MISSION
At Leflore Legacy Academy, we equip and empower middle school scholars with a personalized rigorous and relevant college preparatory curriculum enabling success in high school, college, and life.

VISION
We aim to create a culture of career-ready, college-going, and college-graduating scholars who will become productive and prepared citizens enjoying academic, social, and financial success.

VALUES
Excellence. Empowerment. Enjoyment!
Dear Families,

You are always welcome at Leflore Legacy Academy where our culture is founded upon three core values: Excellence, Empowerment, and Enjoyment!

We believe the achievement of real excellence is only possible if scholars feel personally empowered because they are surrounded by supportive adults and peers and can take true enjoyment in their learning.

Through high degrees of personalized support, we ensure our school is a place where all students, teachers, administrators, parents and visitors can feel a sense of excellence, empowerment, and enjoyment.

Our purpose is your promise. Whether this is your first year with us or your third: welcome!

Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw
Executive Director,
Head of School and Founder
Our school is a place where scholars are held to rigorous, unwavering expectations academically and culturally. Our academic program is founded upon three core beliefs:

1) We believe education is THE civil right of the 21st century.
2) We believe all scholars can achieve academic excellence that leads to success in college and life, leaving a legacy for their families and community.
3) We believe scholars will thrive with an educational experience that includes personalized support.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Core Courses

Mathematics
The mathematics program is a sequential program that integrates algebra, geometry, measurement, logical reasoning, probability, statistics, discrete mathematics, and function strands throughout each course. The program is designed to help scholars explore and solve mathematical problems, think critically and make decisions, work cooperatively with others, and communicate ideas clearly.

English Language Arts (ELA)
The English Language Arts courses provide scholars with a rigorous and comprehensive look at the ELA standards through explicit instruction and vocabulary development in academic content to increase scholars’ knowledge of the world. This course allows scholars to practice systematic, explicit foundational skills. Scholars practice fluency with grade-appropriate texts, engage in regular close reading of complex texts, and anchor texts through read-alouds and more independently as they progress. They respond to text-specific questions and tasks and work with text-based vocabulary and syntax. In addition to providing scholars with frequent opportunities to engage in evidence-based discussions about anchor texts, scholars investigate and write about topics to build knowledge.

Science
Science provides an opportunity to engage scientific practices, engineering practices and processes, and crosscutting concepts to build natural curiosity, encourage scientific and engineering investigation and promote sense-making of phenomena.

The 6th grade science course emphasizes investigations. The concepts of change are explored through the study of transformations of energy, matter, and basic chemistry concepts. Science Grades 7 and 8 cover core ideas in life science, physical science, and earth and space science. Hands-on science opportunities and problem-based learning takes place in Project Lead in Way.
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:20-7:45am</td>
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<td>7:45-8:30am English Language Arts</td>
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<td>English Language Arts</td>
<td>8:33-9:18am Social Studies</td>
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<td>Math</td>
<td>10:09-10:54am ACT Prep and Lunch</td>
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<td>10:57am-12:05pm Science</td>
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<td>Science and Lunch</td>
<td>Science and Lunch</td>
<td>12:28-1:13pm PE</td>
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<td>PE &amp; Health</td>
<td>PE &amp; Health</td>
<td>1:16-2:04pm PLTW</td>
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<td>2:04pm Early Dismissal</td>
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<td>3:25-3:40pm</td>
<td>OSCAR</td>
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Core Courses

Social Studies
U.S. History from Exploration to Reconstruction examines the challenge of creating a new nation and supporting continued growth. This course includes westward expansion, the industrial revolution, and the causes and effects of the Civil War. U.S. History from 1877 to Present examines the history of the United States from post-Civil War Westward Expansion to the present time. This course includes a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

Mississippi Studies examines the history, politics, economics, society, and cultures of our state. With a focus on history, this course allows scholars to understand how the land and its resources have shaped life for Mississippians from the pre-Columbian era to modern day.

Introduction to World Geography provides scholars with an overview of world geography. Topics include the physical environment; the political landscape; the relationship between people and the land; economic production and development; and the movement of people, goods, and ideas.

