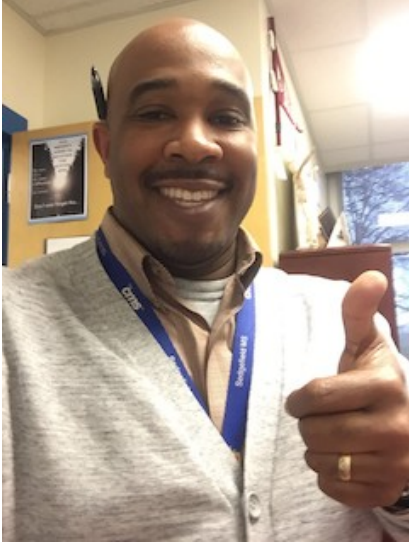


Spartan Spotlight: Mr. Erik Turner, Principal



Mr. Turner has been the principal at Sedgefield Middle School for four years. An educator for more than 15 years, Mr. Turner previously was an assistant principal at Bruns Academy; a resident principal at Albemarle Road Middle School; a state program director for Citizen Schools of North Carolina; a middle school social studies teacher; and a grant project manager for Communities in Schools of Charlotte. Outside of education, Mr. Turner was once a fireman for the Charlotte Fire Department!

Mr. Turner earned a BA in history and education from North Carolina Central and a MA in organizational leadership from Gonzaga University.

Each day as principal at SMS, Mr. Turner works to inspire scholars and staff members. While there are a host of reasons he enjoys the middle school environment, Mr. Turner said the primary reason is “because middle school is such a pivotal developmental period in a child’s life. I relish the opportunity to positively impact the life trajectories of our scholars.”

A native of Charlotte, Mr. Turner is a Panthers and Hornets fan and loves college basketball, notably the UNC Tar Heels and the Zags of Gonzaga. He spends his time outside of school with his wife of twenty years, Kaneka; their two sons, Bryson, 20, and Caleb, 15; and their 11-year-old chocolate cocker spaniel, Bailey. His hobbies include golfing, fishing and working on projects around the house. If he could travel anywhere in the world, Mr. Turner would head to Egypt; fascinated by the ancient Egyptian culture, he once dreamed of becoming an Egyptologist.

Around SMS, Mr. Turner is known to inspire scholars, staff and parents alike with positive and inspirational quotes. His favorites include:

- “The body will not go where the mind has not been first.” – Brian Germain
- “How you do anything is how you do everything.” – Michael J.