

# Bryan Jackson

Dean of Students, Chicago International Charter School, Bucktown Campus

2017 Surge Fellow

**B**ryan Jackson currently serves as a dean of students at Chicago International Charter Schools (CICS) Bucktown, where he aims to foster social-emotional learning, classroom environments that support teachers and develop students' sense of creativity and ignite a lifelong love for learning. CICS Bucktown is a premier K-8 urban charter school in Chicago's Bucktown neighborhood that boasts over 600 determined students, a dedicated staff and committed parents.

Prior to coming to Bucktown, Bryan spent over a decade in the classroom. His professional path began at the Latin School of Chicago, where he served as a third-grade teacher. After 10 years at Latin, Bryan became a founding member of the GEMS World Academy staff, first as a teacher and then as the Assistant Director of Admissions.



In 2012, Bryan was recognized for his passion and excellence in teaching when he was honored as one of only 10 educators in the state of Illinois to receive the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Education. As a Golden Apple Fellow, he became part of a close-knit network of talented educators working to constantly improve classroom outcomes across the state. Throughout his career, Bryan has been invited to share best practices as a guest lecturer at a multitude of universities including his alma maters Teachers College Columbia University (MA) and the University of Minnesota (BS), where he was recognized as the William E. Gardner Pre-K Outstanding Educator in 2011. Bryan's lectures have addressed the importance of social-emotional learning, teacher quality, school leadership, community connectedness, solid professional mentorship, child resilience, and the significance of males of color in teaching roles. In addition to these awards and honors, Bryan was recently selected as a 2017 Surge Institute Fellow.

Bryan strongly believes that every student in America should have outstanding teachers, a meaningful education, and the opportunity to graduate from the college of his/her choice. As a male educator of color, Bryan has a personal connection to this critical social justice issue and ensuring excellent educational opportunities for all.