Physical Education (PE) and Health
Physical Education educates scholars to become lifelong learners of health and wellness by participating in activities that develop behaviors which encourage healthy decision-making, appropriate social skills, and lifelong physical fitness in and outside of the educational setting. Hands only CPR is taught each semester. Our goal is that each scholar is fit, healthy and ready to learn.
Through explorations of coding and robotics, flight and space, and DNA and crime scene analysis, PLTW Gateway fuels scholars’ passions for discovery. As they engage in hands-on, collaborative problem-solving focused on real-world challenges, students use and stretch their imaginations in new ways and connect their learning to life. All the while, students step into roles spanning the career landscape – a crucial experience during this transitional time in their lives.
Grade 6: Computer Science for Innovators and Makers. Leflore Legacy scholars design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life.

Grade 7: Flight and Space. Scholars become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

Grade 7: App Creators. Scholars are exposed to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development. This unit conveys the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

Grade 8: Medical Detectives. Scholars play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, and investigate disease outbreaks.

Grade 8: Automation and Robotics. Scholars trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Scholars use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.
Those who attend Leflore Legacy Academy are called scholars, rather than students, to help develop the collegiate mindset early.

Our focus is a college-preparatory curriculum grounded in project/problem-based learning and personalized instruction. Our early focus on ACT prep, extended learning time, and college and career exploration are all key elements to help ensure scholar success.

“The one thing people can't take away from you is your education. And it is worth the investment.” —Michelle Obama
**College & Career Advisory**
Legacy scholars participate in college and career advising four days each week. Advisory is structured to focus first on long-term goals, followed by personal research on goal-setting, and finally a discussion of immediate goals that are both academic as well as personal. This big picture check-in for scholars brings to the foreground how important their efforts are for their readiness for success.

**ACT Prep**
A course dedicated to preparation for the ACT college entrance exam is built into every scholar’s schedule. Each scholar takes the ACT Aspire, an assessment aligned to the ACT college-entrance exam, multiple times to gain experience with the exam’s format, content, and time restrictions, as well as to identify areas where they individually need to develop their skillset to do their personal best.

**College Visits**
Leflore Legacy scholars take learning excursions to colleges and universities so every scholar can build a plan for their future. These tours allow them to envision themselves as a member of a collegiate community and help them identify the schools that best fit their personal needs and goals.
ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Our scholars are always learning, both inside and outside the classroom. Extended time for intellectual, physical, and emotional development beyond the school day is one of the hallmarks of a rigorous, holistic academic experience.

Leflore Legacy creates opportunities before and after school, on Saturdays, and during the summer months – year-round opportunities to think intensively and critically. These opportunities are offered as part of the 21st Century Community Learning Center Nita Lowery grant.

“The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled.”
— Plutarch
Books & Breakfast and OSCAR (Our School Cares about Reading)
Scholars engage in a literacy-focused and academically enriching school day. Their learning starts at the top of the day with breakfast and the opportunity to read a book or article for fun, or to listen to a book read aloud by a community volunteer. The day ends with the OSCAR initiative, which allows yet more time for scholars to read for enjoyment and develop a love of literacy.

Tutoring and Homework Help
Academic support is available after school on select days. Tutoring allows students to feel at ease and comfortable asking questions, making mistakes and developing academic confidence, in a low-pressure environment. Tutoring is led by Leflore Legacy teachers and community volunteers and is provided in small groups or one-to-one.

Saturday School
Eight Saturday sessions of four hours each are offered throughout the school year for literacy and numeracy support. With a focus on reading and math tutoring, intervention strategies used during these sessions can be even more personalized for students, thus increasing their academic success.

