

# Impact Report AESM St Louis Public Schools 2019-2020



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# AESM School Leadership Team Leading the Character Initiatives at the School

Dr. Perry, Principal

Ms. Lato, Character Coordinator

Mr. Sell, Counselor

Ms. Arpodi, Social Worker

Ms. Moreland, Teacher

Ms. Marshall, Teacher

Ms. Richard, Teacher

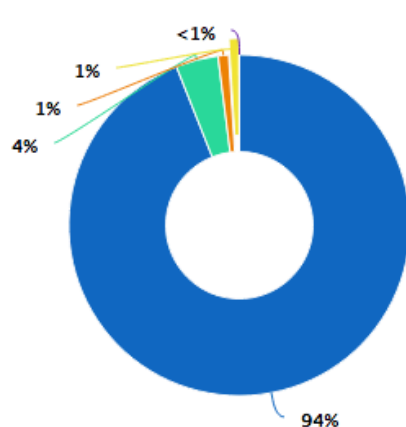
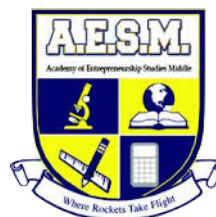
Dr. Berry, Educator, Community Engagement

Tami Bopp, CharacterPlus Way, Sr. Consultant



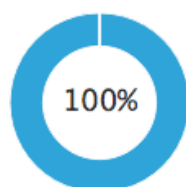
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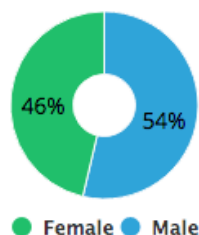


Black	94%
White	4%
Hispanic	1%
Asian	1%
Native American	<1%

Students from low-income families ?



Gender



Students per teacher ?

**15:1** State avg: 14:1

Students per counselor ?

**73:1** State avg: 286:1

Percentage of teachers with 3 or more years experience ?

**53%** State avg: 88%

% of full time teachers who are certified ?

**93%**

Average teacher salary ?

**\$41,593** State avg: \$64,593

Nurse ?

None

Psychologist ?

None

Social worker ?

Part-time

Law enforcement officer ?

None

Security guard ?

Full-time



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## Areas of Growth Highlights on *The 11 Principles Survey* over 3 years

- **56% increase** (39-61%) in promotes core ethical values
- **56% increase** (39-61%) in character performance (thinking, feeling and doing)
- **29% increase** (42-57%) in a comprehensive approach to character education
- **24% increase** (46-57%) in creating a caring community
- **33% increase** (43-57%) in moral action (service in the community)
- **20% increase** (48-58%) in academic engagement
- **35% increase** (49- 66%) in developing students' intrinsic motivation
- **33% increase** (57-76%) in staff engagement and sharing responsibility
- **29% increase** (55-71%) in shared leadership
- **22% increase** (59-72%) in parent and community engagement
- **47% increase** (43-47%) in assessment of character education

The 11 Principles are the National Standards for Character Education and used as a standard for State Schools of Character and National Schools of Character.



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## Highlights of Areas of Growth from Students, Staff and Parent surveys over 3 Years

- **82% increase** in character integration in the school and community.
- **80%** of the staff feel a strong sense of belonging.
- **81%** of the staff feel they have positive relationships and communication with parents.
- **70% decrease** in suspensions.
- **Decrease in bullying** incidents, helping students feel a sense of belonging and safety at school.



