

Dear Families,

I am honored to be selected as Rothenberg Preparatory Academy's Principal beginning this 2019-2020 school year. I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the Over-The-Rhine learning and teaching community. I look forward to working with a dynamic staff, dedicated parents, and involved community members. Most of all, I look forward to working with our students and continuing the outstanding work that has been implemented thus far at Rothenberg.

My vision is simple: it's to create a safe and nurturing teaching and learning environment, a Home Away From Home. I believe that when all stakeholders work together, all students can and will grow and improve.

Our mission is to prepare students for the real world while ensuring they are career and college ready. As Robert T. Kiyosaki said, "Everyone can tell you the risk. An entrepreneur can see the reward." Rothenberg's Vision 20/20 focus is entrepreneurship, and we will continue to develop this successful program with our business and nonprofit partners. I am confident that together we will continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities and academic excellence for all of our students.

A little about me: I come to Rothenberg with fifteen years in education. I started my journey in 2004 as a paraprofessional at HCMSA then William Howard Taft Elementary. I received my Bachelors in Early Childhood Education from Antioch McGregor University and served as a classroom teacher for five years. I taught two years at William Howard Taft Elementary and three years at Winton Woods Primary South Elementary. In 2015, I graduated from Miami University with a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. I have three years of experience as an administrator (AP) at Hartwell Elementary and Roll Hill Elementary.

On a personal note, I am a Cincinnati native and yes, a Bengals (bandwagon) fan, "Who Dey." I have two sons, I love working out daily, reading, cooking, and traveling.

Our Imani Festival (Back to School Event) will be Saturday, August 17, 2019. More information will be sent to you with the date later this summer. The first day of school is Monday, August 19, 2019. I look forward to meeting all of you and thank you in advance for your partnership, support, and dedication to your child's education!

Thank you,
Alena Smith, Principal