Summer Literacy Program
A six-week Summer Literacy Program is offered during the summer break. This program provides high-quality academic enrichment; parent and family development; civic engagement and social action; servant leadership development; and nutrition, health and mental health development.
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities play an important role in a child’s holistic development. They provide opportunities to learn new skills and develop new interests, enhance interpersonal abilities, improve academic performance, and contribute to overall wellbeing. Currently we offer three opportunities, and other clubs or groups may be formed based on student interest.
Reconstruction Courses

Reconstruction Math: Are You Sizing Me Up? (Algo-rhythms)
Algorithmic thinking is the seamless flow between interpreting, applying, designing and refining structured procedures, rules, and systems. In this course, students will use problem-based learning to deeply understand and apply mathematical procedures and concepts.

Reconstruction ELA: Archeology of Self
Individuals who develop racial literacy are able to engage in the necessary personal reflection about their racial beliefs and practices. Racial literacy includes the ability to read, write about, discuss and interrupt situations and events that are motivated and upheld by racial inequity and bias.

Girls Who Code
This club is a free program for students to join a team of supportive peers and role models using computer science to change the world. Girls Who Code members build skills and community as they complete coding projects.

Girls Who Code offers a safe and supportive environment where scholars learn to see themselves as computer scientists. They learn the coding concepts of loops, variables, conditionals and functions that form the basis of all programming languages. They also work in teams to complete projects that solve real-world problems in the community.

Student Council
Be the change you want to see. The Student Council is committed to acting as a voice for the student body. Members serve the Leflore Legacy community by organizing events and meeting with teachers and administrators to create a more connected and joyful community. Student Council is a leadership opportunity that encourages your ideas, your plans, and your solutions.
Sports and performing arts can help develop the skills, habits and mindsets necessary for success, such as development and application of a growth mindset, perseverance and self-efficacy. As a direct result of parent and scholar requests, we’re proud to offer the Legacy Legends Sports Program, as well as a Choral Ensemble.

“That child deserves a champion—an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be.” - Rita Pierson
Basketball: Girls and Boys
Leflore Legacy offers competitive Boys and Girls Basketball teams as a member of the Mississippi High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). Practices emphasize basic skills and athletic conditioning, as well as cooperative teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Cheer
Cheer teaches jumps, tumbling, dance, stretching, and performance, with an emphasis on fun! Prior gymnastics experience is not required.

Dance Team
The Dance Team offers scholars an opportunity to express themselves physically and emotionally through the art of choreographed routines and improvisational performance.

Choir
Musicianship is developed through a study of vocal technique, sight-reading skills, listening, and performance experiences. This club is offered to any student who is interested in choral music—no experience necessary.
FINANCIAL LITERACY & SCHOLAR DOLLARS

Managing money is a critical life skill that must be learned, practiced and mastered just like any other. From earning to spending, saving to investing, our Financial Literacy curriculum empowers scholars to make plans and choices that help them achieve their personal goals. Coupled with the curriculum, scholars receive payment for good grades that goes into their Scholar Dollars account for education.

“You must gain control over your money or the lack of it will forever control you.” –Dave Ramsey
Scholar Dollars Program
Made possible through a partnership with Trustmark Bank, the Scholar Dollars program rewards and incentivizes academic efforts, while also enhancing financial literacy. Scholars receive $50 in startup funds and payment for good grades each report card period: $3 per A, $2 per B, $1 per C.

Financial Literacy Curriculum
Using the research-based Dave Ramsey curriculum, the financial literacy classes teach the basics of money management: budgeting, saving, debt, investing, giving and more. That knowledge lays a foundation for scholars to build strong money habits early on and avoid many of the mistakes that lead to lifelong money struggles.
LEGACY CULTURE

Our Leflore Legacy culture is founded upon three core values: excellence, empowerment, and enjoyment!

We believe the achievement of real excellence is only possible if scholars feel personally empowered because they are surrounded by supportive adults and peers and can take true enjoyment in their learning.

*Excellence. Empowerment. Enjoyment!*
Calm Classroom
Calm Classroom combines mindfulness with the research-backed benefits of brain breaks to support scholar well-being and success. The approach includes breathing, stretching, focusing and relaxation techniques and is suitable for all learning styles and physical abilities. This method teaches students ways to focus their attention, calm and self-regulate their emotions, and better understand themselves so they can make good decisions.