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**AESM now leads comparable St. Louis City Middle Schools in**

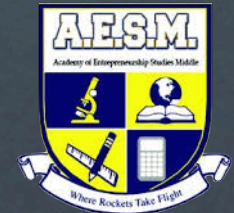
English Language Arts Performance +29%

Mathematics Performance +2%

Science Performance +13%

**Enrollment doubled from 160 to over 300**

**Referrals are down 70%**

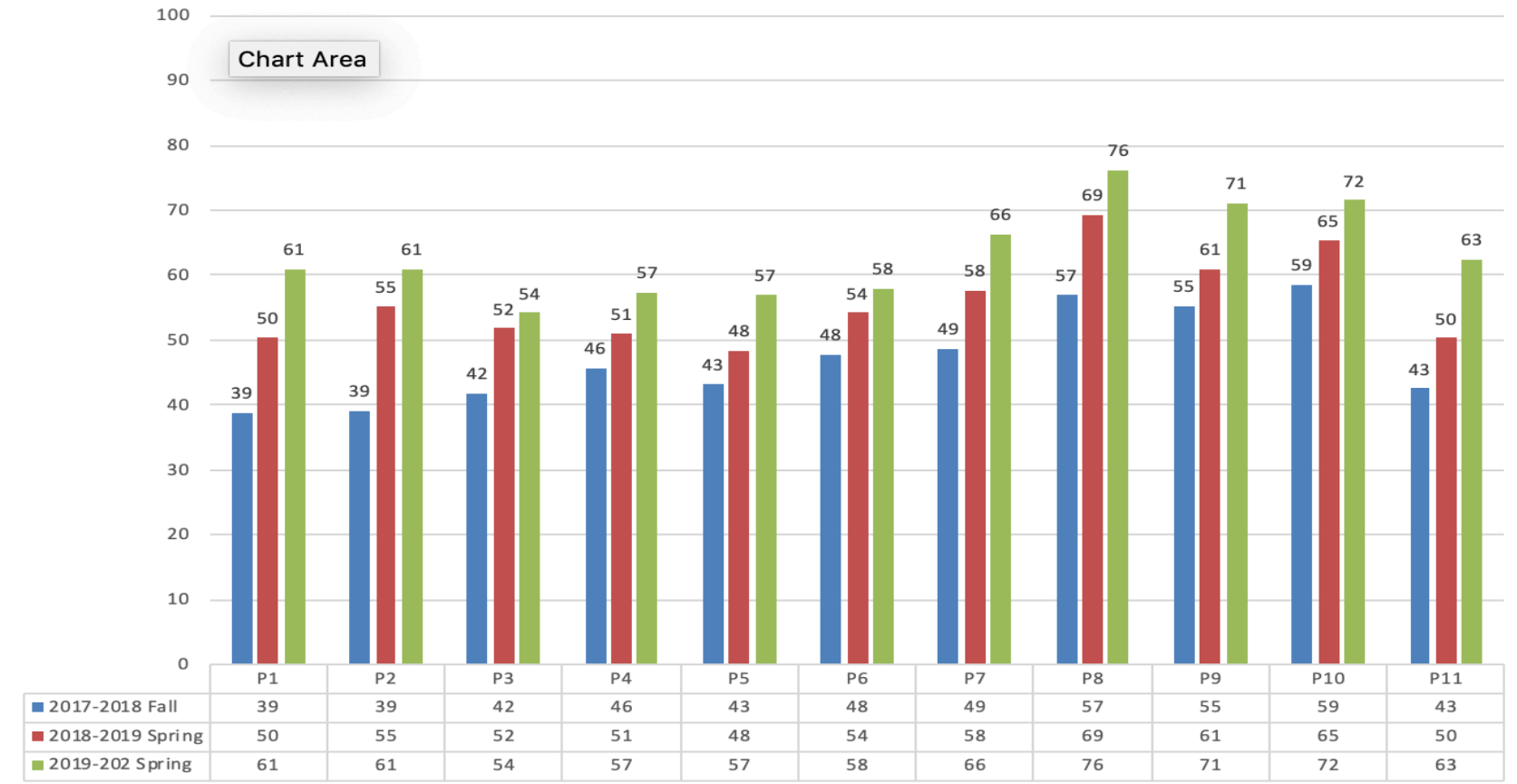


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# Staff Survey Results on The 11 Principles of Character Education

Figure 9. Eleven Principles Survey Mean Graph  
April 2020  
District: St. Louis Public, School: AESM Middle School



