Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, and Community Members of Bates Middle School:

Welcome to Bates Middle School! I am elated for the opportunity to continue to serve as the Proud Principal of Bates Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year! I strongly believe that communication and collaboration are vital to building and sustaining long-lasting relationships; therefore, we look forward to our continued professional partnerships among our faculty/staff, students, parents, and community stakeholders. I am a product of Sumter School District, and I have been serving this community as an educator for the past seventeen years. I pledge to serve as the instructional leader of Bates Middle School in order to foster increased professional development of faculty and staff, promote student growth and achievement, and collaborate with parents and community members to continue to build a positive and strong climate and culture by building relationships and rapport.

At Bates Middle School, our mission is to nurture a willingness to learn within our students and foster compassion for others by providing innovative, rigorous, and diverse learning experiences which will develop confident, competent, and contributing members in a global society. We believe that children are our highest priority and that all children can learn. We also strive to ensure that we provide a safe environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. As we begin a new academic year and journey together, we want to continue to *STRIDE*, treading new paths and vigorously marching forward to higher heights and deeper depths. The expectation is that all stakeholders *STRIDE* as Mighty Bantams do, setting the pace and moving in the direction of excellence and pride in our school and community.

As we prepare for the 2024-2025 school year, please adhere to the following important upcoming dates and events (*subject to change as needed*):

Important Upcoming Dates and Events

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

• 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 6th Grade Bantam Jump Start Camp/Orientation

Monday, July 29, 2024

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
8th Grade Orientation

Thursday, August 1, 2024

• 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. First Day of Student Attendance

Thursday, August 22, 2024

• 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Open House/Meet The Teacher Night

Friday, August 23, 2024

Fall Picture Day

We invite parents, guardians, and community members to actively participate in our school activities, volunteer opportunities, and collaborative efforts to make this a remarkable school year for our students. We value your support and look forward to partnering with each of you. Again, I am honored to continue to serve as your Principal. I am confident that we will have an awesome school year!

All For Children,

Mrs. Nicole L. Fuller, M.Ed. Principal Bates Middle School