Restorative Justice
Leflore Legacy Academy employs a Restorative Justice approach to discipline, which emphasizes reconciliation with one another and the larger school community. An alternative to traditional discipline, this method brings together everyone involved to share their experience of what happened, discuss the harm that was done, and decide together how the offender can repair the harm caused.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
To support scholar growth in developing the skills, habits and mindsets necessary for success, we focus on the development and application of a growth mindset, perseverance and self-efficacy.
KNOW THE LEADERS

Leflore Legacy Academy, a tuition-free public charter school, was unanimously approved by the MS Charter School Authorizer Board in September 2019 and opened in August 2020.

Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw founded Leflore Legacy Academy to create a culture of career-ready, college-going, and college-graduating scholars who will become productive and prepared citizens enjoying academic, social, and financial success.

“I was born and reared in Greenwood. Leflore Legacy Academy is my dream opportunity to give back to the place I call home.”

– Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw
Dr. Shaw is an experienced educator, administrator, and leader with a demonstrated history of working in the education management industry. She is skilled in educational technology, recruiting, training, education policy, business development, and teacher development. Her career in education began in Jackson, MS, teaching English at Provine High School, and now includes 25 years of experience in a variety of roles.

Dr. Shaw earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tougaloo College, a Master of Teaching degree from Jackson State University, and a Doctor of Education degree from The University of Memphis. Her leadership training for urban education is attributed to her participation in The Memphis Leadership Fellows Program (2005-2006). Additionally, she is a 2012 graduate of Leadership Memphis, a 2017 graduate of the Leadership Development Intensive class with New Memphis Institute, a graduate of 2019 Leadership Greenwood, and a member of the 2020-2021 Leadership Mississippi Cohort.
Leadership & Support Teams

MARK BEECHEM
Principal
Principal Mark Beechem originally hails from Grenada, MS. His degrees include a BS in Elementary Education and an MS in Secondary Education, and his professional experience encompasses 28 years in education, including 14 years as a principal. Outside of school, you’ll find him spending time with family and friends. His outlook aligns with the personalized learning approach: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can" by Arthur Ashe.

MARKITA SMITH
Scholar Support Coordinator
Markita Smith is a lifelong resident of Greenwood, MS. As part of her professional development, she has earned both a Bachelor and Master of Social Work, as well as certification in Mental Health First Aid. For five years she’s served in the mental health field helping children and adults set and accomplish their goals.

CORETTA VANCE-GREEN
College & Career Counselor
Coretta Vance-Green was born and raised in Greenwood and Carroll County, MS. She holds a BS in Family & Consumer Sciences and an MS in Agriculture Education. For the past 24 years, she has served in teaching and education administration roles in the Mississippi Delta. Her interests include singing, walking, and spending time with family.

JESSIE WALKER
Dean of Operations & Students
Jessie Walker is a lifelong resident of Greenwood, MS. His degrees include a BA of Elementary Education from the University of Mississippi, and an MS of Elementary Education from Walden University. As a career educator, he has served as an Inclusion Teacher at the elementary and middle school levels. His personal interests are fishing, traveling, and playing and coaching basketball.
SYNTHIA HOOVER
Community & Family Engagement Coordinator
Synthia Hoover, of Greenwood, MS, holds a Bachelor of Business Administration. She has more than a decade of experience working directly with children. She has served the community via organizations such as East Elementary School, The Museum of the Mississippi Delta, and The Boys & Girls Club of the Mississippi Delta. Her favorite quotation is from William Shakespeare: "Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none."

MAURECE CHEEKS
Technology Coordinator
Maurice Cheeks is a graduate of Mississippi Delta Community College with Associate of Arts degrees in Mathematics and Biology. Before moving to his current role as administrative assistant, he served as a math tutor, computer lab assistant, and office clerk in educational settings. Mr. Cheeks is proud to describe himself as a devoted man of God, a husband, and a father.

TOSHA BOYD
Office and Finance Manager
Tosha Boyd is a native of Greenwood, MS. She holds a BS in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics from Alcorn State University. Before joining the Leflore Legacy team, she served as a buyer for The John Richard Collection. During her free time, she enjoys volunteering at Greenwood Community Center, community service projects, and choral singing. She always strives to follow the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.”

