Welcome to Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning & Social Change. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as Principal of this extraordinary learning community, a role I have held since 2024.

My journey with the Thurgood Marshall family began in 2008 as an educator at Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School. In 2013, I transitioned to the high school, serving as an English teacher and Lead ELA Teacher, where I had the opportunity to help shape the academic experiences of our scholars and support instructional excellence across classrooms. In 2020, I was appointed Assistant Principal, continuing my commitment to the students, families, and staff who make this community so special. Having spent nearly two decades growing alongside this school community, I am deeply invested in our mission, our values, and the success of every student who walks through our doors.

At TMA, we believe in the power of the village. Our students thrive when families, educators, community partners, alumni, and stakeholders work collectively to support their growth. We understand that education is a shared responsibility and that every member of our community has a role in helping our young people achieve their fullest potential.

Our work is guided by the philosophy of Ubuntu, which means, *"I am because we are."* Ubuntu reminds us that our individual success is connected to the success of those around us. It teaches us the importance of compassion, empathy, responsibility, and service. It challenges us to recognize that our actions impact our community and that we all have a responsibility to contribute positively to the world around us.

Inspired by the legacy of Justice Thurgood Marshall, we are committed to developing scholars who are intellectually curious, socially conscious, and prepared to lead lives of purpose. We strive to cultivate well-rounded individuals who understand that academic achievement is only one part of their journey. Our goal is to help students develop strong character, critical thinking skills, cultural awareness, and a commitment to civic engagement.

At Thurgood Marshall Academy, we believe that every student has unique talents and gifts and that each person has a specific role to play in strengthening our community. Through rigorous academics, leadership opportunities, restorative practices, the arts, athletics, service learning, and community engagement, students learn to identify their strengths and use them to make meaningful contributions.

Most importantly, we encourage our scholars to become agents of change. We want our students to understand that they have the power to influence their families, their communities, and society for the better. Being an agent of change means using your voice to advocate for justice, demonstrating courage in the face of challenges, leading with integrity, and taking action to improve the lives of

others. We challenge our students not only to dream of a better future but to actively participate in creating it.

As members of the TMA family, we are connected by our shared belief that education is a vehicle for transformation. Together, through the strength of our village and the spirit of Ubuntu, we will continue to create a learning environment where every student is empowered to excel, lead, serve, and make a lasting impact.

Welcome to Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning & Social Change, where we are preparing the next generation of scholars, leaders, and change-makers.