



ACADEMY

IMAGINE. INVESTIGATE. INNOVATE.

i3 Academy Newsletter • 2020 Volume 1 Issue 2

A message from our Head of School:

i3 Parents and Guardians,

The i3 Academy mission is to “empower learners to become agents of change who solve the problems they see in their world.” In the current climate of uncertainty, we are still able to live out this mission. Although it may feel like we cannot solve this problem on a grand scale, we must focus on the things we can control: our attitudes, responses, and communication methods. This unprecedented time may be viewed as an obstacle or an opportunity. Our team is taking this opportunity to refine our internal and external communication methods. We are working virtually, but we continue to move forward on our timeline, keeping our eyes on the prize: opening a successful, highly-engaging charter school on August 10, 2020.



We have hired almost all of our classroom and enrichment teachers. Our focus is now on hiring our support staff. The teachers are meeting virtually, building rapport with one another, exploring the curricula, and eagerly awaiting the chance to meet our i3 families.

While we wish we could spend more in-person time with your children, we want to support our public health officials and protect vulnerable community members. Nevertheless, we are amplifying communication with i3 families in the following ways:

- Monthly newsletter
- Private Facebook group
- The Live Wire with i3 - a six-week interview series
- Email - info@i3Academy.org
- Phone - (205) 403-5777 (from 1-4 PM on weekdays)
- Outreach team

We want to encourage you to watch The Live Wire with i3 every Thursday at 4 PM through May 14th. Each week, Danny Brister, our community liaison, is hosting a Facebook Live interview with a faculty member. You can view previously recorded and future episodes by joining our private Facebook group for parents. If you are not on Facebook, we have been sending the recorded videos via email each week.

We appreciate your flexibility and patience as we adapt to the temporary new normal. We continue to be a click or call away if you need anything. Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,
Dr. Martin Nalls
Head of School, i3 Academy

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Contact Info

Email:
info@i3Academy.org

Phone:
205-403-5777
(Mon- Fri; 1-4 PM)

Announcement:

- Registration information will be shared soon. This information will be sent via email in the next few weeks.

Reminders:

- Parents do not need to withdraw children from current school until school is officially out for the year.
- Please notify your friends and neighbors that we have seats available for incoming fourth and fifth graders.
- The i3 Academy team is working virtually until the threat of COVID-19 has decreased. You may still reach us via phone or email.

Curriculum Notes:

We are excited to develop young authors at i3 Academy through consistent daily writing instruction and practice. Our writing curriculum is Being a Writer from the Center for the Collaborative Classroom. Writing at i3 begins as early as kindergarten, building a foundation for a range of written communication--from a professional email to a college entrance essay to a free-form poem. A strong writing curriculum is one of the pillars of a robust literacy program, leading to proficient readers and speakers. Ultimately, our goal is to cultivate confident writers who bravely share their unique ideas with the world. We look forward to reading all of the books and stories our young authors create!

Building Update:



Address

261 48th Street North,
Birmingham, AL 35212



FOLLOW US!

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What is a charter school?

- **Tuition-free, public school**
- **Allows families to choose where to send their children.**
- **Admits students based on a random selection process if more students attempt to enroll for admission than can be accommodated.**
- **Ability to make decisions regarding personnel, scheduling, curriculum, and instruction.**
- **Governed by an independent governing board that is a tax-exempt organization.**
- **Established and operated under the terms of a charter contract between governing board and chartering authorizer.**

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES!



- **May 14th: The Live Wire with i3 - Parent Advisory Boards**
- **August 10th: First Day of school**



MR. BO GARRETT

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS

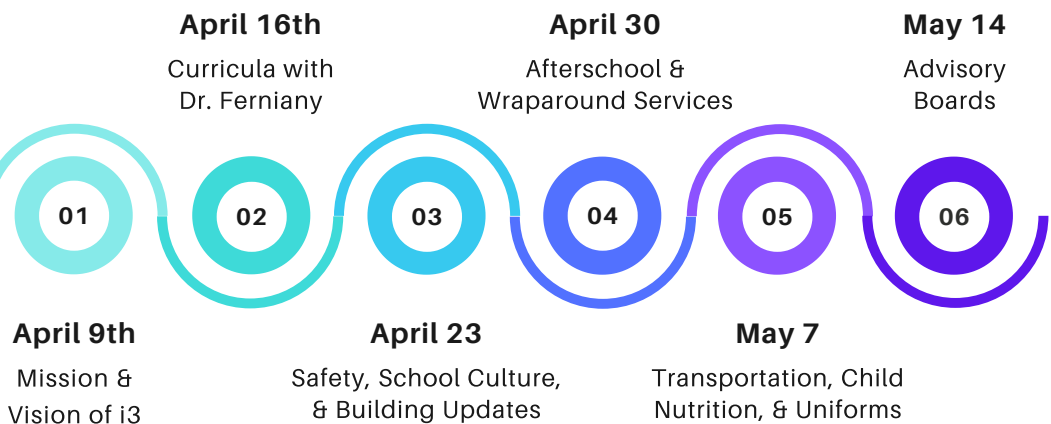
STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

Bo Garrett grew up in Florence, Alabama. He attended Birmingham-Southern College, while simultaneously serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserves. Mr. Garrett started his graduate work at the University of Alabama. From Tuscaloosa, he went to Washington, D.C. where he worked for the National Geographic Society's Education Foundation. In the aftermath of 9/11, he returned to Alabama and accepted a position teaching fourth and fifth grade at Highlands School in Birmingham. In 2010, he transitioned to Highlands' middle school. He and his team implemented a new vision focused on student experience, leading to a successful, thriving middle school. During his seventeen-year career at Highlands, Mr. Garrett completed his Master's degree (M.Ed) in Educational Leadership at Columbia University in New York and an Education Specialist degree (Ed.S.) at UAB.

Continuing education is a lifelong priority for Mr. Garrett, but his three beautiful children teach him life's best lessons. His children are his daughter Tatum, thirteen years old, and his sons, Doss, six years old, and Davis, six months old. Most importantly, he is the grateful husband to Jill. Without her support, he would have achieved little success. Mr. G, as his students call him, brings a wealth of experience and a 21st century mindset to i3 Academy. He is most excited about the opportunity to build relationships with the students, families, and faculty of the i3 community and help create an educational experience second to none. He looks forward to seeing everyone on campus this fall!

THE LIVE WIRE WITH I³

A SIX-WEEK INTERVIEW SERIES

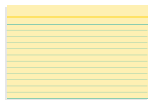


EVERY THURSDAY @ 4 PM, STARTING APRIL 9TH!

LEARNING AT HOME MENU

Language Development

Use post-it notes or note cards to label items around your house.



Math

Go on a Shape Hunt. How many different shapes can you find in your house? For a challenge, look for 2D and 3D shapes!



Practical Life

Teach your child your phone number. Put the number to the tune of a song (ex. "Old McDonald" or "Jingle Bells"). Practice the song until the phone number is memorized.



Reading Skills

Make a Venn diagram (two circles with an overlapping center). Compare and contrast two members of your family.



Science

Invent something that would really help you or a family member. Draw out the idea. Then explain it to a family member.



Social-Emotional

Create an acts of kindness list for your home or neighborhood.



Physical Activity

Design an obstacle course. Record your fastest three times. Take turns completing the course with your neighbors.



Art

Write or paint encouraging words on paper. Tape them in your windows for others to see.



Writing

Write a list of ten things that make you happy.



These activities can be changed to fit your child's age and ability. They are meant to supplement the lessons sent home by your child's current school.