



## General Johnnie Wilson Middle School

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June 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the newly appointed Turnaround Principal of General Johnnie Wilson Middle School. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead a school with such a rich tradition of culture and education! I have been dedicated to the field of education for more than thirteen years. I have served as an educator in several different administrative roles including Elementary and High School Literacy Specialist, School Improvement Coach, RTI Coordinator, Network Teacher Mentor, Regional Growth Coordinator, Education Consultant, and Principal in a K-8 charter school within the Cleveland area. My teaching experience spans across several different grades and subject areas serving as an elementary, middle and high school teacher. I am excited and eager to bring my skills as an educational leader to General Johnnie Wilson Middle School and work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child's success.

Along with the teachers and staff, I will work hard to establish a legacy of academic success at General Johnnie Wilson Middle School by building strong relationships with parents, students and community partners. We will focus on character education initiatives, standards-based instruction, the use of data to drive instruction, and to provide consistent implementation of the curriculum in a rigorous manner so that we can continue to increase student achievement.

All of us at General Johnnie Wilson Middle School are eager and excited to begin what promises to be the best year ever as we embrace the ideals of The Lorain Promise. This year is going to be amazing as we continue to provide academic experiences for our students that are rigorous, relevant, and help them build relationships while making real-world connections. As your Principal, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors, teachers, students and parents, are excited to be here! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment. My door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to call or email me to discuss any concerns you might have throughout the school year.

It is my belief that an excellent education is not possible without the great collaboration of students, parents, and staff. Over the past week, I have had the privilege of getting to know some of the amazing students, parents, and staff at General Johnnie Wilson Middle School, while also learning about the rich school history and cultural traditions of the community. One of the greatest takeaways from these conversations has been the immense enthusiasm and pride for the school and community. It is through that same enthusiasm and pride that I look forward to becoming an integral part of the community with my own family and working with each of you to achieve great academic successes at General Johnnie Wilson Middle School.

I look forward to working with you as a team to help each student at General Johnnie Wilson Middle School meet their academic goals and have a successful school year!

Best Regards,

Mrs. Kejuana Jefferson  
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Visit Lorain City Schools at [www.lorainschools.org](http://www.lorainschools.org)



## Turnaround Principal & Dean Bios 2018-2019

### GENERAL JOHNNIE WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### Turnaround Principal:

**Kejuana Jefferson** is a leading innovator and transformational specialist with over 13 years of experience in the K-12 setting, many of those years serving as a "School Turnaround Specialist". She earned her Bachelors and Master's Degrees from Mississippi Valley State University, her MBA from The Ohio State University, and she continues her education at Walden University in pursuit of her Ed.D in Teacher Leadership. She first gained her passion while working in different teaching and administrative capacities within the Mississippi Delta in both elementary and high schools. After relocating to Ohio, she served as a School Improvement Coach, Literacy Coach, and Data Coach for several of Ohio's elementary, middle, and high schools. She is passionate about ensuring that every child receives a quality education, it is the key to building a strong foundation for our scholars.

#### Dean of Academics:

**Courtney Donohoe** was born and raised in Northeast Ohio and attended Kent State University for her undergraduate degree. She then moved to Denver, Colorado to pursue a master's degree at the University of Denver. After her first year in graduate school, she worked at a local organization in Masaka, Uganda designing and implementing a community-based education project focused on training teachers to adopt a human rights curriculum. Upon returning to the US and completing her graduate degree in International Human Rights, her journey led her to a fight in her own community for social justice for students as a Teach for America Corps Member. Courtney has spent the last five years working for education equity in Denver, Colorado and Phoenix, Arizona. Courtney loves to read, write, and dance and has spent the last three years performing and training with a professional dance company in Denver. She hopes to find a home in the dance community in the Greater Cleveland area during this new journey.

#### Dean of Scholar & Family Engagement:

**Tamara Jones** comes from a family of educators, where being an educator was a career path she never thought she would pursue, yet she has been an educator for over 15 years. The connection to education and community has always been there starting with her job at Life Skills where she helped graduate a class of 65 students within her first year, then leading into her four years at Job and Family. Services as a family caseworker, then returning to education in 2009 at New Beginnings Academy. Last summer Tamara linked with Lorain City Hall to bring the "Titans at Work" summer employment program for seven Lorain High students to work nine weeks in various departments within City Hall. Tamara also coordinated with the district's athletic director to bring the Titan mascot to Lorain City Schools. She has been with LCS for nine years working under the College and Career Readiness umbrella, from AVID teacher to Adjunct Instructor for LCCC teaching computer application and student development courses to high school students.

Tamara received her Bachelors from Wright State University in Organizational Leadership, pursued her teaching license in Integrated Business through Ashland University, a Masters from Kent State, and currently enrolled in Cleveland State's Inspired Leaders Program. Tamara had the opportunity while in college to travel to Japan, during her down time, she enjoys watching Law & Order TV show, relaxing, traveling and spending time with her son Madison, who is a junior at Lorain High.