Principal's Corner

Dear Jefferson Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year at Jefferson School!

My name is **Danisha Keeler**, and I am honored to serve as the principal of this exceptional school community. Jefferson School is a place where scholars, staff, and families work together to create a culture of excellence, belonging, and high expectations for all.

A little about me: I was raised in North Sacramento, just a short distance from Natomas. I earned my degree in Liberal Studies and Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from California State University, Sacramento, where I also completed my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and Administrative Credential. My career in education began as an elementary classroom teacher, followed by serving as an Instructional Coach in the Twin Rivers Unified School District. This year marks my fourteenth year at Jefferson School, and I remain deeply committed to serving this remarkable community.

At Jefferson, we are dedicated to providing every scholar with a rigorous, engaging, and meaningful educational experience. As an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) World School, we foster inquiry, critical thinking, global awareness, and a lifelong love of learning. The IB framework prepares our scholars for future success in advanced academic programs, including the Pre-AP and AP Capstone pathways at Natomas High School and the IB Diploma Programme at Inderkum High School.

As a proud Community School, Jefferson continues to be a hub of learning, support, and connection for our students and families. Our commitment to the whole child means ensuring that scholars have access to the academic, social-emotional, and wellness supports they need to thrive. Through strong partnerships with families, community organizations, and local service providers, we work together to remove barriers, strengthen relationships, and create a safe, inclusive environment where every child feels valued and empowered to succeed.

Our dedicated educators provide challenging and relevant learning experiences that encourage creativity, collaboration, and real-world problem-solving. We strive to prepare every scholar to become a confident learner, responsible citizen, and future leader in an ever-changing world.

Family engagement remains one of the strongest predictors of student success, and we encourage all families to become active partners in their child's education. There are many opportunities to get involved, including:

- **Parent Teacher Association (PTA):** Support school events, programs, and activities while building connections within our school community.
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- **School Site Council (SSC):** Collaborate with school leadership to review and support school programs, goals, and budgets.
- **English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC):** Advocate for and support the academic success of our multilingual learners.

As we begin the 2026–2027 school year, I am filled with optimism and excitement for all that lies ahead. Together, we will continue to build on Jefferson's strong tradition of excellence while creating new opportunities for growth, achievement, and innovation. Excellence is not simply a destination—it is a continuous journey of learning, reflection, and improvement.

Let's also celebrate our school pride throughout the week:

- **Wednesdays – College Day:** Wear apparel representing your favorite college or university.
- **Thursdays – Choose Kindness Day:** Spread positivity by wearing a kindness-themed shirt or sharing acts of kindness with others.
- **Fridays – Jefferson Spirit Day:** Show your school pride by wearing Jefferson gear or our school colors, navy and white.

I look forward to a year filled with learning, collaboration, and celebration. Thank you for being an important part of the Jefferson School family. Together, we will make this a wonderful year for all scholars.

Warmly,

Ms. Danisha Keeler
Principal, Jefferson School