Dr. Mia Williams Will Lead New SPS Dept.
Former principal to head Dept. of African American Male Achievement

SEATTLE – Seattle Public Schools Superintendent Denise Juneau has announced that Dr. Mia Williams has been appointed Executive Director of the Department of African American Male Achievement for Seattle Public Schools in Seattle, Wash.

Dr. Williams, who has worked as an educator at Seattle Public Schools for 26 years, will lead the newly created department, which focuses on the advancement of African American males and elimination of disparities in educational and social outcomes for students from pre-school through 12th grade.

“Dr. Mia Williams is a force for students and her unwavering belief in them is contagious,” said Superintendent Juneau. “She is the perfect person to lead the new department and I’m excited about what’s next for our African-American students and their families.”

Dr. Williams begins in her new role immediately. It is a cabinet-level position and she will report directly to the superintendent. Most recently, Dr. Williams served for the past 11 years as principal of Aki Kurose Middle School.

“I said yes to this opportunity because it will give me a chance to improve opportunities for our black male students across our entire city in new and powerful ways,” said Dr. Williams. “Being at Aki Kurose has been my dream job, but now there are bigger dreams for this district and we have extremely important work to do.”

Creation of the Department of African Male Achievement directly aligns with the district’s new five-year strategic plan, Seattle Excellence, and the collective commitment to unapologetically support and serve students and families furthest from educational justice.
Dr. Williams is the recipient of numerous professional awards and recognitions, including Washington State Middle Level Principal of the Year. She was honored in July 2019 when she was presented with the National Education Association’s Mary Hatwood Futrell Human and Civil Rights Award. In 2018, the award was presented to former First Lady Michelle Obama.

Dr. Williams received her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Washington. She received her master’s degree from UW and her teaching certificate from Central Washington University.

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