

October 29, 2025

Dear Sandra Todd-Williams Academy Community,

We are thrilled to announce that Brittany Smith has been selected as the next principal of Sandra Todd-Williams Academy for the 2025-2026 school year and beyond! We are confident that Mrs. Smith will continue the great work at STWA and lead with vision, kindness, collaboration, and commitment to student success!

As shared during the community forum, Mrs. Smith is a passionate early childhood educator of 13 years, all at Escalante Biggs Academy. She began her career as a paraprofessional and kindergarten teacher for 6 years where she developed a deep love for the students, colleagues, and the Montbello community. Following her time in the classroom, she transitioned into an instructional coaching role, where she discovered her passion for supporting educators, fostering growth, and building strong, authentic relationships. In her third year as the assistant principal at Escalante Biggs Academy, she has helped lead the school in rewriting the school's mission and vision to truly reflect the community's voice, shifted toward the Science of Reading by providing professional development on explicit phonics instruction and structured literacy practices, and strengthening the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) process to ensure early interventions are aligned with strong tier 1 instruction. Additionally, she has collaborated with the team to improve systems for licensing and compliance. When she is not serving students and educators, Mrs. Smith is a proud wife and mom of twins, which continues to inspire her commitment to creating joyful, inclusive school communities where every child thrives. She is excited to bring that same collaborative and instructional focus to the principal role here at Sandra Todd Williams Academy. We are excited to welcome her to the STWA community!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who engaged in the selection process and contributed input and feedback. We also want to extend our sincere gratitude to the Collaborative School Committee (CSC) for their time, thoughtfulness, and unwavering commitment to the ongoing success of STWA. Along with the input you shared early in the initial survey, the CSC used the candidate profile to create interview questions for our candidates that participated in the initial round of interviews. This committee served the school community well, and their ongoing dedication to the success of STWA is deeply appreciated.

Lastly, we would like to thank Interim Principal Ana Mendoza for her ongoing leadership and service to STWA. We are grateful for her commitment to the school community and for the positive impact that she has made this year. Principal Mendoza will continue to lead at STWA through the first semester and is committed to supporting the school community during this transition.

Please look forward to more communication from Mrs. Smith soon. For the moment, please join us in welcoming Mrs. Brittany Smith as the long-term principal at Sandra Todd-Williams Academy!

Sincerely,

Eric Love
Director, ECE Network

Yolanda Ortega
Operational Services Director