

# School Leadership

Conflict is uncomfortable, yet it is indeed an inevitable phenomenon in all organizations. How leaders manage conflict determines whether conflict resolves to the betterment of the organization or to its detriment. Conflict management is a critical skill for effective school leaders. We should anticipate encountering conflict with our constituencies--parents, teachers, students, and the community at large. Our school communities will challenge how the work of the school is accomplished--we must accept that in the absence of such challenge our organization is at risk of becoming stagnant, of simply doing things as we've always done them, with no chance for change, no opportunities for school Improvement. Hence, we must understand how to effectively manage conflict in order to succeed as school leaders.

## Leadership Team

Nick Alagna	Kyle Anderson	Kimberly Branch	Dana Disanzo	Miguel Pagan	Joy Patterson	Abby Phillips
Jacqueline Powell-Wicks	Keira Scott	Belinda Morris	Perry Zlotkin	Renee Shuler-Knight		

**Meetings: 11/22/08 - 1/10/09 - 2/28/09 - 3/21/09 – 4/25/09 – 5/30/09**

### **Principal Kafele's Biography Coming Soon**

Baruti Kafele, whose African first name means “*teacher*” earned his B.S. degree in Management Science/Marketing from Kean University and his M.A. degree in Educational Administration from New Jersey City University. He is currently the principal of Newark Tech HS in Newark, NJ, a national educational consultant and motivational speaker.

An award-winning educator, “Principal Kafele” - as he is affectionately known - has excelled in the capacity of both teacher and principal. As a classroom teacher in East Orange, NJ, Principal Kafele was selected as the East Orange School District and Essex County Public Schools Teacher of the Year. He was also selected for *Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers* six times. As a principal, Principal Kafele led the transformation of three different middle schools and one high school, which included Sojourner Truth Middle School in East Orange emerging as one of the highest performing urban middle schools in the entire State of New Jersey.

A much sought after speaker, Principal Kafele is on FIRE!!! He has “fired up” countless audiences with his message of information, inspiration and transformation for over twenty years. As a writer, he is the author of the Essence Magazine best-selling book, *A Black Parent’s Handbook to Educating Your Children (Outside of the Classroom)*, and *A Handbook for Teachers of African American Children*. He has been written about extensively and has appeared on numerous radio and television programs. Principal Kafele is also the recipient of numerous educational, professional and community awards, which include the City of Dickinson, Texas proclaiming February 8, 1998 as “Baruti K. Kafele Day!”

Finally, Principal Kafele is happily married to his wife Kimberley and is a proud father of his three children, Baruti, Jabari and Kibriya.