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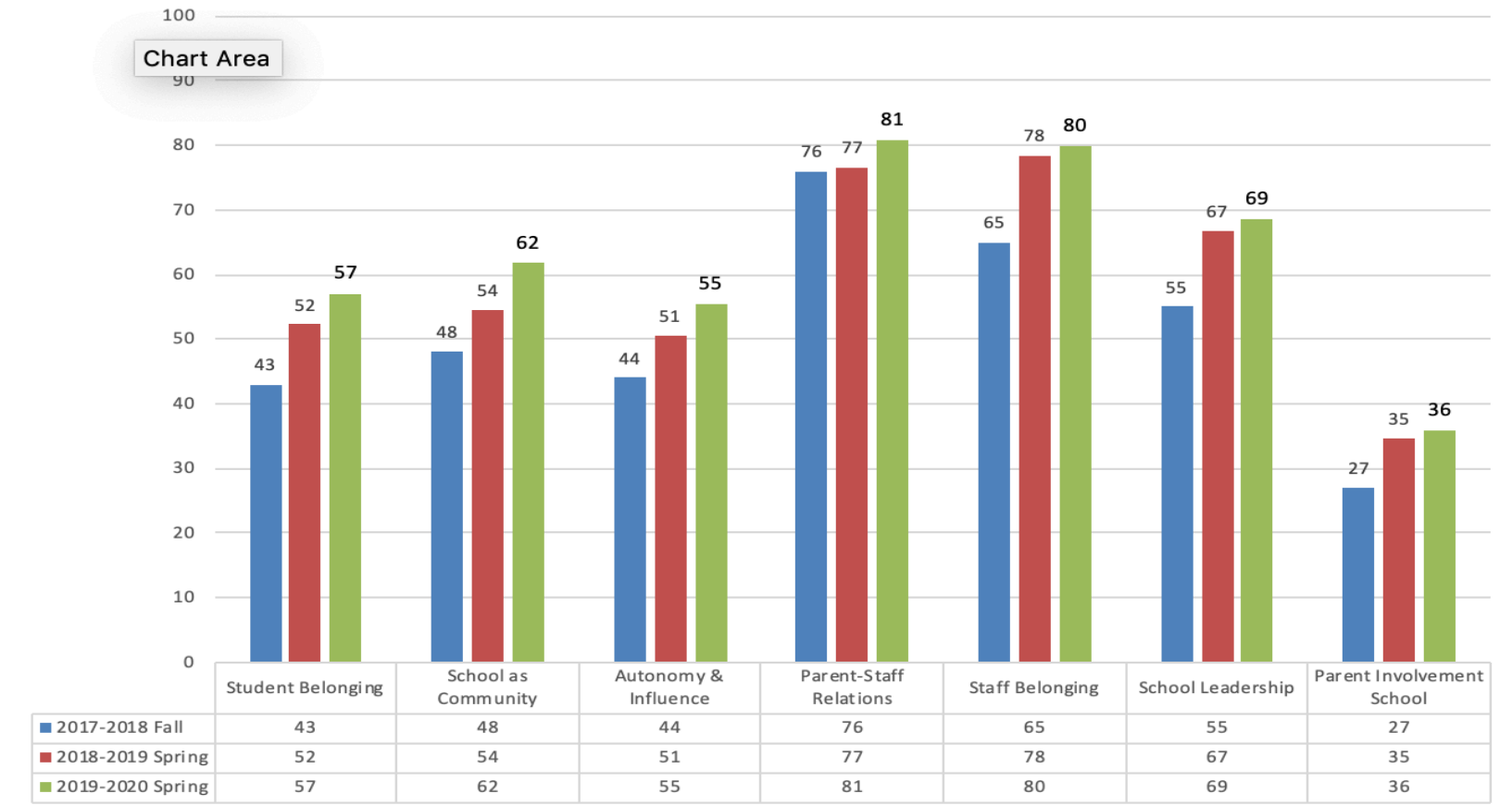
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# Staff Survey Results

