

Dear West Gate Family,

I am honored to write this introduction letter to you as the newly appointed assistant principal for the home of the Bulldogs!

A little about myself...I have been in education for 15 years. I began my career in Prince George's County, Maryland. For the first seven years I was a fourth grade math and science teacher. For one of those years I also taught fifth grade. After those seven years, I knew I wanted to support more than a classroom. I wanted to support the staff and students of the school! I pursued and earned my master's degree at McDaniel College in Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration. For the next five years, I was a math specialist, math interventionist, talented and gifted coordinator, and extended learning opportunity coordinator. During this time, I had the opportunity to work with all grade levels to collaboratively support one another in building students' math skills and closing achievement gaps.

While I loved working in Prince George's County, my home was here in Prince William County. My daughter had just begun her educational journey as a kindergartner, and I wanted to truly support the community I lived in. In 2017, I joined Prince William County as a second grade teacher at Penn Elementary. Since then, I have spent two wonderful years as the administrative intern at Suella G. Ellis Elementary building a community of learners.

As your assistant principal, I will support you as we continue to build a positive school culture, and set high expectations for ourselves, our students, and our community. I look forward to my next chapter with West Gate Elementary! See you soon Bulldogs!!!!

We are ONE TEAM with ONE VISION...high achievement for ALL students.

Yours in Education,

Lauren Stephenson