MAKEDA CHANDLER
School Nurse
Makeda Chandler, a Greenwood native, holds a BS in Nursing and has 11 years of nursing experience, specializing in pediatric and adolescent behaviors. Her motto is “Stop living for the validation and start living for the victory.”
KNOW THE TEACHERS

At the heart of Leflore Legacy’s philosophy is the belief that teacher effectiveness is the great equalizer to providing students the basic civil right of a high-quality, tuition-free, public-school education.

Leflore Legacy Academy offers scholars personalized support with a hands-on, project/problem-based approach. Not every teacher thrives in such an environment, so we are selective in our hiring and committed to coaching, mentoring, and professional development to ensure continuous improvement for both scholars and educators.

“Teaching is not just a job. It’s a mission—a true calling.”
–Lakima Ross, 6th Grade ELA Teacher
MAYA CARADINE
7th Grade Science Teacher
Maya Caradine is originally from Winona, MS. She holds numerous degrees, including a BS in Forensic Science: Biological Science and an MS in Criminal Justice. Previously she taught at Benedict Day school. She enjoys drawing, playing video games, and singing. Her philosophy is, “Never give up. Every failure is an opportunity to learn and every win will help you achieve your goal.”

FLORINA BURNWATT
6th Grade ELA Teacher
Florina Burnwatt spent her childhood in San Diego, CA. Her degrees include a BA in Linguistics and a BA in Japanese. After three years tutoring English at San Diego City College, she spent two years as a Language Arts instructor at the Mississippi Valley State University High School Equivalency Program. She draws inspiration from this motto: “In a world where you can be anything, be kind.” When not helping students prepare for the ACT exam, she may be found playing guitar.

HALEY SCOTT
6th Grade Social Studies Teacher
Haley Scott is a native of Swiftown, MS. Ms. Scott holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in General Studies – Education and a Master of Arts in Convergent Media, and she is pursuing a Master of Education from Belhaven University. She has held the title of teacher for the past five years. She enjoys spending time with family, cooking, and writing children’s books. She firmly believes in this motto: “The more you know, the more you grow!”

PATRICIA COX
Special Education Teacher
KYANA RAMSEY
6th Grade Science Teacher
Greenwood native Kyana Ramsey holds a BS in Kinesiology and an MA in Kinesiology and Disability Studies. Previously she taught through the High School Equivalency Program at Mississippi Valley State University. Ms. Ramsey draws inspiration from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.” She enjoys exercising, watching sports, and spending time with family.

MONIQUE JOHNSON
8th Grade Social Studies Teacher
Greenwood native Monique Johnson holds a BS degree and a Master of Management. Her professional experience includes 12 years at Mississippi Valley State University where she provided guidance and resources to students and alumni to strengthen their professional skills and create a career path leading to a successful future. She views every day as an opportunity to become a better version of herself. Outside school hours, she loves to travel, learn, and read.

LAKIMA ROSS
7th Grade Project Lead the Way Teacher
Lakima “Kima” Ross is a Charleston, MS native. Ms. Ross has been in education for six years; her experience includes teaching 6th and 7th grade ELA across the MS Delta. She graduated from Mississippi Valley State University with a BA in English. She vocalizes that “Teaching is not just a job, it is a mission—a true calling.” In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her daughter, cooking, and watching crime shows.
FERDERICK CHILDRESS
8th Grade Health and PE Teacher
Ferderick Childress was born and reared in Greenwood, MS. He holds a degree in Health/Physical Education and has been a PE teacher for five years. His outlook is, “Respect all, fear none.”

DR. EDDIE DE ANDERSON
8th Grade Math/Algebra I Teacher
Mr. Anderson started life in Moorhead, MS. He holds a BS in Physics, and an MS and PhD in Educational Leadership. His extensive experience in education includes ten years of classroom teaching, four years as a school administrator, and 15 years as school district superintendent. When not at school, you might find him fishing, golfing or bowling. The motto that guides his choices is, “God has given us the ability. We must use it to help others.”

