



# ACACIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Gayle Carpenter, Principal

Robert Poe, Assistant Principal

Tara Andreassen, Assistant Principal

## Message from the Principal

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! My name is Gayle Carpenter, and I am incredibly grateful and honored to be the Principal at Acacia Middle School! I have been an administrator at several different schools and districts for the past 16 years, and I also taught Biology, Physics and AVID for 9 years. I have 4 children (adults) ages 28, 24, 21, and 18, so I understand the nuances and challenges of raising an adolescent. This is my second year at Acacia, and I am optimistic and hopeful that the 2023-2024 school year will provide our students with their best educational experience yet!

I believe that student connectedness through positive relationships with peers, participation in school groups/clubs/activities, and community service is a cornerstone of student achievement. Students are encouraged to get involved and stay involved from the first day to their last day, as good habits and positive relationships will serve them long after they graduate. As a staff, we are working to increase the number of ways students can get involved on campus. Kindness, respect, and safety will be on the forefront of discussions and activities this school year. Academically, we are increasing literacy support, and working in collaborative teams to analyze data and design instruction that will address any instructional gaps and challenges our students may have.

Professionally, trust is at the center of my vision. Through trust, meaningful relationships will exist and people in any organization can flourish. Communication is an essential component of any successful organization. I will make every effort to ensure transparency and maintain open lines of communication to our students, staff, and families. We believe that students are most successful when a mutual partnership is developed between school and home, and we strive to establish and maintain that bond. I have an open-door policy -- please feel free to email me, call me, or make a personal appointment to meet with me either before or after school.

I wish all students, staff, and families a successful 2023-2024 school year!

Sincerely,

Gayle Carpenter, Principal