



i3 Academy announces hiring of founding middle school principal

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (June 22, 2021) - i3 Academy is pleased to announce the hiring of Dr. Tamala Maddox as i3 Academy's founding middle school principal.

In the fall of 2020, i3 Academy opened their first campus in the Woodlawn area of Birmingham, Alabama. This campus serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Next year, the fifth grade class will transition to sixth grade at i3 Academy Middle School, which will be located in the former St. Barnabas Catholic School building (7901 1st Ave. N. Birmingham, AL 35206). Moving forward, a grade level will be added each year until the middle school is complete with sixth through eighth grade. Dr. Maddox will lead this endeavor along with her team.

Upon her acceptance of her new position, Dr. Maddox stated, "I am excited to join the I3 Academy team and tackle the opportunities and challenges of opening a brand new school. Our parents and community can expect our students to continue to imagine, investigate and innovate in the same manner that they began their i3 journey last fall. We plan to accomplish this while also integrating the critical components of a middle school concept. We will focus on the unique developmental needs of our adolescents while building meaningful relationships with all stakeholders as we strive to empower learners to become agents of change who solve the problems they see in their world. Our stakeholders can also expect me to be available, fair, honest, purposeful, and respectful in all of our interactions."

With over thirty years of experience in education, Dr. Maddox is thoroughly equipped to serve in this role. She taught high school and college math before becoming a middle school administrator in Hoover City Schools in 2003. Dr. Maddox holds a bachelor's and master's degree in secondary math education from Auburn University in addition to an education specialist certification and PhD in educational leadership from UAB. As an active and well-respected member of the Council for Leaders of Alabama Schools (CLAS), Dr. Maddox is part of an elite group of educators who champion high-quality schools for the children of Alabama. She will be president of the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals for the 2021-2022 school year, a role she also held from 2015-2017.

"When we began the search for a middle school principal, we knew it had to be someone special—someone who could handle the start-up environment of a charter school and someone who holds innovation highly. We had very high standards. Dr. Maddox exceeds every one of our standards, and her strong background in math instruction will serve as a major asset to our teachers and students. We cannot wait to watch her flourish in this role and lead our students in their next chapter of success," said Dr. Martin Nalls, head of school for i3 Academy.

Dr. Maddox and her husband, Derrick Maddox, have three daughters, ages 22, 20, and 18. In her free time, she enjoys reading and walking.

Please join the i3 family in welcoming Dr. Maddox to her new position.

i3 Academy is a system of tuition-free, public charter schools, serving students in kindergarten through sixth grade. The mission of i3 is to empower learners to become agents of change who solve the problems they see in their world. The middle school campus will be located in the East Lake community of Birmingham, Alabama. It will open in the fall of 2021 with one hundred sixth graders and will expand to add seventh and eighth grade in the years to come. To learn more about i3 Academy, visit i3Academy.org.

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