Figure 4. Staff Survey Mean Graph

April 2020

District: St. Louis Public, School: AESM Middle School



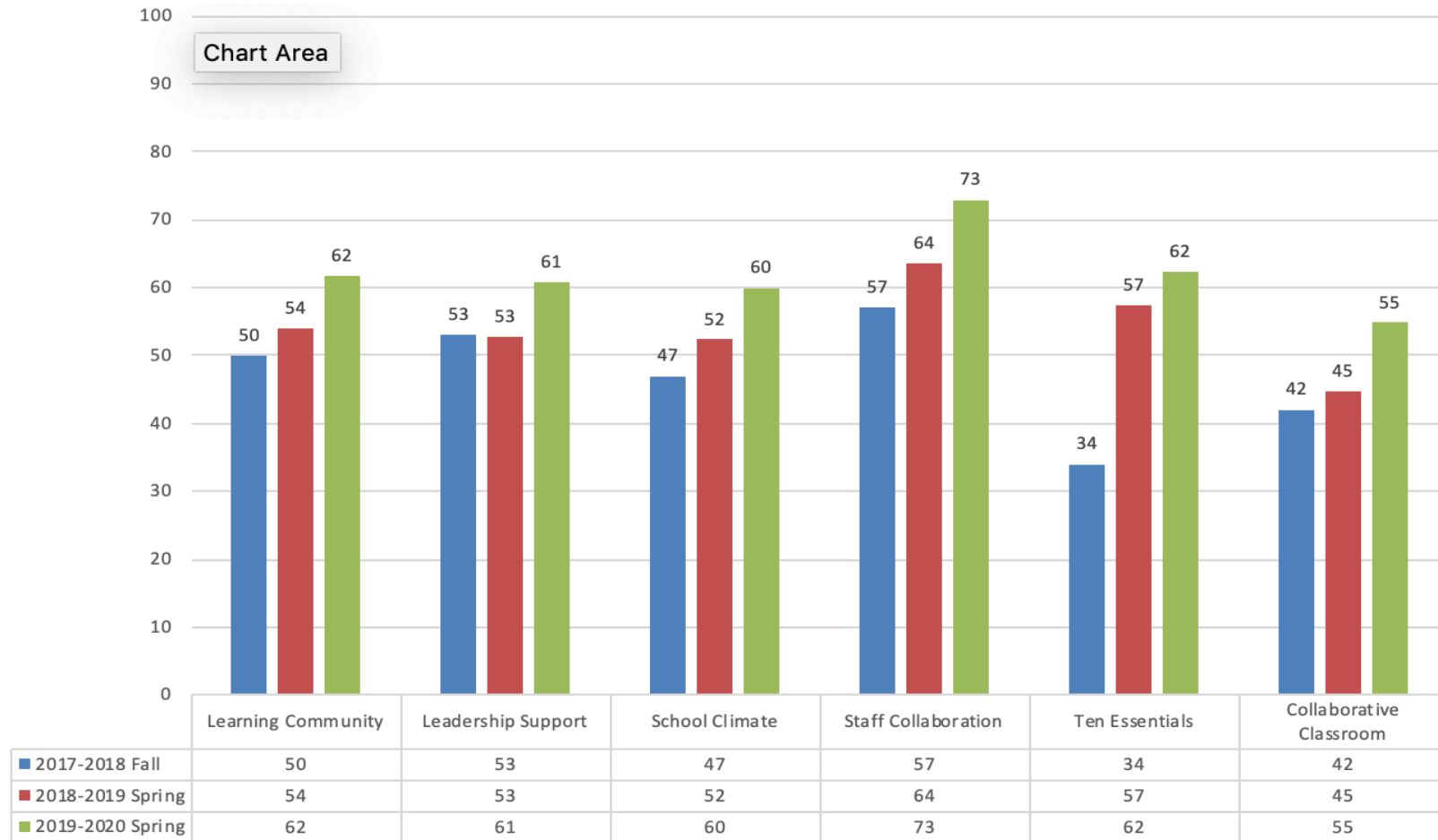
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# Staff Survey Results on Implementation

Figure 8. Implementation Survey Mean Graph  
April 2020  
District: St. Louis Public, School: AESM Middle School



# Morning Gathering and Family Groups Transformed AESM's Climate and Culture

Each morning, there is a family gathering in the cafeteria with all students and faculty. This sets a positive tone for the day, and it includes announcements, celebrations, and a reminder of the character expectations.

