

Dear McMeen Community,

I am thrilled to introduce myself in my new role as the Principal Resident at McMeen Elementary. By taking on the Principal Resident role, I am embarking on a year of deep learning as I prepare for a future principalship within Denver Public Schools (DPS). I am excited to take on this phase of my journey with our incredible community.

Having had the privilege of being a part of McMeen Elementary for some time as the Assistant Principal, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication, passion, and commitment of our students, staff, and families. I have a deep appreciation for the values and traditions that make this school special.

As the Principal Resident, my primary focus this year will be on building my leadership skills, gaining invaluable experience, and collaborating with our amazing community to ensure that our students receive the best education possible.

I grew up in Missouri and while my K-12 education felt easy, I realized that it left me woefully unprepared for both college and the real world. As a result, I am committed to making education something that prepares all of our students to be able to take on the challenges of whatever life has to offer them after they graduate from DPS. I know children will only be able to achieve this if they are able to be themselves and learn in a safe and welcoming environment. As a parent myself, I know how important it is to cultivate such a space that makes children want to attend school and I will work relentlessly to ensure all students feel this way about McMeen.

I look forward to building upon the relationships I've developed with many of you and forging new connections with those I haven't had the pleasure of meeting. Please feel free to reach out to me with your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Your input is invaluable in shaping my development and the future of McMeen Elementary.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I am excited to embark on this year of learning as the Principal Resident with all of you.

Sincerely.

Lauren Bartsch Principal Resident McMeen Elementary

