

Carol Frink, Principal Mason Clark, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the newly appointed Principal. I have been a part of Edgewood Academy for more than five years, and am honored and grateful to serve as your Principal. I have served as an Assistant Principal at both the elementary and middle school levels. I am excited to work with you, as a partner, to ensure your child's success.

Edgewood Academy's teachers embody excellence in teaching and learning. Our teachers are experts in their field where they inspire the love of learning. Along with the teachers and staff, I will work hard to build strong relationships with parents, students, and community members. We will focus on reading as our top priority to increase our number of proficient readers. To do this, we will focus on state standards, use data to drive instruction, and provide consistent implementation of rigorous instruction and activities to increase student achievement in both reading and math. Parents, let's partner up for our kids. Join Florida's initiative <u>Just Take 20</u> (JT20). Read together with your child, and encourage your child to read out loud to you. Make this time together special every night. In one year, a child who reads 20 minutes a day is exposed to 1.8 million words. <u>Just Take 20</u> is geared to improve student achievement in reading by recognizing that literacy begins at home! It is an expectation that all students read at least 30 minutes every night.

Please visit our website at https://ewd.leeschools.net/ and visit us on Facebook. This is where we communicate with the community. See what makes Edgewood so unique. Nightly on Facebook we will read a bedtime story to foster the love of reading. I want to reach our students outside of school and read them a bedtime story. Every evening there will be a story posted on the school's Facebook page ewd.facebook. It's a personal connection that comes through online. Bedtime stories play an important role in a child's development. The benefits for children who are raised with bedtime stories, have higher literacy rates and an emotional connection to reading. Please view and like us on Facebook. As you click through our web pages and Facebook, note that the central role that parents and community play in our children's daily life.

How we conduct our business is just as important as what we do. Our core values are the principles that guide us daily in helping our students achieve academic and social success. Our CORE 4 Values are: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be an Active Learner. We live by these values and strive to be the best we can be. Our school's mission is: Edgewood Academy exists to engage students through quality instruction in rigorous and meaningful work aligned with the Florida State Standards. Our school's vision is: Edgewood inspires a love of learning to create future leaders. These three elements define what our school believes, stands for and values, where we are going, and why we exist.

I invite you to come and visit with us in person. Walk the campus. See our classrooms and playground fields. Feel the life of our school through the students and faculty who make Edgewood Academy such a wonderful place to learn.

Best Regards,

Carol Frink Edgewood Academy Principal