness teams. As Chief of Staff, Kim will serve as a thought partner to the Deputy Chancellor, help foster collaboration across offices, and manage budgeting, operations, and hiring for SEAD.

DCPS would like to thank **Mary Outlaw** for her 16 years of service to DCPS. Mary served in various school level and Central Office leadership roles, most recently as the Deputy Chief of Secondary Academic and Academic Support. Please join us in wishing Mary the best in her next chapter!

DCPS would like to thank **Bridget Stesney** for her more than three years of service to DCPS. Bridget served as a Deputy Chief overseeing the modernization program, growing from a staff of one to a team of 10, who led building design, community engagement, construction oversight, sustainability, and building turnover for facilities. Please join us in wishing Bridget the best in her next chapter!



What is your role at McKinley Technology High School?

I'm the attendance counselor at McKinley Tech High School, and I've been here for six years.

What's your favorite thing about working at McKinley Tech HS?

I love the children, and I see a need related to attendance and behavior, so that's my mission – to guide the students in the right direction, especially to keep them from being truant.

What's your favorite memory from K-12 school?

I was born and raised in Washington, DC. I attended Coolidge and Roosevelt High School, and then I attended the University of the District of Columbia and Howard University. The teachers and staff showed that they really cared for us when I was coming up. The communication and relationships were so tight that they were like your mother or your father, and I loved that. It was all hands on deck with all the students.

IMPORTANT DATES

