



DEAR PROSPECTIVE LAUNCH PARENTS & GUARDIANS,

Congratulations! Your child has been accepted for 6th Grade at Launch Charter School for the 2023-24 school year. We are excited to welcome you and your family into the Launch community!

Here at Launch, we are guided by two strong beliefs:

WE ARE CREW is a sentiment and a belief that guides all of the work we do at Launch. Everyone on our crew, from teachers, staff, students and families - everyone has a voice and role to play in creating a joyful school where all children learn and achieve.

UBUNTU is the African notion that *I am because we are*. In the Launch community, we believe that we are all connected and that we all achieve more together. We see this collaborative mindset in the important work that we do at Launch every day in our classrooms, through our restorative work, and with our strong family partnerships.

To our families – in the spirit of crew, we promise that your child will grow to be a leader of their own learning, reach new academic heights, and be prepared to build a better world in their community and beyond.

To our future students – Launch is a learning community where students thrive and feel like they belong regardless of who they are or where they come from. Please come along this unique learning journey with us and always remember to be exceptional, be yourself, and be ready to do more than you ever thought was possible.

To confirm your child's spot in the 6th grade class please do the following:

- 1) Complete the **Enrollment Form** (included in this Welcome Folder and available online)
- 2) Submit all **Required Documents** (included in this Welcome Folder)
- 3) Register/RSVP for events you would like to attend (see **Events Calendar** included and fliers)

Additional information is provided on the **How to Enroll** flyer (in this Welcome Folder).

Parents, guardians, students, siblings and other family members – welcome to our Crew. On behalf of the Launch staff, we are thrilled to begin our work with your family! Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

We are your partners! Learn more about us on the other side of this letter!

In Crew,

Shamikah Kenlock and Amanda Leake, Co-Principals



MEET YOUR LAUNCH CO-PRINCIPALS



MY NAME IS AMANDA LEAKE and I am a proud resident of Bed-Stuy and truly value working in a neighborhood that I live in and love. I started my education career at Launch as a passionate special educator in ELA and have served in various leadership roles, including Literacy Specialist & Director of Instructional Coaching for Equity & Impact.

For the last eight years, I've been a committed member of the Launch community, working to fulfill our vision and mission in partnership with our families and in service of our students. Every day I grow a deeper appreciation for the impactful and exciting work I do with children at school.

As a leader, I always look at both the purpose and the possibilities of our programming for our students to ensure that we provide a rich, student-centered, academically rigorous, and culturally affirming experience for all.

I look forward to co-creating opportunities with our school community and providing an education that activates and empowers our students to be leaders, learners, and liberators.



I AM SHAMIKAH KENLOCK. I am grateful to serve as Co-Principal at Launch. I began my career by participating in a gap year program with Americorps and I have been working in education ever since.

I have held various positions at the school from self-contained teaching assistant to lead Social Studies teacher. I have held several teacher leadership positions from department chair to grade level chair, and assistant principal.

As I now step into my eleventh year of working at Launch, I believe more deeply than ever in our mission to ensure that all students achieve at optimal levels.

As a leader, I will continue to push student achievement with the help of families and community partners. I believe it is integral for educators to support the development of informed citizens, who can change their communities and ultimately the world.

I am incredibly appreciative to continue my journey as part of the Launch community and serve as co-principal.