SONJA HARDEMAN
Schoolwide Interventionist
Sonja Hardeman was born and raised in Greenwood, MS. She has more than a decade of classroom experience as a teaching assistant and plans to pursue a degree in elementary education. The motto that motivates her is: “Take ‘can’t’ out of your vocabulary and always try.” In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family.

SHARRON COLLINS
Special Education Teacher
Sharron Collins hails from Winona, MS. Her educational accomplishments include an Ed.D in Workforce Education, Ed.S in Educational Leadership, MS in Instructional Technology, and BA in Business Administration. Her interests include restoration of antique furniture and self wellness. She draws inspiration from Mahatma Ghandi: “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”
TAMIRA BROWN
8th Grade ELA Teacher
Tamira Brown hails from Greenwood, MS. She holds a BS in Business Administration and is a first-year teacher. She holds Proverbs 18:24 close to her heart: "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Ms. Brown loves reading, exploring museums, and gardening.

YASMIN HUNTER
7th Grade Social Studies Teacher
Yasmin Hunter hails from Clarksdale, MS and holds a BS in History. When not teaching, she enjoys to the gym and putting together outfits. The quote that guides her in from Psalm 121: “My help cometh from the Lord.”
COR’JUANDRA CALHOUN-STEELE  
Special Education Assistant  
Cor’juandra Calhoun-Steele was born and raised in Greenwood, MS. She was previously a pharmacy technician before joining the Leflore Legacy team through the 21st Century Community Learning Center Summer Program. She wholeheartedly believes the students always come first. In her free time, she loves singing, doing hair, cooking and crafting.

CASEY LARRY  
8th Grade Project Lead the Way Teacher  
Casey Larry hails from Greenwood, MS. He holds a BS degree in Agriculture Business Management and enjoys coaching and playing basketball. His personal credo is, “If there’s no struggle, there’s no progress,” originally said by Frederick Douglass.

JERRICK CHEEKS  
7th Grade Math  
Jerrick “Joe” Cheeks is a native of Greenwood, MS. His degrees include an MBA in General Business Administration and a BS in Finance & General Business Administration. Professionally, his experience includes several years in various roles in public schools. In his free time, he enjoys learning new quotes and gaming, and he looks at each day as a new day. He and his older brother are not twins, but they are often mistaken for twins because they look alike and share similar interests.

NATASHA MOORE  
6th Grade PE Teacher  
Natasha Moore is from Grenada, MS. Her various degrees include a BS in Healthcare Administration, MAEd in Special Education, and an MAEd in Curriculum and Instruction. She has dedicated her career to helping children; previously she spent 18 years as Director of Bountiful Blessings Preschool and seven years teaching PreK. She loves reading, traveling and being with family. Something Socrates once said made a big impact on her: “I cannot teach anyone anything; I can only make them think.”
DEBORAH MARTIN
6th-8th Grade Gifted Instructor
Deborah Martin is originally from Seattle, WA. She has 25 years of experience as a K-12 classroom instructor, teaching gifted and performing arts courses. Her qualifications include a BS and a Masters in Music Education. She considers herself a lifelong learner and hopes to instill that same philosophy in students. In her free time, you’ll find her writing a book for children, playing and teaching piano, and singing.

KYLA COLE
7th Grade ACT Prep Teacher
Kyla Cole is a native of Greenwood, MS. As a second-year teacher, she is working toward a degree in Elementary Education, and previously studied at Mississippi Delta Community College. She is a published poet, a makeup artist, and a softball player. She likes to draw inspiration from Oscar Wilde: “Don’t compare your chapter 1 to everyone else’s chapter 20!”

RALPHAELE SUMMERVILLE
6th Grade Math Teacher
Ralphaele Summerville, from Greenwood, MS, holds a BS in Social Work and an AA in Art. His career has included four years as a teacher and two as a safety officer. Mr. Summerville is guided by this motto: “Everyone can learn, but some learn at a different pace.” Outside of school, he enjoys watching football and spending time with family and friends. His advice is this: “Encourage everyone—someone will listen.”

