

# Rainbow Connection

Rainbow Dreams Academy Parent Newsletter  
950 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106  
September 2017

*"We Strive, We Believe, We Achieve"*



## 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year Ms. Melissa McNeely

Melissa McNeely has been a teacher at Rainbow Dreams Academy for five years. Throughout her time here at RDA, Ms. McNeely has collaborated with her colleagues to create our Elementary Student Council, been the assistant coach to our basketball team, taking the lead on our Concrete to Canyons program, and has served on several committees and projects for the students of RDA.

Ms. McNeely is an inspiring teacher to her students, peers, and the community. Her favorite subjects are History and Math. When asked why she became a teacher, she said she felt it was a God-given gift where she could serve and plant seeds in the hearts and minds of our future. If you happen to pass her class before or after school, you will see her working with many of her classroom students or any student that needs assistance. It is an honor and pleasure to have her as our first Teacher of The Year at RDA.

## 2016-2017 Support Staff of the Year Ms. Burns

Diane Burns serves at the Operations Manager and is one of the main reasons RDA runs every day! She is an extremely hard worker who is always willing to go above and beyond to help teachers, staff, parents and friends of Rainbow Dreams Academy. Ms. Burns is always working hard for Rainbow Dreams; even when she is away from her desk. From building operations to securing pencils for the classroom. Rest assured that Ms. Burns is working hard to make sure everything is taken care of for the RDA Community.

**Congratulations!**



## September Calendar September 15<sup>th</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup> Is Hispanic Heritage Month!

September 4<sup>th</sup> – No School Labor Day  
September 6<sup>th</sup> – Early Release 1:30pm  
September 6<sup>th</sup> - Middle School Progress Reports  
September 7<sup>th</sup> – Student Council Interest Meeting  
September 13<sup>th</sup> – Early Release 1:30pm  
September 13<sup>th</sup> – Raising Canes Fundraiser 2pm-Close  
September 14<sup>th</sup> – Title I Literacy Night 5:30pm-7:00pm  
September 20<sup>th</sup> – Early Release 1:30pm  
September 21<sup>st</sup> – Cookie Dough Fundraiser Kick Off  
September 27<sup>th</sup> – Early Release 1:30pm  
September 27<sup>th</sup> – K-4 Picture Day Wear Dress Whites!  
September 29<sup>th</sup> – Elementary School Birthday Celebrations  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – Links Walk-A-Thon  
October 4<sup>th</sup> – Early Release 1:30pm  
October 4<sup>th</sup> – 5-8 Picture Day Wear Dress Whites!  
October 5<sup>th</sup> – ALL Payments Due for Cookie Dough Orders!  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – Cookie Dough Delivery Pick-Up 3pm-5:30pm



## Cookie Dough Fundraiser

It is time again for our Annual Cookie Dough Fundraiser!! The Cookie Dough Man and his staff will present an assembly September 21<sup>st</sup> to ALL Rainbow Dreams Academy students to kick off this event.

Parents, look for order forms in your students backpack on **September 21<sup>st</sup>**! **We will be accepting cash, credit/debit cards and money orders only; NO checks!**

**Orders and money due back on October 5<sup>th</sup>!**  
Delivery will be on November 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00pm-5:30pm

Parents, Guardians, Students and Rainbow Dreams Community:

Thank You for your patience as we complete our Rainbow Dreams Academy improvement projects; including our bright new flooring! We also thank you for your patience as we transition to our NEW uniform company and they continue to fill back ordered items.

## Dream Care Payments

You can now pay for Dream Care online at our website: [www.rainbowdreamsacademy.org](http://www.rainbowdreamsacademy.org)!

You can also pay when you pick up or drop off your students with check or money order; please do not bring cash.

Morning Care starts at 6:30am; Evening care ends at 6:00pm. Cost is \$3 for morning, \$8 for the afternoon or \$11 per day.

## Ms. McNeely Receiving her Award for 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year!



## Picture Day

Parents/Guardians, mark your calendar now for our upcoming school picture days! Look for picture forms in your students backpack around Mid-September!

Grades K-4 will have Picture Day on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your student is wearing Dress Whites for their school photos.

Grades 5-8 will have Picture Day on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure your student is wearing Dress Whites for their school photos.

## Absence notes

**Parents and Guardians, when your student is absent please make sure to send them with an Absence Note on the day they return to school.**

**Unverified absences can impact your student's grade!**

**Thank you to the 100 Black Men for Welcoming RDA Students, Staff and Family Members on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School!**



# Meet Your NEW RDA Staff Members!

**Ms. Munson**



Kindergarten Teacher  
Birthplace: Shreveport, LA  
College Attended:  
University of Phoenix  
Hobby: Swimming

**Ms. Smith**



1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: California  
College Attended: USC  
and FAMU  
Hobbies: Traveling,  
Writing and Drawing

**Ms. Allen**



3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: Chicago  
College Attended:  
University of Illinois at  
Chicago  
Hobbies: Writing Poems,  
Plays and Books

**Mr. Kyles**



4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin  
College Attended:  
Michigan State University  
Hobby: Cooking

**Ms. Jackson**



3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: Guyana  
College Attended: Adelphi  
University  
Hobbies: Singing,  
Dancing, Reading and  
Cooking

Welcome  
Everyone!

We are so glad  
you are part of  
the RDA Team!

**Ms. Brown**



1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: Missouri  
College Attended: UNLV-  
MS and WGU-MED  
Hobby: Lifting Weights

**Ms. Hunter**



Middle School Teacher  
Birthplace: Crowley,  
Louisiana  
College Attended:  
California State University  
Northridge  
Hobby: Sewing

**Ms. Williams-  
Jarrett**



1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher  
Birthplace: Louisiana  
College Attended:  
Southern University  
Baton Rouge  
Hobbies: Cooking and  
Church Outreach

**Mr. Ruffin**



Visual Arts  
Birthplace: Alabama  
College Attended:  
University of Alabama  
ROLL TIDE ROLL!  
Hobbies: Traveling,  
Cooking, Eating and The  
Arts

**Mr. Slaughter**



Middle School Teacher  
Birthplace: Detroit,  
Michigan  
College Attended: The  
University of Michigan,  
Eastern Michigan  
University  
Hobbies: Visual Artistry,  
Community Gardening

**Mr. Burton**



Custodian  
Birthplace: Port Gibson,  
Mississippi  
College Attended: Utica  
Hobby: Basketball



## Arrival & Dismissal Reminders:

### ARRIVAL

- RDA opens at 6:30am for students who pay for Dream Care
- Breakfast is served starting at 7:30am
- Harambee starts at 7:50am
- Classes start at 8:00am SHARP!
- Please be on time!

### DISMISSAL

- All grades are assigned specific gates to exit from
  - Grades 4 – 8 exit from gate A
  - Grades 1 – 3 exit from gate B
  - Kindergarten exits from gate C
- Once students leave the gate they will not be re-admitted
- Student should know if they are walking, being picked up, crossing to Doolittle / West Las Vegas Library or attending Dream Care
- Students will meet on the playground at 3:25pm and be dismissed to their pick-up locations



## Ujaama School Store

RDA is excited to announce the formation of our budding business enterprise – The Ujamaa School Store. Ujamaa is one of the principles of the Nguzo Saba – and refers to Cooperative Economics. The purpose of the school store is to fundraise, for much needed financial support of RDA programs such as athletics, field trips and student events.

Students in the RDA Middle School were introduced to the concept of working as a cashier at the store and given an opportunity to apply. Interviews will be conducted by Malik McHugh (7<sup>th</sup>) and Isiah William (8<sup>th</sup>). We are proud of these young men for being industrious and leading a new organization at RDA!

Look for information about the Grand Opening of the Ujaama School Store early September 2017!

SECOND ANNUAL  
**STEM DAY**  
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>  
10AM - 3PM

Victory Baptist Church  
500 W. Monroe  
Las Vegas, NV  
89106

INFORMATION & DEMONSTRATIONS PROVIDED BY STEM PROFESSIONALS  
• Workshops  
• Networking  
• Food, Prizes & More

REGISTER EARLY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A DRONE!

REGISTER TODAY @ [VICTORYMBC.ORG/STEMDAY](http://VICTORYMBC.ORG/STEMDAY)  
FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL [STEMDAY17@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STEMDAY17@GMAIL.COM)

## RAINBOW DREAMS ACADEMY

OFFICIAL UNIFORM STORE



Tel. 702.772.5883

A full selection of boys & girls Polos and Oxford, girls' skirts, jumpers, and skirts. Girls' and boys' pants, shorts, accessories, and more!

## 3RD ANNUAL COLLEGE READINESS Bootcamp

SATURDAY SEPT 9<sup>TH</sup> | 9AM - 3PM  
ONLY STUDENT UNION BALLROOM



DESIGNED TO PROVIDE STUDENTS AND PARENTS A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE TOWARDS PREPARING FOR COLLEGE.

FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS AND PARENTS

FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH WITH AWESOME RAFFLE PRIZES!  
(SUCH AS SHOW TICKETS, AIRLINE TICKETS, TABLETS, & MUCH MORE!)

### SPECIAL WORKSHOPS FEATURING:

CAREER PANELS ON CAREERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE & FIRST RESPONDERS  
HOW CAN I AFFORD COLLEGE  
IMPORTANCE OF STANDARDIZED TESTS  
WRITING THE COLLEGE ESSAY