Advisory Families have been established, giving all students an opportunity to build trust, competence, and sense of belonging and safety at school. There are 25 Advisory Families of 12-15 students that meet everyday for 30 minutes.

During Family Time, character lessons are student-led and integrated into the curriculum. All students are given an opportunity to participate in experience-based projects, cooperative learning, and class meeting circles. These activities promote and foster a sense of community, a celebration of diversity, and academic success, as students encourage and mentor each other. The Advisory Families have led service learning projects such as creating a share table in the cafeteria, which ensures all students have healthy choices for lunch.



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# Year 3 Timeline Highlights

## August/September

- Fall kickoff for staff focused on *The 11 Principles of Character Education* and goal setting for the year. Areas of focus include respect for all, hallway behavior, cultural diversity and service learning.
- Fall kickoff for student leaders focused on goal setting and planning for the year. Areas of focus include respect for all, cultural diversity, hallway behavior, and improving the restrooms.
- Advisory Families meet every morning during first period. This includes class meetings on character building and service learning.
- Classroom pets were introduced to meet students' emotional needs, as well as teaching responsibility and respect.
- Student leaders met with Walter Knoll Florist to plan for beautification projects.

## October-November

- Staff Training and Student Leadership Training
- Site Visits and SLT meetings

## December

- Ameren tour of AESM. Student Ambassadors led the tour.
- Staff Training and Student Leadership Training
- Student Leaders wrote thank you cards for bus drivers, cafeteria workers and other support staff.



## Year 3 Timeline Highlights, continued

### January

- AESM Diversity Tour - AESM advisory families presented on different countries and cultures. All students participated to learn about other cultures and celebrate diversity.

### February

- Staff Training on data administration.
- Student Leaders had a planning meeting.

### March

- Surveys were administered to students, staff and parents
- Last Day of school for AESM was March 20 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

### April

- iPads were given out to all student's in need for equal access to online learning.
- AESM families met online each week to address social emotional wellness and character activities.
- Students completed their service project by making cards for the children and healthcare workers at the hospitals.
- The three-year journey of AESM was captured on video to share their successful results.



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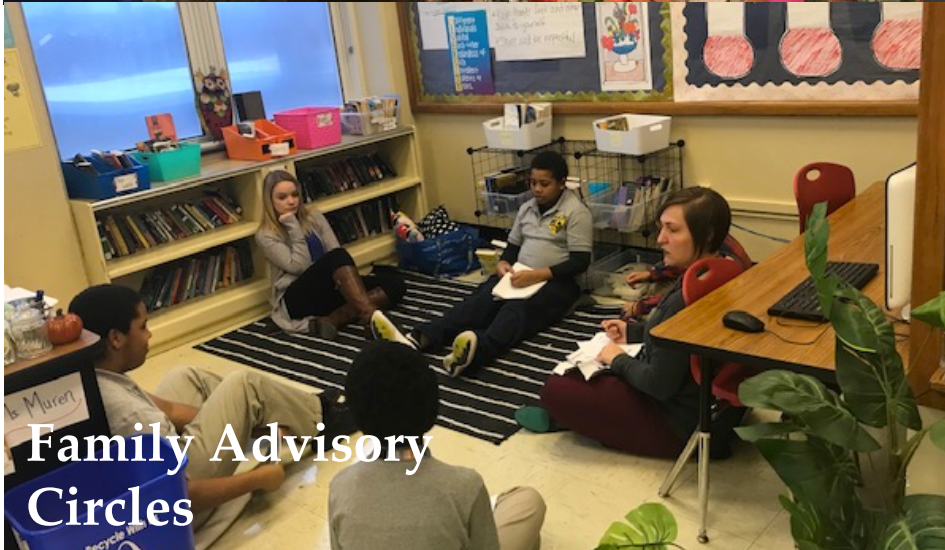
Positive transformation has taken place in the climate and culture at AESM.



