



# ACTON-AGUA DULCE USD IN THE LOOP



## MEET MEADOWLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEW PRINCIPAL, MRS. JONES



### "Q & A" with Meadowlark's New Principal, Mrs. Anetrise Jones

**Q: Welcome to AADUSD! You come to Meadowlark with vast experience as an educator. What were your previous positions in education?**

My journey as an educator represents a tapestry of experiences that have undeniably influenced my leadership within the education field. It all began with my first role as a first-grade elementary teacher, where I later expanded my teaching horizons to encompass grades ranging from first to sixth. Along the way, I assumed roles as a Reading Recovery teacher and Reading Specialist, honing my understanding of students' diverse learning needs across various age groups.

My educational philosophy is grounded in the belief that a well-rounded and innovative approach to learning is key. This conviction drove me to establish a private STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) school, which served students from PK to 8th grade. This initiative underscores my commitment to preparing students for the demands of the 21st century by fostering interdisciplinary learning experiences. Additionally, I founded and operated a tutoring company, catering to students from kindergarten to 12th grade, offering support in a range of subjects, including reading, writing, math, and ACT preparation.



# ACTON-AGUA DULCE USD IN THE LOOP

## MEET MEADOWLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEW PRINCIPAL, MRS. JONES

Transitioning into administrative roles furthered my impact on education. I served as an assistant principal, elementary principal, and Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator, allowing me to influence school culture, instructional practices, and curriculum development. These roles have provided me with a broader perspective on education, equipping me with the skills and insights necessary to drive positive change within schools. My diverse background as an educator has not only deepened my appreciation for the multifaceted needs of students but also instilled in me a passion for innovation and excellence in education. It has been a journey marked by continuous learning, adaptation, and a steadfast commitment to shaping the educational experiences of both students and educators alike.

### **Q: What attracted you to education as a career?**

What attracted me to education was my passion for learning and my strong desire to inspire others to explore the world of knowledge. From a young age, I found immense joy in acquiring new information and sharing it with those around me. This innate curiosity and the fulfillment I derived from helping others understand complex concepts drew me towards a career in education. I firmly believe that education is the key to personal growth and societal progress. It empowers individuals to reach their full potential, fosters critical thinking, and promotes empathy and understanding among diverse groups of people. As an educator, I am not only able to continue my own journey of learning but also have the privilege of guiding and nurturing the intellectual and personal development of students. It's a profoundly rewarding endeavor that allows me to make a positive impact on the lives of others, and that's what keeps me passionate about education.

### **Q: What led you to move into administration?**

I was led to move into education by the remarkable commitment to learning and teaching that I witnessed in my very first principal, Juanita Doggett. With over forty years of experience in education, she approached each day as if it were her first on the job, radiating enthusiasm and dedication. What truly stood out was that she never lost sight of the core principles of teaching and learning, and her unwavering commitment to student achievement was awe-inspiring.



# ACTON-AGUA DULCE USD IN THE LOOP

## MEET MEADOWLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEW PRINCIPAL, MRS. JONES

Mrs. Doggett's passion and her ability to make a profound impact on students' lives left an indelible mark on me. I realized that I wanted to pursue a career in education that was just as fulfilling and meaningful as hers. I wanted to be part of an environment where I could inspire and guide students, fostering their growth and learning. Her example showed me the incredible potential for positive change that exists within the field of education, and it became my calling to follow in her footsteps and make a lasting impact on future generations.

### **Q: What attracted you to the Meadowlark principal job?**

The rich connections between the school and the community. The size of Meadowlark Elementary School offers a unique opportunity for me to build close relationships with each student, truly understanding their individual strengths and weaknesses. This, in turn, allows me to implement tailored educational strategies and support systems to enhance student achievement effectively.

Furthermore, I am passionate about fostering strong collaborations with the community and parents. Meadowlark's history reflects a longstanding tradition of deep engagement between the school and its surrounding community, and I find this aspect incredibly appealing.

In essence, the size and community focus of Meadowlark Elementary School align perfectly with my educational philosophy and goals, making it an ideal fit for me as a principal.

### **Q: What has been your impression of Meadowlark so far?**

My impression of Meadowlark Elementary School so far has been incredibly positive. The teachers and staff exhibit a strong commitment to making Meadowlark a great place for students to learn and grow. I've been welcomed with open arms, and the support I've received as a newcomer to the district has been exceptional.



# ACTON-AGUA DULCE USD IN THE LOOP

## MEET MEADOWLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEW PRINCIPAL, MRS. JONES

What stands out to me is the sense of unity and collaboration among the staff. They work cohesively to create an environment that's conducive to learning, and their dedication to the well-being and success of the students is evident. I'm particularly impressed by the classified staff and their dedication to the school's mission.

Overall, the Meadowlark community is warm, welcoming, and focused on the best interests of every child. It's a place where everyone is invested in creating a positive and enriching educational experience, and I'm excited to be a part of it.

### **Q: Could you tell us what your main day-to-day responsibilities are?**

These responsibilities vary depending on the specific needs of the school. I start each day by greeting students as they come to school. Once we are settled in school we have our school-wide morning announcement to set a positive tone for the entire school community.

I am then committed to supervising and supporting teachers and staff through regular meetings, evaluations, and professional development. I collaborate with the special education staff to complete SSTs, facilitate IEP meetings, and other tasks to meet the diverse needs of our students. In addition, I work on curriculum development and ensuring alignment with educational standards and best practices are being implemented in our teaching practices.

Overall, I am actively engaged in various aspects of school leadership and focused on the well-being and success of both students and staff.

### **Q: Is there anything miscellaneous you'd like to share about yourself – family, interests outside of your job, favorite books, movies, sports teams, etc.?**

I love writing in my spare time. I have published two books and am working on a series of children's books to be published.

**WELCOME TO ACTON-AGUA DULCE USD,  
MRS. JONES!**

