



McKay Scholarship Parent Bulletin | Summer 2020



GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

Greetings! My name is Dr. Dré Graham and I am incredibly excited about the opportunity to serve the students of the state of Florida as a member of the IEPC team! I look forward to our collaborative efforts to positively impact the next generation of world changers. My road to the Department was through the vessel of public education. I am a proud product of Hillsborough County

Public Schools, graduating from the C. Leon King High School International Baccalaureate Program. After earning my Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Education from the University of Florida, I went back to KHS and took over for my high school band director, where I have served as the Director of Instrumental Studies for the past 10 years. While there, I earned my second Master's Degree (Educational Leadership) and my Ph.D. (Music Education). Most recently, I served as the 2020 Florida Teacher of the Year and Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education. My desire has always been to promote equity in education and provide ALL students with an opportunity to succeed. I anxiously await the future victories the Office for Independent Education and Parental Choice will experience by way of providing open doors for ALL the students in the great state of Florida!

- **Dakeyan C. Graham, Ph.D.**

Executive Director
Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
2020 Florida Teacher of the Year