



Thea Bowman Leadership Academies

975 W 6th Ave, Gary, IN 46402

219.883.4826

January 6, 2020

Good Afternoon Parents,

Happy New Year! I look forward to welcoming everyone back from break to what is going to be a wonderful second half of the school year. We are excited to announce that Mrs. Keana Johnson, our current instructional coach, has accepted a new role with us as Assistant Principal for Thea Bowman Elementary School! We are recruiting a new instructional coach to fill her old, but important shoes and continue to provide teachers the support they may need in the classrooms.

Mrs. Johnson is no stranger to our community. She has been with us for over a decade serving our school, scholars and families. We are thrilled that she is taking on this new leadership role expanding her support, spreading her love for our scholars, and helping to lead our elementary school forward.

Please find Mrs. Johnson's bio attached. Also, standby for upcoming staff and family meet and greet dates to welcome Mrs. Johnson to her new position and share your aspirations and goals for the future.

Thank you for all that you do. I hope you are ready for this new year! The best is yet to come.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 219.883.4826, come visit the office or email me at msimmons@theabowmanacademy.org. My doors are always open for you.

We'll see you soon.

Educationally yours,

Marisa Simmons

Marisa Simmons
K-12 Principal



Meet

Thea Bowman ES Assistant Principal **MRS. KEANA JOHNSON**

I am honored and excited to serve in the capacity of Assistant Principal at TBLA Elementary Campus. I want all stakeholders to know that I believe in the power of teaching. As educators, we come in prepared to teach content, but leave out accomplishing so much more. We are our scholars' windows to the world. We have to remember that teaching is a privilege. It is our responsibility to ensure that we provide children with experiences and lessons that go beyond the curriculum. This is a responsibility that I eagerly accept. I appreciate and value being a part of the TBLA Family. I look forward to providing acts of service for the children of NWI for years to come. -Johnson

Family Life



I was born and raised in Gary where I currently reside with my husband and four children. I am a 2002 graduate of THE West Side High School located on 9th & Gerry. I cherish moments with family and friends, and I thoroughly enjoy traveling. .

Education and Experience

Johnson has already spent over a decade serving Gary scholars and families at Thea Bowman Leadership Academies (TBLA). She began at TBLA in the Fall of 2008 as a 4th grade instructional assistant. With the encouragement of her husband and building leaders, she enrolled in a local transition to teaching program. She earned her Bachelor's in Elementary Education and received an Indiana Teacher's License in the summer of 2010 and stayed on as a 4th grade teacher. From the Fall of 2010 to the Spring of 2018, Johnson served as a reading teacher at Thea Bowman. She also served as a 4th grade math teacher and 4th-6th grade reading coach. In the Fall of 2018, Johnson transitioned out of the classroom and into the role of K-6 Data Coach where she did a wonderful job assisting teachers in analyzing student achievement data and finding meaningful ways to help guide teachers in making instructional decisions to better support scholar needs.

Johnson earned her Bachelor of Science from Xavier University and her Master's from Texas A&M.

PLA's Core Value **CHILDREN FIRST**

**"SERVING CHILDREN IS THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO.
WITHOUT THEM, WE LACK PURPOSE AND FOCUS."**

