



WASHINGTON MATHEMATICS SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Mark Holbrook
Head of School

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Vice Principal/Curriculum

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John Zimmerman
Vice Principal/Student Affairs

August 12, 2010

Dear WMST Students:

With your arrival at WMST only a few weeks away, I want to officially introduce myself as your new Interim Head of School. I am honored and excited to be working with all of you. It is in this excitement that I share with you some of my hopes and expectations for the year ahead.

As many of you already know, I have been here at WMST for some 10 years. I have also come here to the United States by way of Senegal. At a very young age I was pushed by my parents and a grandmother who believed that the way to a healthy and fruitful life is through hard work and commitment to goals and creating a vision for my life. This is what I want to also impress upon each of you. Life can be rewarding and full, however, one must be willing to do the hard work. You must be willing to do all that is necessary to achieve.

Since coming to WMST as a math and science teacher I have watched the School grow and evolve. I have had the privilege of working with teachers who put their heart and soul into teaching and helping our students. I have witnessed a cadre of students who have shown extraordinary determination to succeed. I have met many parents who will do everything that is necessary to provide better opportunities for their children and they have been very involved in every aspect of WMST PCHS.

I mention these things to you for two reasons. First, I think having had a professional history at WMST has allowed me to understand what it takes to keep pressing on to overcome the challenges faced on a daily basis. When thinking about my hopes for your growth and development as a young woman or man, I want you to know that I am on your side. I am committed to doing all that is necessary to help you grow and succeed in whatever your dream is here and beyond. Second, I believe there is great value in dreaming, in achieving your dreams and in honoring your parent's wish for you to have a better life. For without dreams and aspirations to work towards, life can be filled with adversities and disappointments that are unplanned for.

Our expectations are high for you. At WMST we expect you to plan (in conjunction with your teachers and parents) and to be steadfast in pursuing excellence in your academic and extra-curricular pursuits. We will hold you accountable for your actions here at WMST, with your teachers and with your peers and the entire WMST staff. We hope that all that you learn here will allow you to thoughtfully reflect and act in a manner that is respectful of self, peers, teachers, family and community, even when not in school. Remember that we believe every individual has dignity and worth and that it starts with self and radiates outward. Respect, Integrity, Honor and Service are words to live by in all you do. Be mindful of the impact that each and every one of you has on each other and the entire school.

Attending WMST is a privilege. It allows you to participate in a rigorous and well-rounded program of academic and extra-curricular activities. Take pride in your attendance here, in your school and in the community in which you live. Be mindful of the rules, for there are consequences. We will be here to support you and help you in any way we can. But you also must do your part!

I am truly excited about the upcoming school year, and for the opportunity to observe the many positive ways in which you will achieve your academic goals and become a proud member of our WMST Alumni community. I have much to learn from each of you and I look forward to meeting and interacting with each of you personally. In the coming year we will share many experiences that will help the entire WMST family to grow locally, nationally and globally.

I look forward to welcoming each of you back on August 30, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "N'Deye Diagne". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. N'Deye Diagne
Interim Head of School, WMST PCHS