



February 3, 2017

To: Families of Price Middle School and Slater Elementary School

RE: Leadership Updates for 2017-2018

Dear families:

Purpose Built Schools and Atlanta Public Schools (APS) are pleased to announce that Luqman Abdur-Rahman and Lenise Y. Bostic will be the new principals at Price Middle School and Slater Elementary School, respectively, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year as APS continues implementation of its [Turnaround Strategy](#).

Purpose Built Schools Atlanta, an Atlanta-based non-profit formed to replicate the instructional model of Drew Charter School, first partnered with APS to reopen Thomasville Heights Elementary in July 2016 as part of the Turnaround Strategy. Purpose Built Schools Atlanta was selected by APS to operate four schools within the Carver Cluster—Thomasville Heights Elementary School, Slater Elementary School, Price Middle School and Carver High School (which Purpose Built Schools will begin operating in the 2018-2019 school year).

Mr. Abdur-Rahman has held numerous leadership roles in APS and is the current principal of Price Middle School, which will help to ensure a smooth transition as Purpose Built Schools begins operating the school. At Price Middle School, Mr. Abdur-Rahman has led the implementation of a school-wide social emotional learning program to address the emotional needs of both students and staff. He has also spearheaded the cultural and instructional shifts necessary to create sustained growth in student achievement in the Carver Cluster. Ms. Bostic has spent 11 of her 17 years in education with APS. At APS, she served in a number of leadership roles, including assistant principal at Toomer Elementary and Morningside Elementary schools. She most recently served as Dean of Academics at Thomasville Heights Elementary School, the school's lead instructional position. Both Ms. Bostic and Mr. Abdur-Rahman are gifted and talented leaders who are already making a difference in the lives of APS students. We are excited to welcome them to their new roles.

The APS-Purpose Built Schools Atlanta partnership began in July 2016 at Thomasville Heights Elementary School, where Purpose Built Schools has focused both on instructional excellence and building a comprehensive "community support program" to address a wide range of issues including housing stability; housing quality; parental engagement; mental and physical health; parenting support; after-school activities; and early childhood education. The APS-Purpose Built Schools partnership is already showing progress at Thomasville Heights: suspensions have been reduced by 70%; 30 parents have formed the first PTA in recent memory; 57% of the Pre-K students already achieved a full year of academic progress by the end of January; a five-day per week, two-hours per day afterschool program serves 220 Thomasville Heights students daily; full-time mental health professionals from Chris 180 provide counseling services to 20 families; Families First provides a Parents as Teachers program to 20 young mothers; and attorneys from the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation have helped 15 families avoid eviction and remain in the community. Purpose Built Schools intends to bring these same partners and programs to Slater and Price in 2017-18.

In the coming weeks we will announce dates for "meet and greets" with Mr. Abdur-Rahman and Ms. Bostic at both Price Middle School and Slater Elementary School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meria Carstarphen'.

Meria Carstarphen
Superintendent
Atlanta Public Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barb Preuss'.

Barb Preuss
Head of Schools
Purpose Built Schools Atlanta