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Joseph Eldridge, Principal | Danielle Smith, Asst. Principal | Brandon Walmer, Asst. Principal | Larry Strickland- Asst. Principal |  
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## **Assistant Principal Welcome Letter**

August 1, 2024

Dear Walter P. Carter Elementary Middle Parents, Families, and Community:

I am excited to be one of Walter P. Carter's Intermediate assistant principals. With over 10 years of experience, I have loved every role I served from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher, content lead, attendance lead, climate coach and instructional coach. School is where I spend the most time because it gives me the most joy. The relationships I developed with teachers, parents and students are everlasting. My time off usually consists of exploring nature in search of beautiful views. I enjoy picnics, hiking and bike riding. The journey to health and fitness has become a necessity for my peace.

In my role, I plan on absorbing as much information as possible. This means getting to know you and your children deeply and intricately. I want to know what makes them engaged and excited to learn. I want to nurture their hopes and dreams through connecting them to worldly experiences. I welcome our students with open arms. They will be met with a cumulation of love and high standards/expectations. With an understanding of the learning gap the pandemic has created, meeting the needs of the individualized child will be my primary focus.

As the leaves fall, this season is the time for fresh starts and new opportunities. The air gets cool as the brain gets warm. We have so many amazing things planned for the upcoming year. This year we have increased support and dedicated principals over specific grade bands.

I believe that we can manifest the world we want through discipline of the mind, perseverance and hard work. It is crucial to be the change we want to see in the world. Every day I speak life and power into our students. I want them to believe they can be anything they want in this world, through daily practice. I am so proud to be a part of the wonderful Walter. P Carter family. Wildcats forever!

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

Danielle Smith,  
Assistant Principal