

Dear 8th Grade Students and Families,

Welcome to a new school year at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School—home of the Cobras! I am honored to introduce myself as your new 8th-grade administrator, and I am thrilled to join you on this important journey. Together, we will make this year one of growth, preparation, and achievement as we guide our students toward the next chapter of their academic careers: high school.

This year marks the beginning of an exciting new initiative: Cobras R.I.S.E. Eighth Grade Academy. Through this program, we are focused on high school readiness, ensuring that every 8th grader is equipped with the academic, social, and emotional tools needed for a successful transition. Our goal is to empower students to rise confidently and competently into the next phase of their education.

The 8th grade team—including our dedicated teachers, school counselor, and myself—is fully committed to supporting each student's journey. Whether it's mastering core subjects, developing leadership skills, or setting goals for the future, we are here to guide and partner with you every step of the way.

Parents and guardians, your involvement is key. We look forward to building strong partnerships with you this year. Together, we can ensure your child's final year of middle school is not only memorable, but meaningful and future-focused.

Let's make this a year of rising—together as we "Level-Up and Lock In".

With Cobra Pride,

Ms. Tia Johnson

8th Grade Administrator

Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School