Staff Training



Diversity Tour



Family Advisory  
Circles



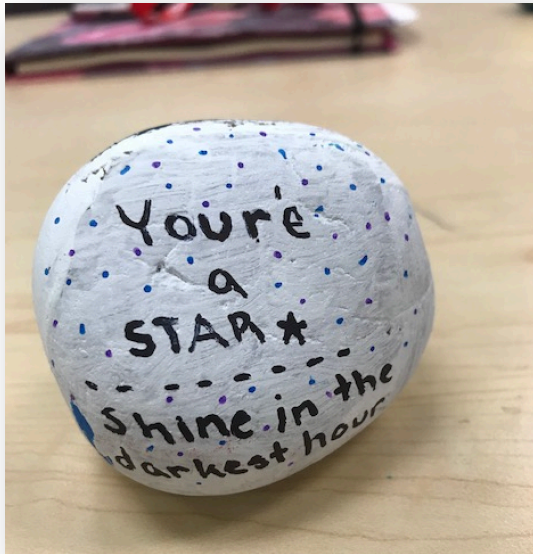
Staff and Student  
Team Building



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**Friends of CharacterPlus donated books for the school library.  
Students enjoyed reading, and their language arts scores increased this year.**



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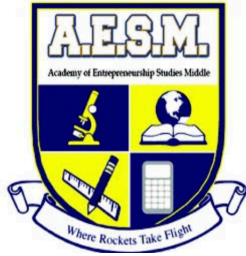
# New Community Partners Support the Positive Initiatives at the School.

## AESM Community Partners

- Walter Knoll Florist
- Ameren
- Sherwin Williams
- St.Louis Chess Club
- Local churches

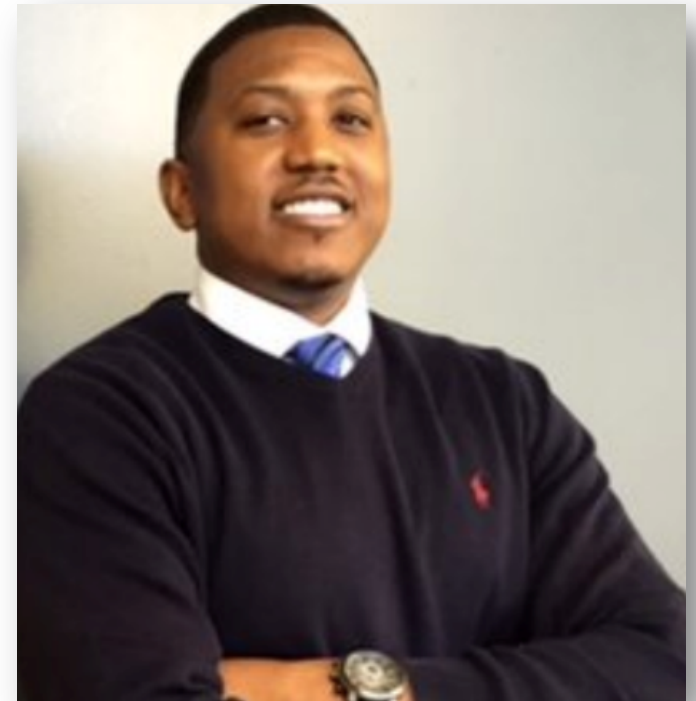


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*“The AESM family is grateful in having the support of the CharacterPlus Way program in our building. The program has progressively transformed our school culture from year one until present. Students now report that they enjoy coming to school and we have fewer altercations among students. Staff relationships have improved and we have noticed an increase in sense of ownership and belonging of our students.”*

**Dr. Ce Andre Perry | Principal**



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