



**Creative.Genius.**

May 12, 2017

Dear Grand Center Arts Academy Families,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Grand Center Arts Academy, I'm pleased to announce a new upper academy principal for the 2017-2018 school year.

Gina Bell-Moore was recommended to the Board by an interview committee that included students, staff and parents. Her role is effective July 1.

Ms. Bell-Moore will replace Mrs. Lisa Kaczmarczyk, who is retiring. She will continue her role at GCAA through the end of the school year. We are grateful for the hard work, dedication and care that Mrs. Kaczmarczyk has given to Grand Center Arts Academy.

Ms. Bell-Moore explained that she is a "strong believer in arts education and the vital role that the arts play in students' lives. Through the arts, students are able to express themselves creatively, and studies have shown that participating in the arts can improve confidence and increase academic performance. I eagerly look forward to leading the Upper Academy at Grand Center Arts Academy."

She has more than 20 years of experience in education in the St. Louis region. She worked for Special School District of St. Louis County as a classroom teacher working students with behavior and learning disabilities, and became an assistant principal at North County Technical High School. She was an assistant principal at the Ninth Grade Center in the Normandy School District.

She earned a Bachelor of Science in anthropology from Carleton College, a master's degree in special education from University of Missouri-St. Louis and a secondary principal certificate from Northeast Missouri State University.

Ms. Bell-Moore has a strong background in instruction, and experience in diverse schools that tailor to students' individual needs. Her support to teachers, her strong appreciation for the arts and rapport with parents and students is commendable.

Plans are being developed for students, families and staff to meet Ms. Bell-Moore and welcome her to the GCAA school community. We will be sure to notify you once plans are set.

Sincerely,

*Candice Carter-Oliver*

Candice Carter-Oliver, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer