

ASMS

LEADERSHIP TEAM



ALABAMA SCHOOL
OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

OUR TEAM



For 30 years, ASMS has provided exceptional educational experiences to Alabama's most academically motivated students. As the ASMS Leadership Team, it is our goal to carry out the ASMS strategic plan to set the school in pursuit of bold improvement that builds on strengths and addresses opportunities. As we lead, the following values guide us:

Student Success

ASMS values student success in and out of the classroom. Students can maximize their potential at ASMS, preparing themselves for long-term academic and professional fulfillment. Student success is the primary reason ASMS exists.

Community

ASMS values an engaged learning community committed to shared purposes, respect, accountability, and adaptability. Our community is strengthened by collaborative partnerships between students, faculty, staff, alumni, board members, and other stakeholders.

Intellectual Curiosity and Creativity

ASMS values the pursuit of understanding, discovery, innovation, and problem-solving.

Student Leadership

ASMS values student leadership and leadership development designed to accomplish specific goals through self-efficacy, collaboration, and engagement.

Communication and Conflict Resolution

ASMS values community members who are open-minded, respectful, and proactive in problem-solving grounded in constructive two-way communication.

Integrity

ASMS values honesty and transparency. ASMS values community members who admit mistakes, take ownership of difficult situations, and act honorably.



PRESIDENT

Dr. John Hoyle

Life is to be lived, not controlled; and humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat." - Ralph Ellison

Dr. Hoyle hails from a family of educators. He lived and taught in New Orleans until Hurricane Katrina hit the city in 2005 when he moved to Mobile. He has held several positions at ASMS and enjoys working with the faculty and staff to ensure Alabama's best and brightest young minds will become tomorrow's leaders. Dr. Hoyle is interested in social and environmental issues and believes that students can reach their full potential when they have access to quality educational opportunities. He is married and has a daughter and a son.



ACADEMIC DEAN

Dr. Mitch Frye

"If gold rusts, what shall iron do?" - Chaucer, Leaders must set a good example for the people they lead and model the behavior they expect from others.

Dr. Mitch Frye grew up in rural South Carolina and will always be grateful for the educational and social opportunities afforded him by our sister school, the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. At ASMS, Dr. Frye strives to ensure that hard-working, high-performing Alabamian students from all backgrounds have access to the world-class education they deserve. Fairness and rigor are two principles that guide his pedagogy. Dr. Frye's own academic research concerns twentieth-century American literature and popular culture. He is married and has one son.



DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Mr. Ken Robinson

"A person always doing his or her best becomes a natural leader, just by example." When an individual commits to excellence, they cannot help but to become an asset and a person of value to others.

Kenneth Robinson has worked for more than 13 years in the field of education and believes it is a field of immense importance to the progress and success of any society. Hired in 2015, Robinson has been a passionate supporter and promoter of ASMS throughout the wider community. His history master's thesis was published in book form in 2013: "Port City Crusader: John LeFlore and the Non Partisan Voters' League in Mobile, Al." He is a native of Mobile and former columnist for the local weekly newspaper Lagniappe. Ken is also a U.S. Air Force veteran and a former Officer with the Mobile Police Department.



DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Samantha Church

"Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be criticized anyway." - Eleanor Roosevelt

Dr. Samantha Church is originally from Lawton, OK and has spent her working career in educational settings. From financial aid to residence life to serving as an adjunct professor, Dr. Church understands the complexities involved at every level in an academic setting. At ASMS, Dr. Church is responsible for alumni and parent outreach, all aspects of the fundraising program, and external communications. Her greatest joy at ASMS is working individually with students. She is married with 3 amazing daughters and 1 fabulous son-in-law. She and her husband are die hard Ole Miss Rebels fans!



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Ms. Kristy Gunther

"Coming together is the beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." - Henry Ford

Kristy Gunther is from Tuscaloosa, AL and is a seasoned accounting and financial professional with more than 25 years of experience. She has worked in both the business and healthcare industries, leading business plans, financial strategies, and corporate budget development. Throughout her career she has been responsible for supervising employees and working closely with senior management. She herself has served on the senior leadership team for several organizations, and she is excited to join the senior leadership team at ASMS in a new field - education.



DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND OPERATIONS

Dr. Scarlette Studdard

"Leadership is a two-way street, loyalty up and loyalty down. Respect for one's superiors; care for one's crew" - Rear Admiral Grace Hopper

Dr. Studdard grew up in rural northwest Alabama. Over the last 25 years, she has held a variety of academic and administrative positions in institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations. Dr. Studdard is passionate about the power of education and the impact it has for students, their families, and their communities. She is particularly passionate about the opportunities that ASMS makes available to our students. She knows this on a personal level as her daughter is a 2019 Alumna of ASMS. In fact, Dr. Studdard applied for the position at ASMS upon her daughter's urging. She is married and has three children.



DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Keidrick Wooten

"Simply Trust the Process" and whatever it may be "See it Through"

Mr. Wooten is a diverse Information Technology professional with over 25 years of expertise in the field of Technology. At ASMS, Mr. Wooten has implemented procedures and processes to expand campus access to networks and to provide structure in the I.T. Department. Mr. Wooten is a native of Mobile and now resides in Baldwin County with his wife of 24 years and two beautiful daughters. Mr. Wooten is passionate about his role here at the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science.



DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE

Mr. Robert Shoemaker

"Work hard, save your money for retirement and hard times..."

Robert Shoemaker is from Mobile, AL and has served at ASMS for the last 9 years. He has held a variety of professional roles which developed his skills and expertise in the areas of construction, maintenance, and project management. At ASMS, Mr. Shoemaker aims to secure the future of the school through campus improvement. He is committed to providing the ASMS community with a safe, quality, up-to-date living and learning environment. Going above and beyond is at the core of Mr. Shoemaker's work, and he believes in using his time and talents to serve others. Mr. Shoemaker has seen history unfold at ASMS, and he is grateful to be part of it.



DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Mrs. Kara Whitney

"Leadership is not a position or a title. It is action and example."

Kara Whitney is originally from Pensacola, FL. She came to Mobile to study at the University of South Alabama. She is a seasoned student affairs professional with a background in residence life, mental health, and professional counseling. She has held leadership positions within the healthcare industry as well as higher education. At ASMS, Mrs. Whitney works to address student needs outside of the classroom. She is married with one son and four dogs.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND ALUMNI OUTREACH

Mrs. Allyson McMaken

"Exemplary leaders know that if they want to gain commitment and achieve the highest standards, they must be models of the behavior they expect of others." - James M. Kouzes

Allyson McMaken is originally from Montgomery, AL and chose a career in education from the joy of helping students maximize their God-given potential. She worked for several years at institutions of higher education, and her professional background includes admissions, orientation, recruiting, event planning, strategic communication, and student leadership development. At ASMS, Mrs. McMaken oversees communication, alumni relations, and leadership programs. Her aim is for ASMS to be celebrated across the state of Alabama for the positive impact of both current students and alumni. She is married to her husband who is a native of Mobile.



Mrs. Katrina Thompson

"If you're going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can't be erased." - Maya Angelou

Katrina Thompson is originally from Mobile, AL. With an academic background in both business and counseling, Ms. Thompson has received several counseling honors and awards throughout career. Ms. Thompson values people and their well-being and believes in helping people be as beautiful on the inside as they are on the outside. She has a passion for youth, and she feels that compassion, understanding, and genuineness are key components to building healthy relationships with today's youth. She says that youth need guidance and should not be left alone to figure it out by themselves. Ms. Thompson enjoys working with students at ASMS because they are excited to learn, and they value guidance and direction equipping them for their bright futures! Ms. Thompson has one daughter who is her pride and joy.



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