TIMOTHY SPIVEY
6th Grade ACT Prep Teacher
DE’ANDRE KEYES  
8th Grade Science Teacher  
De’Andre Keyes hails from Doddsville, Mississippi. He holds a BA in Political Science, and previously spent several years teaching World History and African American Studies. Mr. Keyes is a proud member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He wholeheartedly believes that success does not come without hard work and effort.

ASHLEY CARPENTER  
7th Grade ELA Teacher  
Ashley Carpenter is from Indianola, MS, and relocated to Greenwood four years ago. She holds a BS in Elementary Education. Her passion is helping children in a positive way, whether through education or simply being involved in their lives. She firmly believes in this motto: “Education will take you anywhere you want to go.” She is also passionate about cheer and dance.

JENNY NEAL  
6th Grade Project Lead the Way Teacher  
Jennifer Neal was born and reared in Greenwood, MS. She has earned a BA in English and an MS Criminal Justice. Her professional experience includes 12 years teaching Adult Education/GED courses with the MS Dept. of Corrections and Coahoma Community College. Her philosophy is: “Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.” In her free time, she enjoys reading crime novels, traveling, and spending time with her puppy, Bella.

JAYMESE SMITH-BLAKE  
Special Education  
Jaymese Smith-Blake is originally from Cruger, MS. She has earned a BA in Psychology and an M.Ed. in Special Education. The past decade of her career has been in the education field, with eight of those years focused on Special Education. In her downtime she enjoys fiction, especially myths, mystery and suspense. Her philosophic touchpoint is from Rene Descartes: “Cogito, ergo sum” (I think; therefore, I am).
THE LEGACY LOOK

The Legacy Look plays an important part in cultivating a strong school community and culture. To this end, uniforms are required for in-person learning. All scholars wear a purple, green, black or white polo embroidered with the school logo, along with gray bottoms. Sweaters, jackets, and blazers with the school logo are optional and encouraged. Occasional “dress down” days allow for Leflore Legacy t-shirts and sweatshirts as appropriate for that day’s activities.

Our scholars are Legacy Proud to visually identify themselves as intellectuals who take their educational pursuit seriously, while adding personal accessories that express their individuality.
UNIFORMS

BOYS CHOOSE GRAY PANTS OR SHORTS

Available from any retailer

GIRLS CHOOSE GRAY SKIRT, PANTS OR SHORTS

Available from LTApparel
French Toast

POLO WITH LOGO REQUIRED
COMMUNICATING WITH LEFLORE LEGACY

You’ll receive regular communications and updates from the school, but we understand you may still want more information. We welcome and encourage your engagement. You may call or email, and you’re also welcome to visit the school for support.

info@leflorelegacyacademy.org
500 W. Washington St., Greenwood, MS 38930
662-455-3697
www.leflorelegacyacademy.org
How do I learn more about Leflore Legacy Academy?
We welcome and encourage your engagement. You may call, email, visit our website, or connect with us on Facebook or Twitter. You’re also welcome to visit the school.
info@leflorelegacyacademy.org
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How do I secure my child’s place at Leflore Legacy?
Enrollment is open now for the 2023-24 school year. Please note scholars are enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no entrance tests, no academic requirements, and no tuition.

The process for new scholars starts by contacting the school at enrollment@leflorelegacyacademy.org to take a tour or ask questions, or if you already know Leflore Legacy is the right place for you then start the registration process here.

A limited number of seats in select grades are available for the current school year. Please call the school at 662-455-3697 or email enrollment@leflorelegacyacademy.org to start building your legacy with Legacy today.

How do I get more involved with Leflore Legacy Academy?
We welcome parents, guardians, scholars and community members to participate in events, attend basketball games, take a tour, come to a board meeting, follow us on social media, volunteer, donate, subscribe to our newsletter, or other otherwise deepen your engagement with our school. Please note: Volunteers with ongoing contact with scholars undergo a background check for the safety of our scholars.