



Why did you choose to work in education?

I was actually headed to Howard Law School and my professor had a two-hour conversation with me about running away from my calling. After college, I began substitute teaching in between traveling with a theater group and dancing with Forces of Nature in NYC. I fell in love with my students at So. 17th St. School in Newark, using dance as a tool to educate, uplift, and empower young Black boys and girls. I witnessed the

power that one teacher can have on a child and have never looked back. My purpose and my passion became my promise.

What is the best advice you've ever received?

Never forget what it's like to be a child. Have the courage to be their voice, stand alone if you have to, but stand up for them always!

What is on your nightstand?

My Bible and a picture of my Father.

Tell us something about you that we don't know.

In college, I directed, choreographed, and played The Lady in Red in the play, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbow Is Enuf." Our theater group consisted of seven fabulous women who then toured and performed at Yale University, the University of Maryland in College Park, Stockton State, Rutgers University, and Lincoln University. We are planning a reunion performance in 2024.

What are you most proud of?

My children.

What is something that you do to “recharge your batteries?”

Taking long drives with my husband, listening to music, and reading a book!

What is the best or worst kept secret about the District or school where you work?

SOMS has cultivated a culture of love and support for every child. It is a school where the amazingly talented staff are committed to professional growth and disrupting the disproportionality that exists in our district. The work we do is about children.

What are words that you live by?

Truth, Courage, Boldness, Honesty, and Humbleness. If not me, then who? If not now, then when?



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
South Orange
& Maplewood[™]