



August 1, 2019

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2019-20 School Year. I am honored to have been chosen as your principal and look forward to working alongside you and your family. You all have greeted me with such warmth that AMIS already feels like home. AMIS is a place of community and I am so excited to be a part of that.

As an educator, I believe that all children are brilliant and all children can learn. Our challenge, as their village, is to model what we want them to learn. I am dedicated to promoting respect for all children, one another, and the community in which we live. I look forward to building relationships with you, staff, and community to ensure a safe, well-prepared and engaging learning environment for our children. AMIS' academic program is amazing! Our bi-lingual instruction and focus on cultural diversity truly prepares our students for the future. Learning to speak both English and Spanish in a diverse and caring environment prepares AMIS students to be productive, collaborative, and thoughtful global citizens.

My husband, Tim, and I live in Avondale. We moved to Ohio, Tim's home state, from New Orleans, Louisiana where we lived for 15 years. I am originally from Louisiana. Being a Southern girl, I enjoy "outdoor" activities, fishing, camping, boating, and hiking. I love the forest, but Tim loves the beach...I don't complain about going to the beach, worse things could happen. In all forms, nature grounds and renews me. One of my favorite things about the Buckeye State is the breathtaking natural landscapes on display in our amazing state parks.

Before becoming an educator I worked in law and governmental affairs. I enjoyed that work immensely and learned many things that inform my practice as an educator. I saw first-hand that a thorough and culturally relevant education is critical to one's ability to advocate for self and engage in our political process. Without the ability to read and reason, a person can be misled and misused. This is how communities become disenfranchised. Education allows us to care for ourselves, understand the world around us, and make the world a better place for others. This is my calling.

The input of parents and guardians is critical to our success. Please share your ideas, time, and talents with us. Together we will do great things. Please reach out anytime via e-mail to [bagayok@cps-k12.org](mailto:bagayok@cps-k12.org) or by phone at (513)363-1800. I look forward to getting to know each of you and supporting you in reaching your family's goals.

Thank you for choosing AMIS.

All the best,

Sra. Kelley Bagayoko